

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Description of Terms and Acronyms**

## Description of Selected General Terms and Acronyms

Term/Acronym	Description
ACM	<p>Asbestos Containing Material. Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral, three varieties of which (chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite) have been commonly used as fireproofing or as binding agents in construction materials. Inhalation of asbestos fibers has been documented to cause asbestosis (scarring of the lung), lung cancer, and mesothelioma (a cancer of the chest wall lining).</p> <p>Most Federal and State agencies define ACM as a material containing more than one (1) percent asbestos, although some states, such as California, define ACM as material containing 0.1% or more asbestos. In order to determine the ACM status of suspect building materials, a minimum number of samples must be collected and analyzed, depending on the type and quantity of the suspect material. A suspect material can only be confirmed as non-ACM when analytical results of all required samples are below applicable regulatory limits. Asbestos concentrations are generally determined using polarized light microscopy or transmission electron microscopy. An asbestos containing material may be classified as either friable or non-friable. Friable materials are those that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure. Non-friable ACM are materials in which the asbestos fibers are more firmly bound in a matrix of tar, plastic or other such material, and which have a lower potential for asbestos fiber release.</p> <p>Federal and State regulations require that an asbestos survey be performed prior to renovation, dismantling, demolition or other activities that may disturb suspect or confirmed ACM unless such materials are removed as ACM prior to planned disturbances. ACM removal may also be required if confirmed ACM becomes damaged, or if renovation or demolition activities could result in damage to confirmed or suspect ACM. Depending upon the quantity, notification to Federal or State regulatory agencies may be required prior to ACM removal (abatement) operations. Abatement of friable or potentially friable ACM must be performed by a licensed abatement contractor in accordance with applicable federal, state, or local regulations. OSHA worker protection regulations will also apply.</p>
AHERA	Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act
AST	Above Ground Storage Tanks. ASTs are generally described as storage tanks less than 10% of which are below ground (i.e., buried). Tanks located in a basement, but not buried, are also considered ASTs. Whether, and the extent to which, an AST is regulated, is determined on a case-by-case basis and depends upon tank size, its contents and the jurisdiction of its location.
AULs	Activity and Use Limitations
BGS	Below Ground Surface
BTEX	Benzene, Toluene, Ethyl benzene, and Xylenes. BTEX are VOC components found in gasoline and commonly used as analytical indicators of a petroleum hydrocarbon release.
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (a.k.a. Superfund). CERCLA is the federal act that regulates abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under this Act, joint and several liability may be imposed on potentially responsible parties for cleanup-related costs.
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System. An EPA compilation of sites having suspected or actual releases of hazardous substances to the environment. CERCLIS also contains information on site inspections, preliminary assessments and remediation of hazardous waste sites. These sites are typically reported to EPA by states and municipalities or by third parties pursuant to CERCLA Section 103.
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CESQG	Conditionally exempt small quantity generators.
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System. An EPA-maintained federal database which stores information on notifications of oil discharges and hazardous substance releases in quantities greater than the applicable reportable quantity under CERCLA. ERNS is a cooperative data-sharing effort between EPA, DOT, and the National Response Center.
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment

