

Questions and Answers for the Corporate Supply Arrangement for Carbon Planning Professionals

Question 1:

What is the scope of work vendors will be undertaking for Public Sector Organizations (PSOs) around GHG management?

Answer 1:

The intention is to provide PSOs access to pre-qualified carbon planning consulting services to assist them develop strategies and actions to meet their GHG emission reduction requirements as established in the Greenhouse Gas Target Reductions Act (GGRTA). The purpose, as described within section 1.0 of the RCSA, is to facilitate the planning and implementation of GHG management actions. Section 9 of the RCSA provides the scope of GHG emissions planning and advisory services to be provided through the CSAs.

Question 2:

What are the requirements for the verification of PSO GHG emissions?

Answer 2:

BC Climate Action Secretariat, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services and the Office of the Comptroller General are collaborating to create the overall plan for the verification of BC Public Sector Organizations' (PSOs) GHG emissions. The plan will lead to the establishment of a phased and/or risk based approach to verification with the intent of minimizing related PSO costs and resource demands while balancing the needs for transparency and accuracy. Once the overall verification plan is finalized it will be communicated to PSOs.

Question 3:

What are emission factors?

Answer 3:

Because greenhouse gas emissions do not lend themselves to "end of pipe" monitoring, they are generally estimated using emission factors. These factors are generally applied to the quantity of industrial output produced or the quantity of goods and services consumed by homes and businesses. To illustrate, the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions produced by your car are estimated by multiplying the relevant emission factor to the litres of gasoline your car consumes.

Question 4:

What emission factors are being used in SMARTTool to calculate the quantity of GHG emissions?

Answer 4:

In specifying emission factors, the government's intent has been to ensure that they are based on generally accepted measurement standards and data sources (e.g., Environment Canada, The Climate Registry). In some cases, there are conditions specific to the province that call for the use of different factors than those recommended by international protocols.