

Acronyms and Abbreviations

A	ACEHS	Alameda County Environmental Health Services.
	ACG	Ambient concentration guide.
	AIP	Agreement in principle.
	ALARA	As low as reasonably achievable.
	ANSI	American National Standards Institute.
	ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
	ATA	Advanced Test Accelerator.
	AVLIS	Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation.
	AWQC	Ambient Water Quality Criteria.
B	BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District. The local agency responsible for regulating stationary air emission sources (including the Livermore site) in the San Francisco Bay Area.
	BAT	Best available technology.
	BETX	Benzene, ethyl benzene, toluene, and xylene.
	BMP	Best Management Practice.
	Bq	Becquerel. The SI unit of activity of a radionuclide, equal to the activity of a radionuclide having one spontaneous nuclear transition per second.
C	Cal-EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency.
	CAM	Continuous air monitor.
	CAP88-PC	Computer code required by the EPA for modeling air emissions of radionuclides.
	CARE	Citizens Against a Radioactive Environment.

Glossary

CCR	California Code of Regulations. Codification of regulations promulgated by the state of California.
CCTV	Closed-circuit television.
CDF	California Department of Forestry.
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEPRC	Chemical Emergency Planning and Response Commission.
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act of 1970. CEQA requires that all California state, local, and regional agencies document, consider, and disclose to the public the environmental implications of their actions.
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (see Technical Terms).
CES	Chemistry and Materials Science Environmental Services. An LLNL laboratory that analyzes environmental samples.
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbon.
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations. A codification of all regulations promulgated by federal government agencies.
Chem Track	Computerized chemical inventory and tracking system.
CHEW	Chemical Exchange Warehouse.
CHP	California Highway Patrol.
Ci	Curie (see Technical Terms).
COC	Constituent of concern.
CRWQCB	California Regional Water Quality Control Board.
CSA	Container storage area.
D DCG	Derived Concentration Guide (see Technical Terms).
DCL	Discharge Concentration Limit (City of Livermore Ordinance 13.32).
1,2-DCA	1,2-dichloroethane.
DHS	California Department of Health Services

DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy. The federal agency that is responsible for conducting energy research and regulating nuclear materials used for weapons production.
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation.
DRB	Drainage Retention Basin. Man-made, lined pond used to capture stormwater runoff from SE quadrant of Livermore site for the purposes of study and/or remediation treated water.
DTSC	California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control.
DUS	Donation, Utilization, and Sales (Group).
DWTF	Decontamination and Waste Treatment Facility.
E	
EA	Environmental Assessment. An environmental review document that identifies environmental impacts from any federally approved or funded project. If an EA shows significant impact, an EIS is required.
EDE	Effective dose equivalent (see Technical Terms).
EDO	Environmental Duty Officer.
EE/CA	Engineering evaluation/cost analysis.
EFA	East Firing Area (LLNL Site 300).
EIR	Environmental Impact Report. A detailed report prepared pursuant to CEQA on the environmental impacts from any action carried out, approved, or funded by a California state, regional, or local agency.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement. A detailed report, required by the National Environmental Policy Act, on the environmental impacts from a federally approved or funded project. An EIS must be prepared by a federal agency when a "major" federal action that will have "significant" environmental impacts is planned.
ELAP	Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.
EMAD	Environmental Monitoring and Analysis Division (LLNL). Defunct as of April 1995.

Glossary

EML	U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Measurements Laboratory.
EMRL	Environmental Monitoring Radiation Laboratory.
EMS	Environmental Monitoring Section in the Environmental Monitoring and Analysis Division of the Environmental Protection Department (at LLNL). Defunct as of April 1995.
EMSL	Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory.
EOG	Environmental Operations Group
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency, (see Technical Terms).
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.
EPD	Environmental Protection Department (LLNL).
ERD	Environmental Restoration Division of the Environmental Protection Department at LLNL.
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program.
ES&H	Environmental, Safety, and Health.
ESP	Environmental Support Team
EWSF	Explosives Waste Storage Facility
EWTF	Explosives Waste Treatment Facility.
F	
FFA	Federal Facility Agreement. A negotiated agreement that specifies required actions at a federal facility as agreed upon by various agencies (e.g., EPA, DHS, RWQCB, and DOE).
FFCA	Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement.
FHC	Fuel hydrocarbon.
Freon 113	1,1,2-trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane.
G	
g	Gram. The standard metric measure of weight approximately equal to 0.035 ounce.
GSA	General Services Area (LLNL Site 300).
GWP	Ground Water Project.

