

Glossary of Superfund Terms

ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
A	AOC Administrative Order on Consent
	AR Administrative Record – All documents that the EPA considered or relied on in selecting the response action at a Superfund site.
	ARAR Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements
	ATSDR Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
B	BFPP Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser
	BLM U.S. Bureau of Land Management
	BPMD Bonita Peak Mining District
	BTAG Biological Technical Advisory Group
C	CAG Community Advisory Group – A committee, task force, or board comprised of citizens affected by a hazardous waste site, i.e., the Bonita Peak Community Advisory Group
	Capping – A technology to address contaminated sediment which places clean sand, gravel or other material (clay, carbon) over the contaminated sediment to isolate the contaminants from the surrounding environment.
	Carcinogen – A chemical or physical agent capable of causing cancer.
	CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended – This law, enacted by Congress on December 11, 1980, created the Superfund program.
	CI Community Involvement – The term used by the EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaborating with communities affected by Superfund sites.
	CIC Community Involvement Coordinator – CICs are assigned to specific projects to assist communities in their interaction with the EPA and ensure that technical staff are aware of issues that concern the public in relation to the work the EPA is doing.
	CIP Community Involvement Plan – A CIP is a site-specific strategy to enable meaningful community involvement throughout the Superfund cleanup process.
	CDPHE Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
	CFR Code of Federal Regulations
	cfs cubic feet per second
	COPC Chemical of Potential Concern
	CSM Conceptual Site Model
	CWA Clean Water Act
D	DQO Data Quality Objective
E	EJ Environmental Justice – The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.
	EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
	ESD Explanation of Significant Differences

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	Evaluation criteria – The nine evaluation criteria are as follows: 1) Overall protection of human health and the environment, 2) Compliance with ARARs (applicable or relevant and appropriate standards), 3) Long-term effectiveness and permanence, 4) Reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume, 5) Short-term effectiveness, 6) Implementability, 7) Cost, 8) State acceptance, and 9) Community acceptance.
F	FS Feasibility Study – It usually starts as soon as the remedial investigation is under way; together, they are commonly referred to as the “RI/FS.”
	FWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
G	GIS Geographic Information System
	GPM Gallons per Minute
	GPS Global Positioning System
H	HQ Headquarters
I	IC Institutional Control – Actions, such as legal controls, that help minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination by ensuring appropriate land or resource use.
	IM Interim Measure
	Information repository – A location in a public building that is convenient for local residents that contains information about a Superfund site, including technical reports and reference documents. The information repositories for the BPMD are: Silverton Library, Farmington Public Library, Diné College South Campus Library (Senator John Pinto Library), Durango Public Library, and the EPA Superfund Records Center in Denver.
	IROD Interim Record of Decision
M	MCL Maximum Contaminant Level
	mg/kg Milligram per Kilogram
	MOA Memorandum of Agreement
	MOU Memorandum of Understanding
	MW Monitoring Well
N	NCP National Contingency Plan – The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, more commonly called the National Contingency Plan, is the federal government's blueprint for responding to both oil spills and hazardous substance releases.
	NFA No Further Action
	Non-Time Critical Removal Action – Removal actions where a planning period of at least six months is available before on-site activities begin.
	NPL National Priorities List – The EPA’s list of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term remedial action under Superfund.
O	O&M Operation and Maintenance
	OECA EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
	OLEM EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management
	O/O Owner or Operator
	ORD EPA Office of Research and Development

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ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
	OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Act
	OSRTI EPA Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation
P	PA/SI Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation
	POC Point of Contact
	PPA Prospective Purchaser Agreement
	PPB Part per Billion
	PPE Personal Protective Equipment
	PPM Part per Million
	PRGs Preliminary Remediation Goals
	Proposed plan – A plan for a site cleanup made available to the public for comment.
	PRP Potentially Responsible Party – Any individual or company potentially responsible for or contributing to a spill or other contamination at a Superfund site.
	Public comment period – The time allowed for the members of an affected community to express views and concerns regarding an action proposed to be taken by EPA.
Q	QA/QC Quality Assurance/Quality Control
	QAPP Quality Assurance Project Plan/Program
	QC Quality Control
R	RA Remedial Action – The actual construction or implementation phase of a Superfund site cleanup that follows remedial design.
	RAO Remedial Action Objective
	RAU Land Ready for Anticipated Uses
	RD Remedial Design – A phase of remedial action that follows the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and ROD and includes development of engineering drawings and specifications for a site cleanup.
	Remedy – Long-term action that stops or substantially reduces a release or threat of a release of hazardous substances.
	Removal Action – Short-term immediate actions that address releases of hazardous substances that require expedited responses.
	Responsiveness Summary – A summary of oral and/or written public comments received by the EPA during a comment period on key EPA documents and EPA’s response to those comments.
	RfR Ready for Reuse
	RI Remedial Investigation – An in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site, establish site cleanup criteria, identify preliminary alternatives for remedial action, and support technical and cost analyses of alternatives. The remedial investigation is usually done with the feasibility study. Together they are usually referred to as the “RI/FS.”
	ROD Record of Decision – A public document that explains which cleanup alternative(s) will be used at National Priorities List sites.

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	RPM Remedial Project Manager – The designated EPA or state official responsible for overseeing a Superfund cleanup project.
S	SARA Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
	SB Statement of Basis
	SDWA Safe Drinking Water Act
	SOP Standard Operating Procedure
	Superfund – The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA and Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities.
T	TAG Technical Assistance Grant
	TC Toxicity Characteristic
	TCLP Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure
	TI Technical Impracticability
	TASC Technical Assistance Services for Communities
	Time Critical Removal Action – Removal actions with a planning period of less than six months.
	TSCREEN Toxics Screening
U	UAO Unilateral Administrative Order
	UE Unrestricted Exposure
	µg/L Microgram per Liter
	USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
	USFS U.S. Forest Service
V	VCP Voluntary Cleanup Program
X	XRF X-ray Fluorescence