

GLOSSARY OF ENERGY UNITS

<p>UNITS OF POWER</p> <p>Watts (W), Kilowatts(kW), Megawatts (MW)</p>	<p>A Watt is a unit of power.</p> <p>Kilowatt = 1000 W, Megawatt = 1000 kW</p> <p>Commonly seen as ratings of appliances (such as a 100W light bulb or 3kW gas fire), or generating capacity of energy technologies (such as a 2MW wind turbine)</p>
<p>UNITS OF ENERGY</p> <p>Kilowatt-hour (kWh) Megawatt-hour (MWh) Gigawatt-hour (GWh)</p>	<p>Energy = power x time.</p> <p>Thus a kilowatt-hour is the energy of a 1kW device running for 1 hour or a 100W device running for 10 hours.</p> <p>Megawatt-hour = 1000 kWh, Gigawatt-hour = 1000 MWh</p> <p>Commonly used to show energy consumption (e.g. an average home would use about 4000 – 4500 kWh of electricity per year, sales of gas to the whole of Cornwall amounted to 3095 GWh in 2001) or to show how much energy would be produced by an energy technology.</p>
<p>UNITS – GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS</p> <p>Tonnes of Carbon (tC)</p>	<p>Unit used to express the carbon content of greenhouse gas emissions that enables easy comparison of different greenhouse gases with different carbon content.</p> <p>One tonne of carbon is equivalent to 3.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide, the most important greenhouse gas.</p> <p>In the UK we are responsible for about 10 tonnes of carbon dioxide (or 2.7 tonnes of carbon) emissions per capita per year (twice the global average).</p>

Source: Action Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow – The Energy Strategy for Cornwall, July 2004 (p.90)