	GWMPMP	Ground Water Project Management Program.
	Gy	Gray. The SI unit of measure for absorbed dose. It is the quantity of energy imparted by ionizing radiation to a unit mass of matter such as tissue. One gray corresponds to 1 joule per kilogram and equals 100 rads.
H	HCAL	Hazards Control Department Analytical Laboratory.
	HCD	Hazards Control Department.
	HDPE	High density polyethylene.
	HE	High explosives. Materials that release large amounts of chemical energy when detonated.
	HEPA	High-efficiency particulate air (filter).
	HF	Hydrogen fluoride.
	HMX	Cyclotetramethyltetramine, a high-explosive compound. Also referred to as octahydro-1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetrazocine.
	HPGe	High-purity germanium.
	HSU	Hydrostratigraphic unit.
	HT	Tritiated hydrogen gas. Tritium is the hydrogen isotope with one proton and two neutrons in the nucleus. It emits a low-energy beta particle and has a half-life of 12.3 years.
	HTO	Tritiated water and water vapor (see HT).
	HWCA	California Hazardous Waste Control Act. This legislation specifies requirements for the management of hazardous wastes in California.
	HWM	Hazardous Waste Management Division of the Environmental Protection Department at LLNL.
I	ICRP	International Commission on Radiological Protection. An international organization that studies radiation, including its measurement and effects.
	IQR	Interquartile range, (see Technical Terms).
	ISD	Interim status document.

Glossary

L	LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee.
	LLNL	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.
	LOS	Limit of sensitivity (delectability).
	LUFT	Leaking underground fuel tank.
	LWRP	Livermore Water Reclamation Plant. The City of Livermore's municipal wastewater treatment plant, which accepts discharges from the LLNL Livermore site.
M	MCL	Maximum contaminant level in drinking water established by EPA or DTSC.
	MDC	Minimum detection concentration.
	MDL	Minimum detection limit.
	MEI	Maximally exposed individual member of the public.
	ML	Megaliter. 10^6 liters.
	mL	Milliliter. 10^{-3} liter = 1 cm^3 .
	MOLE	Miniature Optical Lair Explorer.
	mR	Milliroentgen. 10^{-3} roentgen.
	mrem	Millirem. 10^{-3} rem.
	MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet.
	mSv	Millisievert. 10^{-3} sievert.
	MWMF	Mixed Waste Management Facility.
N	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Air standards established pursuant to the Clean Air Act to protect human health and the environment.
	NCR	Nonconformance Report.
	NCRP	National Council on Radiation Protection.
	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act.

NESHAPs	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants.
NHPA	National Historical Preservation Act.
NIF	National Ignition Facility.
NIST	National Institute for Standards and Technology. The federal agency, formerly known as the National Bureau of Standards, responsible for reference materials against which laboratory materials are calibrated.
NOD	Notice of Deficiency.
NOI	Notice of Intent.
NOV	Notice of Violation.
NO _x	Nitrogen oxides.
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. This federal regulation, under the Clean Water Act, requires permits for discharges into surface waterways.
NPL	National Priorities List. EPA's list of the top-priority hazardous waste sites in the country that are subject to the Superfund program.
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The federal agency charged with oversight of nuclear power and nuclear machinery and applications not regulated by DOE or the Department of Defense.
NTS	Nevada Test Site (DOE). The facility in the United States where nuclear weapons are tested.
O	
ORAD	Operations and Regulatory Affairs Division of the Environmental Protection Department at LLNL.
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act.
OSP	Operational Safety Procedure.
P	
PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl.
PCE	Tetrachloroethylene (or perchloroethylene).
pCi	Picocurie .
PM	Performance measure.