## Description of Terms and Acronyms (cont.)

Term/Acronym	Description
FRP	Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic
Hazardous Substance	As defined under CERCLA, this is (A) any substance designated pursuant to section 1321(b)(2)(A) of Title 33, (B) any element, compound, mixture, solution, or substance designated pursuant to section 9602 of this title; (C) any hazardous waste having characteristics identified under or listed pursuant to section 3001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (with some exclusions); (D) any toxic pollutant listed under section 1317(a) of Title 33; (E) any hazardous air pollutant listed under section 112 of the Clear Air Act; and (F) any imminently hazardous chemical substance or mixture with respect to which the EPA Administrator has taken action under section 2606 of Title 15. This term does not include petroleum, including crude oil or any fraction thereof which is not otherwise listed as a hazardous substance under subparagraphs (A) through (F) above, and the term does not include natural gas, or synthetic gas usable for fuel (or mixtures of natural gas and such synthetic gas).
Hazardous Waste	This is defined as having characteristics identified or listed under section 3001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (with some exceptions). RCRA, as amended by the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1980, defines this term as a "solid waste, or combination of solid wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may (A) cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness; or (B) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed."
IC / EC	Industrial Controls / Engineering Controls
ILP	Innocent Landowner Program
IOP	Innocent Owner/Operator Program
LQG	Large quantity generators.
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank. This is a federal term set forth under RCRA for leaking USTs. Some states also utilize this term.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level. This Safe Drinking Water concept (and also used by many states as a groundwater cleanup criteria) refers to the limit on drinking water contamination that determines whether a supplier can deliver water from a specific source without treatment.
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets. Written/printed forms prepared by chemical manufacturers, importers and employers which identify the physical and chemical traits of hazardous chemicals under OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard.
NESHAP	National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (Federal Clean Air Act). This part of the Clean Air Act regulates emissions of hazardous air pollutants.
NFRAP	Facilities where there is "No Further Remedial Action Planned," as more particularly described under the Records Review section of this report.
NGVD	National Geodetic Vertical Datum
NOV	Notice of Violation. A notice of violation or similar citation issued to an entity, company or individual by a state or federal regulatory body indicating a violation of applicable rule or regulations has been identified.
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (Clean Water Act). The federal permit system for discharges of polluted water.
NPL	National Priorities List, as more particularly described under the Records Review section of this report.
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration or Occupational Safety and Health Act
PACM	Presumed Asbestos-Containing Material. A material that is suspected of containing or presumed to contain asbestos but which has not been analyzed to confirm the presence or absence of asbestos.
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl. A halogenated organic compound commonly in the form of a viscous liquid or resin, a flowing yellow oil, or a waxy solid. This compound was historically used as dielectric fluid in electrical equipment (such as electrical transformers and capacitors, electrical ballasts, hydraulic and heat transfer fluids), and for numerous heat and fire sensitive applications. PCB was preferred due to its durability, stability (even at high temperatures), good chemical resistance, low volatility, flammability, and conductivity. PCBs, however, do not break down in the environment and are classified by the EPA as a suspected carcinogen. 1978 regulations, under the Toxic Substances Control Act, prohibit manufacturing of PCB-containing equipment; however, some of this equipment may still be in use today.
pCi/l	picoCuries per Liter of Air. Unit of measurement for Radon and similar radioactive materials.
PLM	Polarized Light Microscopy (see ACM section of the report, if included in the scope of services)

## Description of Terms and Acronyms (cont.)

Term/Acronym	Description
PST	Petroleum Storage Tank. An AST or UST that contains a petroleum product.
Radon	A radioactive gas resulting from radioactive decay of naturally-occurring radioactive materials in rocks and soils containing uranium, granite, shale, phosphate, and pitchblende. Radon concentrations are measured in picoCuries per Liter of Air. Exposure to elevated levels of radon creates a risk of lung cancer; this risk generally increases as the level of radon and the duration of exposure increases. Outdoors, radon is diluted to such low concentrations that it usually does not present a health concern. However, radon can accumulate in building basements or similar enclosed spaces to levels that can pose a risk to human health. Indoor radon concentrations depend primarily upon the building's construction, design and the concentration of radon in the underlying soil and groundwater. The EPA recommended annual average indoor "action level" concentration for residential structures is 4.0 pCi/l.
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Federal act regulating solid and hazardous wastes from point of generation to time of disposal ("cradle to grave"). 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.
RCRA Generators	The RCRA generators list is part of the RCRIS database maintained by EPA and lists facilities that generate hazardous waste as part of their normal business operations, as more particularly defined under Section 5.0 of this report.
RCRA CORRACTS/TSDs	The USEPA maintains a database of RCRA facilities associated with treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) of hazardous materials, which are undergoing "corrective action". A "corrective action" order is issued when there is a release of hazardous waste or constituents into the environment from a RCRA facility.
RCRA Non-CORRACTS/TSDs	The RCRA Non-CORRACTS/TSD Database is a compilation by the USEPA of facilities, which report storage, transportation, treatment, or disposal of hazardous waste. Unlike the RCRA CORRACTS/TSD database, the RCRA Non-CORRACTS/TSD database does not include RCRA facilities where corrective action is required.
RCRA Violators List	RAATS. RCRA Administrative Actions Taken. RAATS information is now contained in the RCRIS database and includes records of administrative enforcement actions against facilities for noncompliance.
RCRIS	Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System, as defined in the Records Review section of this report.
REC	Recognized Environmental Conditions are defined by ASTM E 1527-05 as "the presence or likely presence of any hazardous substances or petroleum products on a property under conditions that indicate an existing release, a past release, or a material threat of release of any hazardous substances or petroleum products into structures on the property or into the ground, groundwater, or surface water of the property." The term includes hazardous substances or petroleum products even under conditions of compliance with laws. The term is not intended to include <i>de minimis</i> conditions that generally do not present a material risk of harm to the public health or the environment and that generally would not be the subject of an enforcement action if brought to the attention of appropriate governmental agencies.
SCL	State "CERCLIS" List (see SPL /State Priority List, below).
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures. SPCC plans are required under federal law (Clean Water Act and Oil Pollution Act) for any facility storing petroleum in tanks and/or containers of 55-gallons or more that when taken in aggregate exceed 1,320 gallons. SPCC plans are also required for facilities with underground petroleum storage tanks with capacities of over 42,000 gallons. Many states have similar spill prevention programs, which may have additional requirements.
SPL	State Priority List. State list of confirmed sites having contamination in which the state is actively involved in clean up activities or is actively pursuing potentially responsible parties for clean up. Sometimes referred to as a State "CERCLIS" List.
SQG	Small quantity generators.
SWF	Solid Waste Facility. Landfills listed by a state database.
TPH	Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons
TRI	Toxic Release Inventory. Routine EPA report on releases of toxic chemicals to the environment based upon information submitted by entities subject to reporting under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act. A federal law regulating manufacture, import, processing and distribution of chemical substances not specifically regulated by other federal laws (such as asbestos, PCBs, lead-based paint and radon). 15 U.S.C 2601 et seq.
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers

