

ERB Acronym and Glossary – D

Acronym	Glossary	Definition
D	data qualifiers - organic analysis - D	Identifies all compounds identified in an analysis at a secondary dilution factor. If a sample or extract is reanalyzed at a higher dilution factor, as in the E flag below, the DL suffix is appended to the sample number on Form I for the diluted sample, and all concentration values reported on that Form I are flagged with the D flag.
d13C	del C 13	The unit used to describe stable carbon isotope measurement.
dB	decibel	Unit of measurement used for sound intensity. Sometimes also used to express the strength of a signal.
DCA	Dichloroethane	fumigant and an extraction solvent whose properties are colorless, neutral, mobile, with an aromatic ethereal odor, saccharin taste, Soluble in alcohol, ether, fixed and volatile oils; very sparingly soluble in water. Toxic; TLV: 200 ppm in air.
DCE	Dichloroethene or Dichloroethylene	General solvent for organic materials, dye extraction, perfumes, lacquers, thermoplastics, organic synthesis; flammable, dangerous fire hazard, toxic by ingestion, inhalation, and skin contact; irritant and narcotic in high concentration.
DCP	Dichlorophenol	Derived by the chlorination of phenol. Toxic by ingestion, strong irritant to tissue. It is used for organic synthesis.
DD	Decision Document	Demonstrates that the response action chosen is consistent with, and meets the requirements of, CERCLA and the NCP; and documents Navy/Marine Corps decisions regarding response action selection. Equivalent to a Record of Decision for non-NPL sites.
DDD	Dichloro-Diphenyl-Dichloroethane (Rhothane)	Trade mark for an agricultural insecticide based on 1,1-bis(chlorophenyl)-2,2-dichloroethane and supplied as a wettable powder or emulsion concentrate.
DDE	Dichloro-Diphenyl-dichloro-Ethene	It is a degradation product of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) found as an impurity in DDT residues.
DDT	Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane	The first chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticide. It has a half-life of 15 years and can accumulate in fatty tissues of certain animals. EPA banned registration and interstate sale of DDT for virtually all but emergency uses in the United States in 1972 because of its persistence in the environment and accumulation in the food chain.
DEHNR	Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources	The lead stewardship agency for the preservation and protection of natural resources. The organization administers regulatory programs designed to protect air quality, water quality, and the public's health. DENR works to protect fish, wildlife and wilderness areas.
DENIX	Defense Environmental Network and Information Exchange	A DoD-wide information exchange to facilitate and support communications and environmental awareness; consists of an integrated set of menus comprising a collection of application programs, databases, bulletin board forums, and UNIX utilities to complement other

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		existing services available; provides access to a wide variety of information which can be downloaded to personal computers.
DER	Department of Environmental Resources	it's primary goal is to help protect, restore, and conserve the air, water, land and ecosystem resources.
DERA	Defense Environmental Restoration Account	DoD-established account to pay the cost of DoD expenses to clean up hazardous waste sites; DoD transfers DERA funds to the services for uses consistent with the DERP; the DoD counterpart of the Superfund Program regulated under CERCLA and SARA and RCRA Corrective Action.
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program	Formally established by Congress in 10 USC 2701-2707 and 2810; provides centralized management for the cleanup of DoD hazardous waste sites consistent with the provisions of CERCLA as amended by SARA, the NCP, and E.O. 12580.
DERPMIS	Defense Env'l Restoration Program Management Information System	A DoD database used to track information on the status and progress of activities at sites in the DERP. It is used to support the Annual Report to Congress.
DFM	Diesel Fuel Marine	Used as marine diesel fuel.
đh	viscosity	The property of a fluid describing its resistance to flow. Also known as dynamic viscosity.
DL	Detection Limit	The minimum concentrations which must be accurately and precisely measured by the laboratory and/or specified in the quality assurance plan.
đmg/kg	micrograms/kilogram - equivalent to ppb	Expressing a concentration in units of micrograms/kilogram is equivalent to expressing the concentration in parts per billion by mass or weight.
đmg/L (đmg/l)	micrograms/liter - equivalent to ppb	Expressing a concentration in units of micrograms/liter is equivalent to expressing the concentration in parts per billion by volume.
DMM	Discarded Military Munitions	Military munitions that have been abandoned without proper disposal or removed from storage in a military magazine or other storage area for the purpose of disposal. The term does not include unexploded ordnance, military munitions that are being held for future use or planned disposal, or military munitions that have been properly disposed of, consistent with applicable environmental laws and regulations. (10 U.S.C. 2710(e)(2))
đmm	micron	A unit of length equal to one millionth (10 ⁻⁶) of a meter. Also called a micrometer.
DMR	Discharge Monitoring Report	is a quality assurance program. This program is intended for all major and selected minor permittees under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. The purpose is to evaluate the analytical and reporting ability of the laboratories routinely performing the inorganic chemistry and whole-effluent toxicity self-monitoring analyses required in NPDES permits.
DMSO	Dimethyl Sulfoxide	Used as a gas odorant, a solvent for many inorganic substances. It is flammable, a dangerous, fire risk, a

