

## ERB Acronym and Glossary – R

Acronym	Glossary	Definition
r	Correlation Coefficient	A number which indicates the degree of dependence between two variables (concentration - absorbance). The more dependent they are, the closer the value of r to one. Determined on the basis of the least squares line.
R	data qualifiers - organic analysis - R	Quality control indicates that sample results are rejected and data are not usable (compound may or may not be present). Resampling and reanalysis are necessary for verification.
R & D	Research and Development	Activities which directly contribute to achieving advances in science or technology through the resolution of scientific or technological uncertainty.
RA	Remedial Action	1) Involves the construction, operation, and implementation of the final cleanup remedy until confirmatory sampling and analysis indicate that cleanup levels have been reached. The final remedy can include removing waste from a site for off-site treatment or disposal, containing the waste on-site or treating the waste on-site. Long-term RAs require continued monitoring, operation, and maintenance for a number of years. 2) As defined by CERCLA those actions consistent with the permanent remedy taken instead of or in addition to removal actions in the event of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance into the environment, to prevent or minimize the release of hazardous substances so that they do not migrate to cause substantial danger to present or future public health or welfare or the environment. The term includes, but is not limited to, such actions at the location of the release as storage, confinement, perimeter protection using dikes, trenches, or ditches, clay cover, neutralization, cleanup of released hazardous substances and associated contaminated materials, recycling or reuse, diversion, destruction, segregation of reactive wastes, dredging or excavations, repair or replacement of leaking containers, collection of leachate and runoff, on-site treatment or incineration, provision of alternative water supplies, and any monitoring reasonably required to assure that such actions protect the public health, welfare, and the environment. The term includes the cost of permanent relocation of residents, businesses, and community facilities where the President determines that, alone or in combination with other measures, such relocation is more cost effective than and environmentally preferable to the transportation, storage, treatment, destruction, or secure disposition off-site of hazardous substances, or may otherwise be necessary to protect the public health or welfare; the term includes off-site transport and off-site storage, treatment, destruction, or secure disposition of hazardous substances and associated contaminated materials. 3) For the NCP, the term also includes the enforcement activities related thereto.

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RA	Risk Assessment	1) Qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the risk posed to human health and/or the environment by the actual or potential presence and/or use of specific pollutants. 2) The process used to determine the threats posed by hazardous substances. Elements include: identification of the hazardous substances present in the environmental media; assessment of exposure and exposure pathways; assessment of the toxicity of the site's hazardous substances; characterization of human health risks; and characterization of the impacts and/or risks to the environment.
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board	An advisory group for the restoration process with members from the public, the Navy, and the regulatory agencies. The purpose of the RAB is to gain effective input from stakeholders on cleanup activities and increase installation responsiveness to the community's environmental restoration concerns.
RABITT	Reductive Anaerobic In Situ Biological Treatment Technology	A treatment technology that attempts to stimulate the dechlorination of chloroethenes in groundwater by supplying electron-donating substrate to indigenous anaerobic microorganisms.
RAC	Remedial Action Contract	An open-ended, long term Navy contract for clean up of specific contaminants.
RACER	Remedial Action Cost Engineering and Requirements	Engineering-based environmental cost estimating system. Estimates costs for studies, remedial design, remedial action, and related site-work for environmental restoration projects.
RAC-IT	Remedial Action Contract - Innovative Technologies	Remedial Action Contract - Innovative Technologies; The purpose of the contract is to provide a mechanism to transfer innovative technologies and approaches into ongoing remedial activities at Navy and Marine Corps installations.
RACM	Reasonably Available Control Measure	A broadly defined term referring to technological and other measures for pollution control.
RACT	Reasonably Available Control Technology	Control technology that is reasonably available, and both technologically and economically feasible. Usually applied to existing sources in nonattainment areas; in most cases is less stringent than new source performance standards.
RAGS	Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund	EPA guidance for conducting risk assessments.
RAO	Remedial Action Objective	The Remedial Action Objective (RAO) provides the basis for developing criteria for the implementation of the Remedial Action Plan.
RAO	Remedial Action Operation	Formerly Long Term Operation. Includes operation and maintenance support requirements from start of implementation of a RA; includes monitoring necessary to ensure ongoing RA is successful. RAO should not follow an interim RA for programming purposes
RAP	Remedial Action Plan	The Remedial Action Plan (RAP) is the EPA's Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC's) remedy selection document for hazardous substance release sites.
RAW	Risk Assessment Workgroup	Advisory group to the Installation Restoration Managers

