

## Glossary

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Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)	Federal legislation that requires the parties responsible for contamination to conduct or pay for the cleanup. If the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) efforts to take an enforcement action for the cleanup are not successful, the Federal government can clean up a site using the CERCLA Trust Fund.
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)	The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government. It is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to federal regulation. Each volume of the CFR is updated once each calendar year.
Down-gradient	The direction of flow; i.e., downstream.
EDR Report	A list of databases searched for potential hazardous materials contamination, including selected detailed information from federal and state lists, and maps illustrating the identifiable sites within the indicated search radius.
General housekeeping	This describes how well the site is maintained. For example, observations may record if soil is stained or if garbage, junk cars, and/or discarded chemical containers are scattered about the property.
Groundwater	That portion of the water below the ground surface that is free flowing within the soil particles. Groundwater typically moves slowly, generally at a downward angle because of gravity, and eventually enters into streams, lakes, and oceans.
High-occupancy vehicle (HOV)	High-occupancy vehicle is a special designation for a bus, carpool, or vanpool provided as an encouragement to increase ride-sharing. Specially designated HOV lanes and parking are among the incentives for persons to pool trips, use fewer vehicles, and make the transportation system more efficient. HOV lanes are generally inside (left-side) lanes, and are identified by signs and a diamond on the pavement. Currently, two or more (2+) occupants are required to use the I-405 HOV lanes. Motorcycles are allowed to use freeway HOV lanes as well.
Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST)	A known leaking tank located underground typically containing hazardous materials, most commonly petroleum products.
Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)	Washington State legislation adopted as the counterpart to the Federal Superfund law, also known as CERCLA. Like CERCLA, MTCA sets up a process to identify, investigate, and cleanup contaminated properties that are, or may be, a threat to human health or the environment. MTCA allows for the assessment of damages where the contamination injures wildlife or the environment.
Monitoring well	A ground well used to test or sample on an ongoing basis the quality and quantity of groundwater.

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## ***Glossary (Continued)***

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)	A set of national emission standards for listed hazardous pollutants emitted from specific classes or categories of new and existing sources. These standards were implemented in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977.
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	The national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements under Sections 307, 318, 402, and 405 of the Clean Water Act. (NPDES glossary Web site: <a href="http://cfpub2.epa.gov/npdes/glossary.cfm?program_id=0#N">http://cfpub2.epa.gov/npdes/glossary.cfm?program_id=0#N</a> )
No further action (NFA)	An official acknowledgement from the Washington State Department of Ecology that a contaminated site has undergone cleanup or no longer poses a threat to human health or the environment.
Parts per million (ppm)	A measure of concentration based on weight or volume.
Pollutant	Any substance introduced into the environment that contaminates or otherwise adversely affects the usefulness of a resource.
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	Polychlorinated biphenyls are aromatic compounds containing two benzene nuclei with two or more substituted chlorine atoms.
Project Area	The potential area of impact.
Reasonably predictable sites	Locations that are expected to exhibit recognized combinations of environmental conditions based on previous experience in similar situations and/or best professional judgment.
Record of Decision (ROD)	A document prepared by the federal lead agency that presents the basis for the decision reached after completion of the Final EIS. The ROD summarizes any mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the project, and documents any required Section 4(f) or other approvals.
Remediation	An action to identify, eliminate, or minimize hazardous substances that pose a threat to human health or the environment.
Right-of-way	Land purchased prior to the construction of transportation improvements along with land for sound walls, retaining walls, stormwater facilities, and other project features. This also includes permanent or temporary easements for construction and maintenance. Vacant land may also be set aside for future highway expansion under certain circumstances.
Sensitive Receptors	Sensitive receptors include residences, senior housing, schools, hospitals, wells, fish or wildlife habitat conservation areas, etc. that could be adversely affected by hazardous materials.
Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan	A plan for minimizing effects to soil, surface water, and groundwater in the event of a spill of contaminated soil, petroleum products, contaminated water, or other hazardous substances. The SPCC plan addresses construction procedures, equipment, and materials.
Storm drain	A sewer that carries stormwater and surface water, street wash, and other wash waters or drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes; also called a storm sewer.
Study area	The area specifically evaluated for environmental effects within ¼ mile of the project area.

## ***Glossary (Continued)***

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Substantially contaminated site	A property that possesses a potential for substantial contamination of soil, groundwater, surface water, and/or sediment; contains contaminants that are persistent or expensive to manage; and lacks reliable estimates of remediation costs.
Surficial	Pertaining to or lying on the surface of the earth.
Volatile organic compound (VOC)	An organic (carbon-based) compound that readily forms vapors at normal temperature and pressure. The term is generally applied to organic solvents, certain paint additives, aerosol spray can propellants, fuels (such as gasoline and kerosene), petroleum distillates, dry cleaning products, and many other industrial and consumer products, ranging from office supplies to building materials.
Windshield survey	The process of driving by an area to look at properties for general housekeeping and verify property addresses; a method of observing a project area by driving the area in a vehicle.

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