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		moderate explosion risk. It is a colorless, volatile liquid with a disagreeable odor; soluble in alcohol and ether; insoluble in water/
DNAPL	Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid	A liquid that does not dissolve in water, and so forms a separate phase from water, which is also denser than water and therefore sinks. Many chlorinated solvents are DNAPLs.
DNR	Department of Natural Resources	It's mission is to manage, protect and sustain natural and cultural resources; provide resource-compatible recreational opportunities; and promote natural resource-related public safety, education, and science.
DO	Dissolved Oxygen	The oxygen freely available in water, vital to fish and other aquatic life and for the prevention of odors. DO levels are considered a very important indicator of a water body's ability to support desirable aquatic life. Secondary and advanced waste treatment are generally designed to ensure adequate DO in waste-receiving waters.
DOC	Department of Commerce	The Department of Commerce and Labor was created by the Act of February 14 (32 Stat. 826; 5 U.S.C. 591) to promote the Nation's economic competitiveness.
DOC	Dissolved Organic Carbon	originates from leaching of the canopy and from incomplete decomposition of organic matter.
DoD	Department of Defense	
DOE	Department of Energy	It's overarching mission is to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States; to promote scientific and technological innovation in support of that mission; and to ensure the environmental cleanup of the national nuclear weapons complex.
DOIT	Demonstration of On-site Innovative Technologies	Committee that promotes interstate cooperation on innovative technologies
DOJ	Department of Justice	implements a justice system that is fair, accessible and efficient; assists the federal government to develop policy and to make and reform laws as needed.
DOL	Department of Labor	charged with preparing the American workforce for new and better jobs.
DON	Department of the Navy	The executive part of the Department of the Navy at the seat of government; the headquarters, US Marine Corps; the entire operating forces of the United States Navy and of the US Marine Corps, including the Reserve Components of such forces; all field activities, headquarters, forces, bases, installations, activities, and functions under the control or supervision of the Secretary of the Navy; and the US Coast Guard when operating as a part of the Navy pursuant to law. Also called DON. See also Military Department.
DOS	Department of State	supports the policy positions set forth in the National Security Strategy and presents how the Department will implement U.S. foreign policy and development assistance.
DOT	Department of Transportation	Oversees federal highway, air, railroad, and maritime and other transportation administration functions
DP	Direct Push	A drilling method by which a rod (hollow or solid) is driven or hammered into the ground (usually through

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		hydraulic pressure).
DPM	Defense Priority Model	DoD prioritization models, site ranking models are meant to give priority to sites posing the greatest threat to human health. The DPM, not used after 1993, used a combination of quantitative and qualitative approximations to calculate pathway subscores combined to provide an overall site score from 0 to 100.
DQ(*)	Data Qualifiers - Duplicate analysis not within control limits.	Symbols added as a suffix to analytical results used to flag data. Indicates that a duplicate analysis not within control limits.
DQA	Data Quality Assessment	process is the scientific and statistical evaluation of data to determine whether the data are of the right type, quality, and quantity to support their intended use.
DQO	Data Quality Objective	Quantitative and qualitative statements specified to ensure that data of appropriate quantity and quality is collected during field activities to support specific decisions or regulatory actions.
DRMO	Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office	Facility to obtain US government surplus property.
DSERTS	Defense Site Environmental Restoration Tracking System	A computer based system used to track environmental restoration activities at active installations. The system is used to collect and maintain information about environmental remediation and provide reports that detail the information at the DoD Component level. Data gathered by DSERTS will be submitted to RMIS for DoD processing and will be used as the principal source of information for each DoD component in the Annual Report to Congress.
DSMOA	Defense/State Memorandum of Agreement	A grant program to support state participation in federal cleanups.
DSMOA	DoD/State Memorandum of Agreement	contractual arrangement between the DoD or the State to appropriate parties stipulating the terms and conditions under which specific work is performed; these terms and conditions include scope of work, period of performance, payments, etc.
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control	protects California and Californians from exposures to hazardous wastes
DUS	Dynamic Underground Stripping	A combination of several technologies (steam injection, electrical heating, underground imaging) targeted to remediate soil and ground water contaminated with organic compounds.
DWS	Drinking Water Standard	Concentration limits for certain elements and pollutants that may occur in drinking water; established by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