Glossary

	%RSD	Percent relative standard deviation, a measure of precision
	ppb	Parts per billion. A unit of measure for the concentration of a substance in its surrounding medium. For example, one billion grams of water containing one gram of salt has a salt concentration of one part per billion.
	ppm	Parts per million. A unit of measure for the concentration of a substance in its surrounding medium. For example, one million grams of water containing one gram of salt has a salt concentration of one part per million.
	PPOA	Pollution Prevention Opportunity Assessment.
	PRG	Preliminary remediation goal.
Q	QA	Quality assurance.
	QC	Quality control.
R	R	Roentgen, (see Technical Terms).
	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976. RCRA is a program of federal laws and regulations that govern the management of hazardous wastes. RCRA is applicable to all entities that manage hazardous wastes.
	RDX	Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine, a high-explosive compound.
	RML	Radiological Measurements Laboratory.
	RMMA	Radioactive materials management areas.
	ROD	Record of Decision.
	RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board. The California regional agency responsible for water quality standards and the enforcement of state water quality laws within its jurisdiction. California is divided into a number of RWQCBs; the Livermore site is regulated by the San Francisco Bay Region, and Site 300 is regulated by the Central Valley Region.
S	SAL	State Action Level. See Action Level.
	SNL/California	Sandia National Laboratories, California.
	SDWA	Safe Water Drinking Act.

SERC	State Emergency Response Commission.
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office.
SI	<i>Système International d'Unités</i> . An international system of physical units. Units of measure in this system include meters (length), kilogram (mass), kelvin (temperature), becquerel (radioactivity), gray (radioactive dose), and sievert (dose equivalent).
Site 300	LLNL's Experimental Test Site, located approximately 24 km east of the Livermore site.
SJCHD	San Joaquin County Health District. The local agency that enforces underground-tank regulations in San Joaquin County, including Site 300.
SJCPHS	San Joaquin County Public Health Services.
SJVUAPCD	San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District. The local agency responsible for regulating stationary air emission sources (including Site 300) in San Joaquin County.
STLC	Soluble Threshold Limit Concentration. A value that can be used to determine if a waste is hazardous.
SW-MEI	Sitewide maximally exposed individual member of the public.
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.
SWRCB	California State Water Resources Control Board.
T TAGG	Tank Assessments and Guidance Group.
TBOS	Tetrabutyl orthosilicate.
TBq	Terabequerel. 10^{12} Bequerel.
TCE	Trichloroethene.
TDS	Total dissolved solids. The portion of solid material in a waste stream that is dissolved and passed through a filter.
TF518	Treatment facility located near Building 518 in the southeast quadrant of LLNL .
TFA	Treatment Facility A.
TFB	Treatment Facility B.

Glossary

TFC	Treatment Facility C.	
TFD	Treatment Facility D.	
TFF	Treatment Facility F.	
TLD	Thermoluminescent dosimeter. A device used to measure external gamma radiation levels.	
TNT	Trinitrotoluene.	
TOC	Total organic carbon. The sum of the organic material present in a sample.	
TOX	Total organic halides. The sum of the organic halides present in a sample.	
TPH	Total petroleum hydrocarbons.	
TPH-D	Total petroleum hydrocarbons-diesel.	
TRI	Toxic Chemical Release Inventory.	
TRU	Transuranic waste.	
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act. The law governing the manufacture, processing, and use of chemical substances.	
TSS	Total suspended solids.	
U	UC	University of California.
	USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
	USGS	U.S. Geological Survey. The federal agency responsible for maintaining maps of the United States.
	UST	Underground storage tank. A stationary device designed to contain an accumulation of hazardous materials or waste. A tank is constructed primarily of nonearthen material, but the entire surface area of the tank is totally below the surface of, and covered by, the ground.
V	VHS	Volatile halogenated solvent. A term used by LLNL for analysis of the solvents detectable by EPA Method 601.
	VOC	Volatile organic compound. Liquid or solid organic compounds that have a tendency to spontaneously pass into the vapor state.