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		and Remedial Project Managers to promote efficient application of human health and ecological risk assessment processes.
RAWP	Remedial Action Work Plan	A field sampling plan and O&M plan containing key implementation actions for the remedy.
RBC	Risk Based Concentration	Formulated by EPA Region III, RBCs are chemical concentrations corresponding to fixed levels of risk (i.e., a hazard quotient of 1 or lifetime cancer risk of 10 <sup>-6</sup> ) in water, air, fish tissue, and soil. RBCs are often used to screen sites not yet on the NPL, respond rapidly to citizen inquiries, and spot-check formal baseline risk assessments. However, RBCs have several limitations. Calculation of RBCs do not include consideration of: 1) transfers from soil to air and groundwater, and 2) cumulative risk from multiple contaminants or media. Therefore, for a single contaminant in a single medium, under standard default exposure assumptions, the RBC corresponds to the target risk or hazard quotient. Chemical concentrations corresponding to fixed levels of risk in water, air, fish tissue, and soil.
RBCA	Risk Based Corrective Action	A streamlined approach in which exposure and risk assessment practices are integrated with traditional components of the corrective action process.
RBSL	Risk Based Screening Level	Risk-based, site-specific corrective action target levels for chemicals of concern.
RC	Response Complete	The IRP actions are complete and the site is not a threat to the public health or the environment. It also can mean that the DoD is satisfied that the IRP activities at the site are complete and the proper authorities have been or are being notified, where necessary, of this decision.
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 1978	RCRA, as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA), requires the establishment of a management system for hazardous waste (Subtitle C), non-hazardous solid waste (Subtitle D), and underground storage tanks (Subtitle I). RCRA also provides corrective action authority for cleanup of pre-RCRA hazardous waste management units and non-hazardous solid waste management units.
RD	Remedial Design	Involves the development of the actual design of the selected cleanup remedy including preparation of all technical drawings, plans and specifications needed to implement the cleanup action.
RD&D	Research, Development, and Demonstration	EPA approval procedure for research projects, limited in scale, duration and environmental impact.
RDDT&E	Research, Development, Demonstration, Test, and Evaluation	Used by the Department of Energy for their Research & Development programs.
RDT&E	Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation	The systematic use of scientific principles in adapting technology to a new application by establishing conditions from which data is collected, assembled, and analyzed to determine feasibility and practicality.
RDX	Research Dept (or Royal	An explosive material widely used by the military. Its

