

Global Warming Potential of Primary Greenhouse Gases

Greenhouse gas	Chemical formula	Global warming potential (<i>Time horizon</i>)	
		20 years	100 years
Carbon dioxide	CO ₂	1	1
Methane	CH ₄	42 - 70	16 - 26
Nitrous oxide	N ₂ O	280	310
Hydrofluorocarbons	HFCs	460 - 9,100	140 - 11,700
Perfluorocarbon	PFCs	4,400 - 6,200	6,500 - 23,900
Sulphur hexafluoride	SF ₆	16,300	23,900



Source: World Coal Council