W	WAA	Waste accumulation area. An officially designated area that meets current environmental standards and guidelines for temporary (less than 90 days) storage of hazardous waste before pickup by the Hazardous Waste Management Division for off-site disposal.
	WDR	Waste Discharge Requirements. Issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.
	WFA	West Firing Area (LLNL Site 300).
	WMP	Waste Minimization Project.
	WMPPA Plan	Waste Minimization and Pollution Prevention Awareness Plan.
	WPAA	Workplace accumulation area.
	WQO	Water quality objective.

Technical Terms

A	Absorbed dose	The amount of energy deposited by radiation in a given amount of material. The unit of absorbed dose is the rad.
	Accuracy	The closeness of the result of a measurement to the true value of the quantity measured.
	Action Level	Defined by regulatory agencies, it is the level of pollutants which, if exceeded, requires regulatory action.
	Aerosol	A gaseous suspension of very small particles of liquid or solid.
	Alluvium	Sediment deposited by flowing water.
	Alpha particle	A positively charged particle emitted from the nucleus of an atom. It has a mass and charge equal to those of a helium nucleus (two protons and two neutrons).
	Ambient air	The surrounding atmosphere, usually the outside air, as it exists around people, plants, and structures. It is not considered to include the air immediately adjacent to emission sources.
	Analyte	A constituent that is being analyzed.
	Anion	A negatively charged ion, for example Cl ⁻ .

Glossary

ANOVA	Analysis of variance. A test of whether two or more sample means are statistically different.
Aquifer	A saturated layer of rock or soil below the ground surface that can supply usable quantities of ground water to wells and springs. Aquifers can be a source of water for domestic, agricultural, and industrial uses.
Aquitard	Low permeability bed that bounds an aquifer.
Atom	The smallest particle of an element capable of entering into a chemical reaction.
Atomic absorption spectroscopy	Abbreviated AA. A method used to determine the elemental composition of a sample. In this method, the sample is vaporized and its light absorbance measured.
B	
Barcad	Device that samples water in a well. Water, collected in a discrete water bearing zone, is forced to the surface by pressurized nitrogen.
Beta particle	A negatively charged particle emitted from the nucleus of an atom. It has a mass and charge equal to those of an electron.
BOD	Biochemical (biological) oxygen demand. A measure of the amount of dissolved oxygen that microorganisms need to break down organic matter in water. It is used as an indicator of water quality.
C	
Categorical discharge	Discharge from a process regulated by EPA rules for specific industrial categories.
CERCLA/SARA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980. Administered by EPA, this program, also known as Superfund, requires private parties to notify the EPA after the release of hazardous substances and undertake short-term removal and long-term remediation. If conditions exist that could create the threat of hazardous substances being released, the Act also requires the remediation of those conditions. In 1986, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) was enacted, which amended and reauthorized CERCLA for five years at a total funding level of \$8.5 billion.
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbon. A compound that has fluorine and chlorine atoms on a carbon backbone. Freons are common CFCs.
Chain-of-custody	A method for documenting the history and possession of a sample from the time of its collection, through its analysis and data reporting, to its final disposition.

Chlorocarbon	A compound of carbon and chlorine, or carbon, hydrogen, and chlorine, such as carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and tetrachloroethylene.
Curie	A unit of measurement of radioactivity, defined as the amount of radioactive material in which the decay rate is 2.22×10^{12} disintegrations per minute (3.7×10^{10} disintegrations per second). One Ci is approximately equal to the decay rate of one gram of pure radium.
Collective dose equivalent	The sums of the dose equivalents of all individuals in an exposed population within a certain radius, expressed in units of person-rem (or person-sievert).
Collective effective dose equivalent	The sums of the effective dose equivalents of all individuals in an exposed population within a certain radius, expressed in units of person-rem (or person-sievert).
Committed dose equivalent	The predicted total dose equivalent to a tissue or organ over a 50-year period after known intake of a radionuclide into the body. It does not include contributions from external dose. Committed dose equivalent is expressed in units of sievert (or rem).
Committed effective dose equivalent	The sum of the committed dose equivalents to various tissues, each multiplied by the appropriate weighting factor. Committed effective dose equivalent is expressed in units of sievert (or rem).
Cosmic radiation	Radiation with very high energies, originating outside the earth's atmosphere. Cosmic radiation is one source contributing to natural background radiation.
D Daughter nuclide	A nuclide formed by the radioactive decay of another nuclide, which is called the parent.
Depleted uranium	Uranium having less ^{235}U than is found in natural uranium.
DCG	Derived Concentration Guide. Concentrations of radionuclides in water and air that could be continuously consumed or inhaled (365 days/y) and not exceed the DOE primary radiation protection standard to the public (100 mrem/y effective dose equivalent).
Dose	The energy imparted to matter by ionizing radiation. The unit of absorbed dose is the rad, equal to 0.01 joules per kilogram for irradiated material in any medium.
Dose commitment	The dose which an organ or tissue would receive during a specified period of time (e.g., 50 or 100 years) as a result of intake of one or more radionuclides from one year's release.

