



COMPLIANCE REFERENCE

FAQ & *Glossary*

Quick, plain-language answers to the questions UAE businesses ask most about climate compliance — and a glossary of the terms you will meet along the way.

FREQUENTLY ASKED

READ THIS FIRST

These answers are deliberately short and practical. They are a starting point, not legal advice — and because the framework is still settling, always confirm the specifics for your business at mrv.ae.

Q1 Does the UAE Climate Law actually apply to my company?

Almost certainly yes. It applies to any entity whose activities produce greenhouse-gas emissions in the UAE, with no revenue or sector threshold. If you use electricity, cooling, vehicles or fuel, you are in scope.

Q2 We are in a free zone — aren't we exempt?

No. The federal law reaches into every free zone, with no carve-out. Your licensing authority does not change the obligation.

Q3 We only have an office, not a factory. Do we even have emissions?

Yes. Your electricity and district cooling (Scope 2), plus any owned vehicles, generators or refrigerant top-ups (Scope 1), all count. Almost no business is at zero.

Q4 What is the difference between MRV and IEQT?

MRV — Measurement, Reporting & Verification — is the system of obligations. IEQT — the Integrated Emissions Quantification Tool — is the government website at mrv.ae where you carry them out. The rule versus the place you follow it.

Q5 We already publish an ESG or sustainability report. Isn't that enough?

No. Voluntary ESG, GRI or CDP reporting does not satisfy the law. Compliance means a formal submission through the IEQT in the prescribed format.

Q6 What are Scope 1, 2 and 3?

Scope 1 is direct emissions from sources you own or control (fuel, generators, company vehicles, refrigerants). Scope 2 is the energy you buy (electricity and cooling). Scope 3 is your wider value chain (suppliers, travel, products). Scope 1 & 2 are the focus today; Scope 3 is expected later.

Q7 When is the deadline?

The law has been in force since 30 May 2025. The original full-compliance date was 30 May 2026, but the Ministry has signalled this is likely to be extended, with no revised official date confirmed yet. Treat the original date as your planning anchor and check the live date at mrv.ae.

Q8 What happens if we don't comply?

Administrative fines run from AED 50,000 to AED 2,000,000 per violation, doubling for a repeat offence within two years (up to AED 4,000,000). Weak data can also cost you in tenders, financing and supplier reviews.

Q9 Do we need third-party verification?

It is mandatory for the largest emitters — entities at or above 500,000 tCO₂e a year. For everyone else it is not strictly required yet, but it is strongly advisable, because it is what makes your numbers defensible.

Q10 What records do we keep, and for how long?

Keep the activity data, calculations, methodology notes and submitted reports for at least five years, in a form a regulator or verifier can access on request.

Q11 Where do we actually register?

At mrv.ae — the National MRV Transparency System. You create an organisation account with your trade-licence details, set up an administrator, assign data and validation roles, and get approval from your emirate-level focal point.

Q12 How is using CarbonPulse different from doing this ourselves?

CarbonPulse walks you from your first rough estimate to a submission-ready Scope 1 & 2 inventory in plain language, English or Arabic, and keeps your records audit-ready for the five-year window — built for SMEs without a sustainability department.

A-Z Glossary of terms

GHG Greenhouse gas	Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere — mainly carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. Emissions are what the law asks you to measure and reduce.
tCO₂e Tonnes of CO ₂ -equivalent	The common unit for emissions. Different gases are converted into the warming equivalent of one tonne of carbon dioxide so everything can be added up.
Scope 1 Direct emissions	Emissions from sources you own or control — fuel, generators, company vehicles, refrigerants.
Scope 2 Purchased energy	Emissions from the electricity and district cooling your business buys and uses.
Scope 3 Value-chain emissions	Indirect emissions across your suppliers, business travel and products. Expected to become mandatory later.
MRV Measurement, Reporting & Verification	The national system of obligations under the Climate Law: measure your emissions, report them, have them verified.
MOCCA Ministry of Climate Change & Environment	The federal authority that runs and enforces the climate framework.
Decree-Law 11/2024 The Climate Law	Federal Decree-Law No. 11 of 2024, the UAE's binding climate framework, in force since 30 May 2025.
HCEE Huge Carbon Emission Entity	An entity emitting 500,000 tCO ₂ e or more per year (Scope 1 + 2), with extra duties under Cabinet Resolution No. 67 of 2024.
NRCC National Register for Carbon Credits	The UAE registry where carbon credits are issued, recorded and retired; HCEEs must register.

GLOSSARY, CONTINUED

IEQT

Integrated Emissions
Quantification Tool

The government web platform at mrv.ae, live since October 2025, where you register, enter data and submit your inventory.

mrv.ae

National MRV portal

The official website for registration and reporting under the Climate Law.

Emission factor

Conversion number

A standard figure that turns activity data (litres of fuel, kWh of power) into emissions in tCO₂e.

ISO 14064

Verification standard

An international standard for quantifying and verifying GHG inventories, accepted by MOCCAЕ as a compliant method.

Source

Designated entity

An organisation formally designated as in scope by MOCCAЕ or an emirate / free-zone authority, which triggers its duties.

Reduction plan

Mitigation action

A required plan with at least one concrete action to cut emissions, plus its expected result.

Baseline / inventory

Your starting point

Your first full count of emissions, used as the reference against which future reductions are measured.



Still have a question this didn't answer?

Free estimator

Your first number in 2 minutes

carbonpulse.ae/estimator

The CarbonPulse app

Build a submission-ready inventory

app.carbonpulse.ae

Talk to us

Plain answers, English or Arabic

contact@carbonpulse.ae

IMPORTANT

General information from Carbon Pulse Consulting LLC — not legal advice. Confirm current rules and deadlines at mrv.ae and with MOCCAЕ.