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	Demolition) Explosive	manufacture can easily pollute soil and groundwater.
REACH IT	Remediation and Characterization Innovative Technologies	An EPA system that uses the power of the Internet to search, view, download and print information about innovative remediation and characterization technologies.
REAMS	Risk Exposure and Analysis Modeling System	Site remediation and cleanup guidance for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Water Division.
REC	Regional Environmental Coordinator	The Regional Environmental Coordinator (REC) serves as the Senior Navy Officer in a local region to coordinate environmental matters and public affairs. Designated by the Area Environmental Coordinator and maybe designated as NOSC for spill response.
REDOX	reduction/oxidation	Chemical reaction where one material is oxidized and another reduced.
RF	Radio Frequency	Radio Frequency (RF) is a generated electromagnetic field ranging from 9kHz to 300 GHz in bandwidth with applications in many wireless devices (cordless and cell phones, 2-way radios etc).
RF	Receptor Factor	An indication of the potential for human or ecological contact with site contaminants.
RFA	RCRA Facility Assessment	The initial process to determine whether corrective action at a site is warranted or to define what additional data must be gathered to make this determination. Equivalent to a CERCLA Preliminary Assessment (PA). RFAs are performed as part of the RCRA permitting process.
RfC	Reference Concentration	An EPA's Reference Concentrations ia an estimate of a continuous inhalation exposure concentration to people that is likely to be without risk off deleterious effects during a lifetime.
RfD	Reference Dose, Chronic	An estimate (with uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude or greater) of a daily exposure level for the human population, including sensitive subpopulations, that is likely to be without an appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime. Chronic RfDs are specifically developed to be protective for long-term exposure to a compound (as a Superfund program guideline, seven years to lifetime). Reference doses are calculated by dividing a quantitative indicator of toxicity (NOAEL or LOAEL) by an uncertainty factor.
RfDdt	Reference Dose, Developmental	An estimate (with uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude or greater) of an exposure level for the human population, including sensitive subpopulations, that is likely to be without an appreciable risk of developmental effects. Developmental RfDs are specifically developed to be protective for long-term exposure to a compound (as a Superfund program guideline, seven years to lifetime). Reference doses are calculated by dividing a quantitative indicator of toxicity (NOAEL or LOAEL) by an uncertainty factor.
RfDs	Subchronic Reference Dose	Daily exposure at or below the Subchronic Reference Dose is likely to be without appreciable risk of deleterious effects to the human population over the

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		course of a lifetime.
RFI	RCRA Facility Investigation	The process of determining the extent of hazardous waste contamination. Equivalent to the CERCLA Remedial Investigation (RI).
RFP	Request for Proposal	Used in negotiated acquisitions to communicate Government requirements to prospective contractors and to solicit proposals.
RI	Remedial Investigation	A detailed study that includes media sampling to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a site. The RI emphasizes data collection and site characterization including sampling and monitoring as necessary to gather sufficient information to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the evaluation of remedial alternatives. The RI includes a health assessment which estimates risks to human health and the environment as a result of the contamination. The RI also provides site-specific information for the FS.
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. This is a process that characterizes the extent of contamination at a site and explores options for remediation. The process is mandated by CERCLA, but its framework is used for many other sites, besides those on the NPL.
RIP	Remedy In Place	Indicates that a final remedial action has been constructed, implemented and is operating according to the Remedial Design (RD). An example of this would be a pump and treat system that is installed, operating as designed, and will continue to operate until cleanup levels have been attained. Since operation is on-going, the site cannot be considered as Response Complete (RC).
RITS	Remediation Innovative Technology Seminar	The Remediation Innovative Technology Seminar (RITS) provides training on new and innovative technologies, methodologies, and guidance under the Navy's Environmental Restoration program.
RL	Reporting Limit	A project, laboratory, or sample-specific numerical threshold value used for reporting analytical data. Chemicals detected below the RL and "J" qualified.
RMCL	Recommended Maximum Contaminant Level	The maximum level of a contaminant in drinking water at which no known or anticipated adverse affect on human health would occur, and that includes an adequate margin of safety. Recommended levels are nonenforceable health goals. See Maximum Contaminant Level.
RME	Reasonable Maximum Exposure	The maximum exposure reasonably expected to occur at a site. The RME is estimated for both the current and future land-use conditions. For Superfund exposure assessments, intake values for a given pathway should be selected so that the combination of all intake variables results in an estimate of the reasonable maximum exposure for that pathway.
RMIS	Remediation Management Information System	An on-line library of information on over 850 remediation technologies to select the best technology for site cleanup.