Glossary

Dose equivalent	The product of the absorbed dose (rad) in tissue and a quality factor. Dose equivalent is expressed in units of rem (or sievert). The dose equivalent to an organ, tissue, or whole body in a year will be that received from the direct exposure plus the committed dose equivalent received from radionuclides taken into the body during the year.
Dosimeter	A portable detection device for measuring the total accumulated exposure to ionizing radiation.
Dosimetry	The theory and application of the principles and techniques involved in the measurement and recording of radiation doses. Its practical aspect is concerned with the use of various types of radiation measurement instruments.
Downgradient	In the direction of ground water flow from a designated area; analogous to downstream.
E EDE	Effective dose equivalent. An estimate of the total risk of potential effects from radiation exposure. It is the sum of the committed effective dose equivalent from internal deposition and the effective dose equivalent from external penetrating radiation received during a calendar year. The committed effective dose equivalent is the sum of the individual organ committed dose equivalents multiplied by weighting factors that represent the proportion of the total random risk that each organ would receive from uniform irradiation of the whole body.
Effluent	A liquid or gaseous waste discharged to the environment.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency. The federal agency responsible for enforcing federal environmental laws. Although some of this responsibility may be delegated to state and local regulatory agencies, EPA retains oversight authority to ensure protection of human health and the environment.
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986. EPCRA requires facilities that produce, use, or store hazardous substances to report releases of reportable quantities or hazardous substances to the environment.
Evapotranspiration	Process by which water is transferred from the soil to the air by plants that take the water up through their roots and give it off through their leaves and other aboveground tissue.

F	Federal facility	A facility that is owned or operated by the federal government. Federal facilities are subject to the same requirements as other responsible parties once placed on the Superfund National Priorities List.
	Federal Register	A document published daily by the federal government containing notification of government agency actions. The Federal Register contains notification of EPA and DOE actions, including notification of EPA and DOE decisions concerning permit applications and rule-making.
G	Gamma ray	High-energy, short-wavelength electromagnetic radiation emitted from the nucleus of an atom. Gamma radiation frequently accompanies the emission of alpha or beta particles.
	Ground water	All subsurface water.
H	Half-life (radiological)	The time required for one-half the radioactive atoms in a given amount of material to decay. After 1 half-life, 50 out of 100 atoms (on average) will have decayed; during the next half-life, 25 more will decay, and so on, exponentially.
	Hazardous waste	Wastes exhibiting any of the following characteristics: ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or EP-toxicity (yielding toxic constituents in a leaching test). In addition, EPA has listed as hazardous other wastes that do not necessarily exhibit these characteristics. Although the legal definition of hazardous waste is complex, the term more generally refers to any waste that EPA believes could pose a threat to human health and the environment if managed improperly.
	Hydraulic gradient	In an aquifer, the rate of change of total head (water-level elevation) per unit distance of flow at a given point and in a given direction.
	Hydrology	The science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of natural water systems.
I	Inorganic compounds	Compounds that either do not contain carbon or do not contain hydrogen along with carbon. Inorganic compounds include metals, salts, and various carbon oxides (carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide).
	<i>In situ</i>	A term that can be used to refer to the treatment of contaminated areas in place, i.e., without excavation or other removal, as in the <i>in situ</i> treatment of soils through biodegradation of contaminants on site.

