

## §574. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 2003, c. 237, §1 (NEW).]

**1. Greenhouse gas.** "Greenhouse gas" means any chemical or physical substance that is emitted into the air and that the department determines by rule may reasonably be anticipated to cause or contribute to climate change. "Greenhouse gas" includes, but is not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride. Rules adopted by the department pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

[PL 2003, c. 237, §1 (NEW).]

**1-A. Climate action plan.** "Climate action plan" means the state plan adopted under section 577. [PL 2019, c. 476, §5 (NEW).]

**1-B. Gross annual greenhouse gas emissions.** "Gross annual greenhouse gas emissions" means the total amount of greenhouse gases emitted by all sources within the State each year.

[PL 2019, c. 476, §5 (NEW).]

**1-C. Net annual greenhouse gas emissions.** "Net annual greenhouse gas emissions" means gross annual greenhouse gas emissions less the total amount of greenhouse gases absorbed each year by plants and natural ecosystems, including, but not limited to, trees, crops, soil and wetlands within the State.

[PL 2019, c. 476, §5 (NEW).]

**2. Sector.** "Sector" means one of the 5 sectors identified in the climate change action plan adopted by the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers in August 2001. The 5 sectors are the transportation, industrial, commercial, institutional and residential sectors.

[PL 2003, c. 237, §1 (NEW).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 237, §1 (NEW). PL 2019, c. 476, §5 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Special Session of the 132nd Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2025. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.