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RMIS	Restoration 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.
Rn	Radon	A colorless, naturally occurring, radioactive, inert gas formed by radioactive decay of radium atoms in soil or rocks.
RO	Reverse Osmosis	A treatment process used in water systems by adding pressure to force water through a semi-permeable membrane, but containing contaminants. Reverse osmosis removes most drinking water contaminants. Also used in wastewater treatment. Large scale reverse osmosis plants are being developed.
ROD	Record of Decision	1) A public document that explains the remedy selection process and which cleanup alternative(s) will be used at National Priorities List sites where, under CERCLA, Trust Funds pay for the cleanup. 2) The official term used by CERCLA and the NCP for the documentation of a final remedial response action decision at an NPL site.
ROICC	Resident Officer in Charge of Construction	Manages implementation of IR contracts involving construction including removal and remedial actions. Ensures that the contractor meets all specifications and activities are completed in a manner that protects human health, welfare, and the environment.
RPD	Relative Percent Difference	To compare two values, the relative percent difference is based on the mean of the two values, and is reported as an absolute value, i.e., always expressed as a positive number or zero.
RPM	Remedial Project Manager	Primary point of contact involved in the cleanup of IR sites. RPMs are responsible for taking all response actions to address the release of contaminants. The RPM is the prime contact for remedial actions being taken at sites on the NPL, and for sites not on the NPL but under the jurisdiction of a Federal agency. The RPM coordinates, directs, and reviews the work of other agencies, responsible parties, and contractors to ensure compliance with appropriate regulatory requirements.
RQ	Reportable Quantity	1) Quantity of a hazardous substance that triggers reports under CERCLA. If a substance exceeds its RQ, the release must be reported to the National Response Center, the SERC, and community emergency coordinators for areas likely to be affected. 2) The specified amount of a hazardous substance that when released in excess of that amount to the environment, must be reported under EPCRA, Section 304.
RREL	Risk Reduction Engineering Laboratory	The Environmental Protection Agency's laboratory in Cincinnati, Ohio.
RRSEM	Relative Risk Site Evaluation Model	The grouping of sites or AOCs into High, Medium, or Low categories based on an evaluation of site information using the factors of contamination hazard, migration pathway, and receptors.
RSC	Rapid Sediment Characterization	Rapid Sediment Characterization are field screening tools that provide measurements of chemical, biological or physical parameters on a real-time basis.
RSD	Relative Standard Deviation	The Relative Standard Deviation (RSD) is expressed in

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		percent and is obtained by multiplying the standard deviation (S) by 100 and dividing this product by the average ( $RSD = 100 \times S / \bar{x}$ (sum/number of items)).
RSE	Remedial Systems Evaluation	A process by which an independent expert team works collaboratively with the RPM and site contractor to evaluate the performance of all major components of the remediation system.
RTET	Remediation Technology Evaluation Tool	The RTET is a list preferred technologies organized by media and containment, and contains description of each technology.
RTM	Remedial Technical Managers	Remedial Technical Managers (RTM) have ultimate responsibility for the site, the ecological risk assessment team and other group agencies related to site cleanup.

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	radical	A molecular fragment having one or more unpaired electrons that are capable of initiating many kinds of chemical chain reactions, including oxidation. Free radicals are short-lived, highly reactive entities formed by the splitting of a molecular bond.
	radionuclides	An element characterized according to its atomic mass and atomic number that is radioactive.
	radius of influence	The maximum distance from the extraction or injection well where vacuum or pressure (soil gas or groundwater movement) occurs.
	radius of oxygen influence	The radius to which oxygen has to be supplied to sustain maximal biodegradation; a function of both air flowrates and oxygen utilization rates, and therefore depends on site geology, well design, and microbial activity.
	radius of vulnerability zone	The maximum distance from the point of release of a hazardous substance in which the airborne concentration could reach the level of concern under specified weather conditions.
	Raoult's Law	A physical-chemical law which states that the vapor pressure of a solution is equal to the mole fraction of the solvent multiplied by the vapor pressure of the pure solvent.
	raw sewage	Untreated wastewater and its contents.
	raw water	Intake water prior to any treatment or use.
	RCRA Part A Permit	Identifies treatment, storage and disposal units within a to-be-permitted facility.
	RCRA Part B Permit	Describes the wastes managed, the quantities, and the facilities. Allows the management of a treatment, storage, and disposal facility.
	reactivity	The ability of a material to undergo a chemical reaction with the release of energy. It could be initiated by mixing or reacting with other materials, application of heat, physical shock, etc.