Glossary

Interim status	A legal classification that applies to hazardous waste incinerators or other hazardous waste management facilities that were under construction or in operation by November 19, 1980, and can meet other interim status requirements. Interim status facilities may operate while EPA considers their permit application.
IQR	Interquartile range. The distance between the top of the lower quartile and the bottom of the upper quartile. The IQR provides a measure of the spread of data.
Isotopes	Forms of an element having the same number of protons in their nuclei but differing numbers of neutrons.
L Liter	The SI measure of capacity approximately equal to 1.057 quart.
Less than detection limits	A phrase indicating that a chemical constituent was either not identified or not quantified at the lowest level of sensitivity of the analytical method being employed by the laboratory. Therefore, the chemical constituent either is not present in the sample, or it is present in such a small concentration that it cannot be measured by the analytical procedure.
Low-level waste	Waste defined by DOE Order 5820.2A. Low-level waste contains transuranic nuclide concentrations less than 100 nCi/g.
Lower limit of detection	The smallest concentration or amount of analyte that can be detected in a sample at a 95% confidence level.
Lysimeter	An instrument for measuring the water percolating through soils and determining the dissolved materials.
M Mixed waste	Waste that has the properties of both hazardous and radioactive waste.
N NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act. This federal legislation, enacted in 1969, requires all federal agencies to document and consider environmental impacts from federally funded or approved projects. DOE is responsible for NEPA compliance at LLNL.
NESHAPs	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants. These standards are found in the Clean Air Act and set limits for hazardous air pollutants.
Nonpoint source	Any nonconfined area from which pollutants are discharged into a body of water (e.g., agricultural runoff, construction runoff, and parking-lot drainage), or into air (e.g., a pile of uranium tailings).

NPDES General Permit	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit.
Nuclide	A species of atom characterized by the constitution of its nucleus. The nuclear constitution is specified by the number of protons, number of neutrons, and energy content; or, alternatively, by the atomic number, mass number, and atomic mass. To be regarded as a distinct nuclide, the atom must be capable of existing for a measurable length of time.
O Off site	Outside the boundaries of the LLNL Livermore site and Site 300 properties.
On site	Within the boundaries of the LLNL Livermore site or Site 300 properties.
P Part B permit	The second, narrative section submitted by generators in the RCRA permitting process. It covers in detail the procedures followed at a facility to protect human health and the environment.
Perched aquifer	Aquifer that is separated from another water-bearing stratum by an impermeable layer.
Performance standards (incinerators)	Specific regulatory requirements established by EPA limiting the concentrations of designated organic compounds, particulate matter, and hydrogen chloride in incinerator emissions.
Piezometer	Generally, a small-diameter, nonpumping well used to measure the elevation of the water table or potentiometric surface.
Pliocene	Geological epoch of the Tertiary period, starting about 12 million years ago.
pH	A measure of hydrogen-ion concentration in an aqueous solution. Acidic solutions have a pH from 0 to 6, basic solutions have a pH greater than 7, and neutral solutions have a pH of 7.
Point source	Any confined and discrete conveyance (e.g., pipe, ditch, well, or stack).
Pretreatment	Any process used to reduce a pollutant load before it enters the sewer system.
Pretreatment regulations	National wastewater pretreatment regulations, adopted by EPA in compliance with the 1977 amendments to the Clean Water Act, which required that EPA establish pretreatment standards for existing and new industrial sources.