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	Dallas	The Naval Air Station located west of Dallas was closed in 1998 in accordance with the Base Realignment and Closure Commission of 1993.
	DARAMEND	DARAMEND is an advanced biological treatment

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		technology for soil, sediment and solid wastes contaminated with recalcitrant organic compounds.
	data	Factual information, as measurements or statistics, used as a basis for reasoning, discussion, or calculation.
	data collection	The act of collecting factual information such as observations or output by sensing devices.
	data management	Protocols and procedures used to preserve, handle, and query collections of factual information.
	data qualifiers	Symbols added as a suffix to analytical results used to flag data: - Organic Analysis:
	data validation	A systematic effort to review data to identify any outliers or errors and thereby cause deletion or flagging of suspect values to assure the validity of the data to the user. This process may be done by manual or computer methods.
	database	A collection of factual information that are organized in a specified manner and that are accessed by designated personnel for designated purposes.
	daughter product	A compound that results directly from the biodegradation of another. For example, cis 1,2-Dichloroethene (cis 1,2-DCE) is commonly a daughter product of Trichloroethene (TCE).
	DCE/VC stall	The phenomenon during which reductive dechlorination of PCE or TCE stops at DCE or VC for a significant time period without proceeding to ethene.
	decay constant	A constant which expresses the probability that an atom or molecule of a chemical will decay in a given time interval.
	dechlorination	Removal of chlorine from a substance by chemically replacing it with hydrogen or hydroxide ions in order to detoxify the substance.
	decomposition	The breakdown of matter by bacteria and fungi, changing the chemical makeup and physical appearance of materials.
	decontamination	Removal of harmful substances from exposed individuals, rooms and furnishings in buildings, or the exterior environment.
	defense sites	Locations that are or were owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed or used by the Department of Defense. The term does not include any operational range, operating storage or manufacturing facility, or facility that is used for or was permitted for the treatment or disposal of military munitions. (10 U.S.C. 2710(e)(1))
	degradation	1) The process by which a chemical is reduced to a less complex form. 2) The physical destruction or decomposition of a clothing material due to exposure to chemicals, use, or ambient conditions (i.e., storage in sunlight). Degradation is noted by visible signs such as charring, shrinking, dissolving, or by testing the clothing material for weight changes, loss of fabric tensile strength, etc. Important in assessing the continuing protection provided by protective clothing for hazardous waste operations.

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	Dehalococcoides ethenogenes	The only bacterium currently known to be capable of complete reductive dechlorination of PCE or TCE to ethene in pure culture.
	dehydrohalogenation	Elimination of HX resulting in formation of an alkene.
	delegated state	A state (or other governmental entity such as a tribal government) that has received authority to administer an environmental regulatory program in lieu of a federal counterpart. As used in connection with NPDES, UIC, and UST programs, the term does not connote any transfer of federal authority to a state.
	delist	Use of the petition process to have a facility's status on the National Priorities List rescinded.
	density	A measure of how heavy a solid, liquid, or gas is for its size. Mathematically, it is the ratio of mass to volume of a material, usually in grams per cubic centimeter or pounds per gallon.
	dermal exposure	Contact between a chemical and the skin.
	dermal toxicity	The ability of a pesticide or toxic chemical to poison people or animals by contact with the skin.
	desiccant	A chemical agent that absorbs moisture; some desiccants are capable of drying out plants or insects, causing death.
	design capacity	The average daily flow that a treatment plant or other facility is designed to accommodate.
	designated uses	Those water uses identified in state water quality standards that must be achieved and maintained as required under the Clean Water Act. Uses can include cold water fisheries, public water supply, irrigation, etc.
	designer bugs	Popular term for microbes developed through biotechnology that can degrade specific toxic chemicals at their source in toxic waste dumps or in groundwater.
	desorption	The release of chemicals attached to solid surfaces. Antonym - Sorption.
	detention time	1) The theoretical calculated time required for a small amount of water to pass through a tank at a given rate of flow. 2) The actual time that a small amount of water is in a settling basin, flocculating basin, or rapid-mix chamber. 3) In storage reservoirs, the length of time water will be held before being used.
	detergent	Synthetic washing agent that helps remove dirt and oil. Some contain compounds which kill useful bacteria and encourage algae growth when they are in wastewater that reaches receiving waters.
	development effects	Adverse effects such as altered growth, structural abnormality, functional deficiency, or death observed in a developing organism.
	dewater	1) Remove or separate a portion of the water in a sludge or slurry to dry the sludge so it can be handled and disposed. 2) Remove or drain the water from a tank or trench.
	diagenesis	The chemical and physical changes occurring in sediments before consolidation or while in the environment of deposition.

