

## Appendix E

### Glossary of Terms

**Environmentally Preferable:** Means products or services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose. This comparison may consider raw materials acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, or disposal of the product or service.

**Environmentally Preferable Acquisition:** Means the purchase of products and services that are considered environmentally preferred.

**Pollution Prevention:** The use of materials, processes, or practices that reduce or eliminate the quantity and/or toxicity of wastes at the source of generation.

**Postconsumer Material:** Means a material or finished product that has served its intended use and has been diverted or recovered from waste destined for disposal, having completed its life as a consumer item.

**Recovered Material:** Means waste materials and by-products which have been recovered or diverted from solid waste. This term does not include those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process (42 U.S.C. 6903 (19)).

**Recyclability:** Means the ability of a product or material to be recovered from, or otherwise diverted from, the solid waste stream for the purpose of recycling.

**Reuse:** The act of reusing a previously used item for another purpose. An example would be to use the backs of discarded paper for notes or messages. After reuse as note paper, the paper can then be collected and recycled into new paper.

**Recycling:** Means the series of activities, including collection, separation, and processing, by which products or other materials are recovered from the solid waste stream for use in the form of raw material in the manufacture of new products other than fuel for producing heat or power by combustion.

**Waste Prevention:** Also known as "source reduction" means any change in the design, manufacturing, purchase or use of materials or products (including packaging) to reduce their amount or toxicity before they become municipal solid waste. Waste prevention also refers to the reuse of products or materials.

**Waste Reduction:** Means preventing or decreasing the amount of waste being generated through waste prevention, recycling, or purchasing recycled and environmentally preferable

products.

**Life Cycle Cost:** Means the amortized annual cost of a product, including capital costs, installation costs, operating costs, maintenance costs and disposal costs discounted over the life-time of the product.

**Life Cycle Analysis:** Means the comprehensive examination of a product's environmental and economic effects throughout its lifetime including new material extraction, transportation, manufacturing, use, and disposal.

**RCRA:** Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 6901-6992(K); 40 CFR Parts 148, 240-299. This law regulates solid and hazardous waste and includes underground storage tanks, medical waste, and recycling requirements.

**EPCRA:** Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know act; also known as SARA title III (42 U.S.C. Section 11001-11050; 40 CFR Part 350-372).

[HOMEPAGE]