## Description of Terms and Acronyms (cont.)

Term/Acronym	Description
USC	United States Code
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USNRCS	United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resource Conservation Service
UST	Underground Storage Tank. Most federal and state regulations, as well as ASTM E 1527-05, define this as any tank, incl., underground piping connected to the tank, that is or has been used to contain hazardous substances or petroleum products and the volume of which is 10% or more beneath the surface of the ground (i.e., buried).
VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
Wetlands	<p>Areas that are typically saturated with surface or groundwater that creates an environment supportive of wetland vegetation (i.e., swamps, marshes, bogs). The <u>Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual</u> (Technical Report Y-87-1) defines wetlands as areas inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. For an area to be considered a jurisdictional wetland, it must meet the following criteria: more than 50 percent of the dominant plant species must be categorized as Obligate, Facultative Wetland, or Facultative on lists of plant species that occur in wetlands; the soil must be hydric; and, wetland hydrology must be present.</p> <p>The federal Clean Water Act which regulates “waters of the US,” also regulates wetlands, a program jointly administered by the USACE and the EPA. Waters of the U.S. are defined as: (1) waters used in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of tides; (2) all interstate waters including interstate wetlands; (3) all other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds, etc., which the use, degradation, or destruction could affect interstate/ foreign commerce; (4) all impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the U. S., (5) tributaries of waters identified in 1 through 4 above; (6) the territorial seas; and (7) wetlands adjacent to waters identified in 1 through 6 above. Only the USACE has the authority to make a final wetlands jurisdictional determination.</p>

### Description of Terms and Acronyms (cont.)

Minnesota Term/Acronym	Description
SHWS	The State of Minnesota does not maintain a SHWS list. See the Federal CERCLIS list and Federal NPL list.
SWF/LF	State and/or Tribal database of solid waste facilities located within Minnesota. The database information may include the facility name, class, operation type, area, estimated operational life, and owner.
LUST	State and/or Tribal database of leaking underground storage tanks in the state of Minnesota.
UST	State and/or Tribal database of registered storage tanks in the State of Minnesota which may include the owner and location of the tanks.
IC	A list of sites within Minnesota that have institutional controls. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), institutional controls are “non-engineering measures designed to prevent or limit exposure to hazardous substances left in place at a site, or assure effectiveness of the chosen remedy. Institutional controls are usually, but not always, legal controls, such as easements, restrictive covenants, and zoning ordinances.” In short, institutional controls are a type of environmental covenant typically used when property is to be cleanup to a level determined by the potential environmental risks posed by a planned use, rather than to unrestricted use standards. This method of control has proven to be both environmentally and economically beneficial.
VCP	State and/or Tribal facilities included as Voluntary Cleanup Program sites.
Brownfields	State and/or Tribal listing of Brownfield properties addressed by Cooperative Agreement Recipients or Targeted Brownfields Assessments.