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	diatoms	Cellular or colonial photosynthetic protists most often in marine environments. They are very small in size and are components of plankton, a major food source at the bottom of the marine food chain.
	Diazinon	An insecticide. In 1986, EPA banned its use on open areas such as sod farms and golf courses because it posed a danger to migratory birds. The ban did not apply to agricultural, home lawn or commercial establishment uses.
	Dibenzofurans	A group of highly toxic organic compounds.
	Dicofol	A pesticide used on citrus fruits.
	diffused air	A type of aeration that forces oxygen into sewage by pumping air through perforated pipes inside a holding tank.
	diffusion	The movement of a chemical, suspended, or dissolved particle from a more concentrated to a less concentrated area. The process tends to distribute the chemical or particles more uniformly.
	diffusivity	A measurement of the movement of a molecule in a liquid or gas medium as a result of differences in concentration. It is used to calculate the rate of volatilization of a pure substance from a surface or in estimating a Henry's Law constant for chemicals with low water solubility. The higher the diffusivity, the more likely a chemical is to move in response to concentration gradients.
	digestion	The biochemical decomposition of organic matter, resulting in partial gasification, liquefaction, and mineralization of pollutants.
	dike	A low wall that can act as a barrier to prevent a spill from spreading.
	diluent	Any liquid or solid material used to dilute or carry an active ingredient.
	dilution ratio	The relationship between the volume of water in a stream and the volume of incoming water. It affects the ability of the stream to assimilate waste.
	Dinocap	A fungicide used primarily by apple growers to control summer diseases. EPA proposed restrictions on its use in 1986 when laboratory tests found it caused birth defects in rabbits.
	Dinoflagellates	Flagellated, photosynthetic, marine protists. They are very small in size and are components of plankton, a major food source at the bottom of the marine food chain.
	Dinoseb	An herbicide that is also used as a fungicide and insecticide. It was banned by EPA in 1986 because it posed the risk of birth defects and sterility.
	Dioxane	Dioxane is commonly used as a stabilizer for of trichloroethane and is present in trichloroethane in small amounts. Dioxane is hydrophilic and is not removed by activated charcoal.
	Dioxin	A family of compounds known chemically as dibenzo-p-dioxins. Concern about them arises from their potential

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		toxicity and contaminants in commercial products. Tests on laboratory animals indicate that it is one of the more toxic man-made compounds.
	dip tank	Generally metal or concrete units that range in size from 50 to 500 gallons or more. The tanks are used to clean parts prior to treatment or to coat parts with various materials including metals and plastics.
	direct exposure pathway	An exposure pathway where the point of exposure is at the source, without a release to any other medium.
	direct filtration	A method of treating water which consists of the addition of coagulant chemicals, flash mixing, coagulation, minimal flocculation, and filtration. Sedimentation is not used.
	direct runoff	Water that flows over the ground surface or through the ground directly into streams, rivers, and lakes.
	direct-push drilling	A drilling method by which a rod (hollow or solid) is driven or hammered into the ground (usually through hydraulic pressure).
	direct-reading instruments	Provide information at the time of sampling. They are used to detect and monitor flammable or explosive atmospheres, oxygen deficiency, certain gases and vapors, ionizing radiation, and free product.
	discharge	1) Flow of surface water in a stream or canal or the outflow of groundwater from a flowing artesian well, ditch, or spring. 2) Discharge of liquid effluent from a facility or of chemical emissions into the air through designated venting mechanisms. 3) As defined by section 311 (a)(2) of the CWA, includes but is not limited to, any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping of oil, but excludes discharges in compliance with a permit under section 402 of the CWA, discharges resulting from circumstances identified and reviewed and made a part of the public record with respect to a permit issued or modified under section 402 of the CWA, and subject to a condition in such permit, or continuous or anticipated intermittent discharges from a point source, identified in a permit or permit application under section 402 of the CWA, that are caused by events occurring within the scope of relevant operating or treatment systems. 4) For purposes of the NCP, discharge also means threat of discharge.
	disinfectant	A chemical or physical process that kills pathogenic organisms in water. Chlorine is often used to disinfect sewage treatment effluent, water supplies, wells, and swimming pools.
	dispersant	A chemical agent used to break up concentrations of organic material such as spilled oil.
	dispersion	Hydrodynamic dispersion; the process whereby a contaminant dissolved in groundwater spreads out in the direction coincident to and perpendicular to groundwater flow, causing the contaminant to become diluted; the sum of the effects of mechanical mixing and molecular diffusion on a dissolved contaminant that results in dilution of the contaminant. The mixing results

