

Appendix A. Definitions of Federal and State Potential Pollution Source Classifications

CERCLA = The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. Commonly referred to as Superfund, CERCLA was enacted on December 11, 1980. CERCLA provides EPA authority to respond to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that may endanger human health or the environment. EPA follows the procedures outlined in the National Contingency Plan (NCP) to respond to releases and threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. CERCLA also requires that EPA maintain the National Priorities List (NPL), a list of sites across the United States that require remedial action due to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances. Finally, CERCLA requires reporting of releases, establishes the liability of persons responsible for releases of hazardous substances, and established a trust fund to provide for cleanup when no responsible party can be identified

Source: EPA web site. <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hotline/hotintro.htm#cercla>

RCRIS = Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System. National program management and inventory system of RCRA hazardous waste handlers and is used by the EPA to support its implementation of RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HWSA). The system is primarily used to track a handler's permit or closure status, compliance with Federal and State regulations, cleanup activities, waste handler inventory, and environmental program progress assessment. Handlers can be characterized as fitting one or more of the following categories: treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs), large quantity generators, small quantity generators, and transporters.

Definitions for large and small quantity generators are given below:

LARGE QUANTITY GENERATORS = Generators who create more than 1,000 kg/mo of hazardous waste. Such generators are required to follow a long list of steps, including preparation of biennial reports, and procedures for handling hazardous waste.

SMALL QUANTITY GENERATORS = Persons or enterprises that produce more than 100 kg/mo but less than 1,000 kg/mo (220 - 2200 pounds per month) of hazardous waste; are required to keep more records than conditionally exempt generators. These include automotive shops, dry cleaners, photographic developers and a host of other small businesses.

Source: Fono, Andrew L. and Olga L. Moya *Federal environmental Law, The User's guide*. West Publishing Co. St Paul, Minnesota. 1997

IFD = Industrial Facility Discharge. These sites are industrial or municipal point sources discharging to surface waters. The IFD was designed and implemented in late 1970s under a contract for the specific purpose of providing the Monitoring and Data Support Division (MDS) of the Office of Water Regulations and Standards with a comprehensive database of industrial point source dischargers to surface water in the United States. The major components of the IFD are the Permit Compliance System (PCS), the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the Construction Grants Needs Survey, the Publicly Owned Treatment Works Study, the regulations and standards from EPA/OW Effluent Guidelines Division, EPA's Duluth Laboratory's Complex Effluent Toxicity Information System (CETIS) database, the Organic Chemical Producer's (OCP) database, EPA Enforcement Form 2C data in STORET, the Hazardous Waste National Priority List (NPL) sites, the Reach File, the In-House System (IHS) Stream Gage File, and input from EPA Region and State applications. General Information about each facility was first extracted from the PCS to form the building block upon which more information was added. The IFD is organized as a hierarchical information system of three levels: facility, discharge pipe, and contributing indirect discharge. The facility level contains identification information and summarized discharge data. The discharge level includes the components of each individual discharge such as location of pipe, flow, and SIC code activity. Indirect discharge level includes data on industrial flow from industries that discharge to another facility such as a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW), rather than directly to surface water.

TRI = Toxic Release Inventory. EPA requires annual reports of toxic chemical releases to the environment under section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). These reports are submitted on EPA Form R, the Toxic Release Reporting Form. The reports are required to provide the public with information on the releases of listed toxic chemicals in their communities and to provide EPA with release information to assist the Agency in determining the need for future regulations. Facilities must report the quantities of both routine and accidental releases of toxic chemicals, as well as the maximum amount of the listed toxic chemical on-site during the calendar year and the amount in wastes transferred off-site. Reports must be filed by owners and operators of facilities which meet all of the following criteria: 10 or more full-time employees (part-time equivalent), Facility is included in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 20 through 19, Manufacturers or processes more than 25,000 lbs. or uses more than 10,000 lbs. of any listed chemical during the calendar year.

Source: EPA web site. <http://www.epa.gov/region07/programs/artd/toxics/triwhat.html>

HSI = Hazardous Site Inventory. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has published the Hazardous Site Inventory (HSI) since July 1, 1994. The HSI is a list of sites where releases of regulated substances have occurred that are deemed to be reportable by the Rules for Hazardous Site Response, Chapter 391-3-19 (Rules). The Rules require persons who have had a release exceeding specified thresholds to complete a Release Notification/Reporting Form and send it to EPD. This information is then evaluated by EPD in terms of both the nature of the release and the proximity of human and environmental receptors. If this evaluation demonstrates that a potential threat to human health or the environment exists, the site is listed on the HSI.

Source: Georgia EPD web site. http://www.ganet.org/dnr/environ/rules_files/exist_files/391-3-19.pdf