Glossary

Priority pollutants	A set of organic and inorganic chemicals identified by EPA as indicators of environmental contamination.
Q QA	Quality assurance. A system of activities whose purpose is to provide the producer or user of a product or service the assurance that it meets defined standards of quality with a stated level of confidence.
QC	Quality control. Procedures used to verify that prescribed standards of performance are attained.
Quality factor	The factor by which the absorbed dose (rad) is multiplied to obtain a quantity that expresses, on a common scale for all ionizing radiation, the biological damage to exposed persons. It is used because some types of radiation, such as alpha particles, are more biologically damaging than others.
Quaternary	The geologic era encompassing the last 2–3 million years.
R rad	The unit of absorbed dose. It is the quantity of energy imparted by ionizing radiation to a unit mass of matter such as tissue. One rad equals 0.01 joule per kilogram.
Radioactive decay	The spontaneous transformation of one radionuclide into a different radioactive or nonradioactive nuclide, or into a different energy state of the same radionuclide.
Radioactivity	The spontaneous emission of radiation, generally alpha or beta particles, or gamma rays, from the nucleus of an unstable isotope.
Radionuclide	An unstable nuclide. See nuclide and radioactivity.
rem	Radiological unit of dose equivalent. This is the product of the absorbed dose (rad), quality factor (Q), distribution factor, and other necessary modifying factors. The unit rem describes the effectiveness of various radiations to produce biological effects (1 rem = 0.01 sievert).
Risk assessment	The use of established methods to measure the risks posed by an activity such as hazardous waste treatment. Risk assessments evaluate (1) the relationship between exposure to toxic substances and the subsequent occurrence of health effects and (2) the potential for that exposure.
Roentgen	Unit of measurement used to express radiation exposure in terms of the amount of ionization produced in a volume of air.

S	Sampling and Analysis Plan	A detailed document describing the procedures used to collect, handle, and analyze groundwater samples. The plan details quality control measures that will be implemented to ensure that sample-collection, analysis, and data-presentation activities meet the prescribed requirements.
	Sanitary waste	Most simply, waste generated by routine operations that is not regulated as hazardous or radioactive by state or federal agencies.
	SARA Title III	Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act.
	Saturated zone	A subsurface zone below which all rock pore-space is filled with water; also called the phreatic zone.
	Sensitivity	The capability of methodology or instrumentation to discriminate between samples having differing concentrations or containing varying amounts of analyte.
	Sewerage	The system of sewers.
	Sievert (Sv)	A unit of radiation dose to a person. It describes the ability of a type of radiation to produce biological effects. A Sievert is the SI unit that corresponds to the rem; 1 Sv = 100 rem.
	Specific conductance	Measure of the ability of a material to conduct electricity. Also called conductivity.
	Superfund	The common name used for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA). California has also established a "State Superfund" under provisions of the California Hazardous Waste Control Act.
	Surface impoundment	A facility or part of a facility that is a natural topographic depression, man-made excavation, or diked area formed primarily of earthen materials, although it may be lined with man-made materials. The impoundment is designed to hold an accumulation of liquid wastes, or wastes containing free liquids, and is not an injection well. Examples of surface impoundments are holding, storage, settling and aeration pits, ponds, and lagoons.
T	Tritium	Tritium is the hydrogen isotope with one proton and two neutrons in the nucleus. It emits a low-energy beta particle and has a half-life of 12.3 years.

Glossary

	Transuranic waste	Material contaminated with alpha-emitting transuranium nuclides, which have an atomic number greater than 92 (e.g. ^{239}Pu), half-lives longer than 20 years, and are present in concentrations greater than 100 nCi/g of waste.
U	Unsaturated zone	That portion of the subsurface in which the pores are only partially filled with water. The direction of water flow is vertical in this zone; which is also referred to as the vadose zone.
V	Vadose zone	The partially saturated or unsaturated region above the water table that does not yield water to wells.
W	Wastewater treatment system	A collection of treatment processes and facilities designed and built to reduce the amount of suspended solids, bacteria, oxygen-demanding materials, and chemical constituents in wastewater.
	Water table	The water-level surface below the ground at which the unsaturated zone ends and the saturated zone begins. It is the level to which a well that is screened in the unconfined aquifer would fill with water.
	Weighting factor	A value used to calculate dose equivalents. It is tissue-specific and represents the fraction of the total health risk resulting from uniform, whole-body irradiation that could be contributed to that particular tissue. The weighting factors used in this report are recommended by the ICRP (Publication 26).
	Wind rose	A diagram that shows the frequency and intensity of wind from different directions at a particular place.
Z	Zone 7	The common name for the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Zone 7 is the water management agency for the Livermore-Amador Valley with responsibility for water treatment and distribution. Zone 7 is also responsible for management of agricultural and surface water and the ground water basin.