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		from differences in flow path length and velocity for different molecules.
	dispersivity	A property that quantifies dispersion in a medium.
	disposables	Consumer products, other items, and packaging used once or a few times and discarded.
	disposal	Final placement or destruction of toxic, radioactive, or other wastes; surplus or banned pesticides or other chemicals; polluted soils; and drums containing hazardous materials from removal actions or accidental releases. Disposal may be accomplished through use of approved secure landfills, surface impoundments, land farming, deep-well injection, ocean dumping, or incineration.
	Disposition	What must be done with a document throughout its lifecycle.
	dissolved metals	Analyte elements which have not been digested prior to analysis and which will pass through a 0.45 μ m filter.
	dissolved solids	Disintegrated organic and inorganic material in water. Excessive amounts make water unfit to drink or use in industrial processes. Generally noticeable in concentrations greater than 500 mg/L.
	distillation	The act of purifying liquids through boiling, so that the steam condenses to a pure liquid and the pollutants remain in a concentrated residue.
	diversion	1) Use of part of a stream flow as a water supply. 2) A channel with a supporting ridge on the lower side constructed across a slope to divert water at a non-erosive velocity to sites where it can be used or disposed of. 3) Controlled movement of a hazardous material to an area where it will produce less harm.
	diversion rate	The percentage of waste materials diverted from traditional disposal such as landfilling or incineration to be recycled, composted, or re-used.
	DoD Priority Categories	Priorities for DERP funding determined on the basis of relative risk (site priorities) and a hierarchy of site actions (action priorities) within each site priority.
	DoD Work Groups	Representatives from various areas participate in DoD Work Groups to clarify policy criteria used to determine the non-contractible or contractible nature of positions within DoD organizations. The Joint Environmental Surveillance Working Group (JESWG) is a DoD Work Group as well as the Joint Weapon systems Technical Architecture Working Group (JWSTA WG).
	DON Policy	Generally DON Policy is defined in OPNAVINST issued from the Chief of Naval Operations
	dosage/dose	The actual quantity of a chemical administered to an organism or to which it is exposed.
	dose response	How a biological organism's response to a toxic substance quantitatively shifts as its overall exposure to the substance changes (e.g., a small dose of carbon monoxide may cause drowsiness; a large dose can be fatal.)
	dose-response assessment	Estimating the potency of a chemical.

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	dose-response relationship	The quantitative relationship between the amount of exposure to a substance and the extent of toxic injury or disease produced.
	DOT Reportable Quantity	The quantity of a substance specified in US Department of Transportation regulations that trigger labeling, packaging and other requirements related to shipping such substances.
	downgradient	The direction that groundwater flows; similar to "downstream" for surface water.
	draft permit	A preliminary permit drafted and published by EPA; subject to public review and comment before final action on the application.
	drainage basin	The area of land that drains water, sediment, and dissolved materials to a common outlet at some point along a stream channel.
	drawdown	1) The drop in the water table when water is being pumped from a well. It is the vertical distance between the static and the pumping levels of the wells. 2) The amount of water used from a tank or reservoir. 3) The drop in the water level of a tank or reservoir.
	dredging	Removal of mud/sediment from the bottom of water bodies. This can disturb the ecosystem and causes silting that kills aquatic life. Dredging of contaminated muds can expose biota to heavy metals and other toxic compounds. Dredging activities may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
	drillers log	The drillers record of material drilled through in the process of drilling a well.
	Drinking Water Equivalent Level	Protective level of exposure related to potentially non-carcinogenic effects of chemicals that are also known to cause cancer.
	drinking water supply	As defined by section 101(7) of CERCLA, any raw or finished water source that is or may be used by a public water system as defined in the Safe Drinking Water Act, or as drinking water by one or more individuals.
	dry weight	The weight of a sample based on percent solids. The weight after drying in an oven.
	dump	A site used to dispose of solid waste without environmental controls.
	duplicate	Identical splits of individual samples which are analyzed by the laboratory to test for method reproducibility. Samples may be split in the laboratory.