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	reagent blank	Usually an organic aqueous solution that is as free of analyte as possible and contains all the reagents in the same volume as used in the processing of samples. The reagent blank must be carried through the complete sample preparation procedure and contains the same reagent concentrations in the final solution as in the sample solution used for analysis. The reagent blank is used to correct for possible contamination resulting from the preparation or processing of the sample. One reagent blank should be prepared for every analytical batch or for every 20 samples, whichever is more frequent.
	reasonable potential exposure scenario	A situation with a credible chance of occurrence where a receptor may become directly or indirectly exposed to the chemical(s) of concern without considering extreme or essentially impossible circumstances.
	reasonably anticipated future use	Future use of a site or facility that can be predicted with a high degree of certainty given current use, local government planning, and zoning.
	rebound	An increase in contaminant levels that may occur once the operation of a remedial system has been stopped. To recover. In the context of remediation, rebound tests are used to see whether contamination reoccurs after removal or treatment.
	recarbonization	Process in which carbon dioxide is bubbled into water being treated to lower the pH.
	receiving waters	A river, lake, ocean, stream or other watercourse into which wastewater or treated effluent is discharged.
	receptor	Any living organism or environmental medium which is exposed to contamination from a discharge.
	recharge	The addition of water to an aquifer by natural infiltration or artificial means. Injection of water into an aquifer through wells is one form of artificial recharge.
	recharge area	A land area in which water reaches the zone of saturation from surface infiltration, e.g., where rainwater soaks through the earth to reach an aquifer.
	recharge rate	The quantity of water per unit of time that replenishes or refills an aquifer.
	reclamation	(In recycling) Restoration of materials found in the waste stream to a beneficial use which may be for purposes other than the original use.
	records	All books, papers, maps, aerial photographs, architectural or engineering drawings, photographs, machine readable materials, or other documentary materials regardless of physical form or characteristics made or received by an agency of the United States Government under Federal law or in conjunction with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriate for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the Government.
	recoverable	The capability and likelihood of being recovered from

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		solid waste for commercial or industrial use.
	recovered material	Waste materials and byproducts which have been recovered or diverted from solid waste.
	recovered resources	Material or energy recovered from solid waste.
	recovery	The residual drawdown after pumping has stopped.
	recycle/reuse	Minimizing waste generation by recovering and reprocessing usable products that might otherwise become waste (i.e. recycling of aluminum cans, paper, and bottles, etc.).
	red tide	A proliferation of a marine plankton toxic and often fatal to fish, perhaps stimulated by the addition of nutrients. A tide can be red, green, or brown, depending on the coloration of the plankton.
	redox state	Describes the oxidation-reduction potential of a sample or area, whether the environment is reducing or oxidizing.
	reduction	The addition of hydrogen, removal of oxygen, or addition of electrons to an element or compound. Occurs when another compound is oxidized.
	reductive dechlorination	Removal of chlorine from a substance by chemically replacing it with hydrogen or hydroxide ions in order to detoxify the substance. The substance is reduced in the process.
	relative absorption factor	The ratio of the absorption from the exposure medium of concern to the absorption from the medium used in a toxicity study.
	release	1) As defined by section 101(22) of CERCLA, any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment including the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles containing any hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant to include oil, but excludes: Any release which results in exposure to persons solely within a workplace, with respect to a claim which such persons may assert against the employer of such persons; emissions from the engine exhaust of a motor vehicle, rolling stock, aircraft, vessel, or pipeline pumping station engine; release of source, byproduct, or special nuclear material from a nuclear incident, as those terms are defined in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, if such release is subject to requirements with respect to financial protection established by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under section 170 of such Act, or, for the purposes of section 104 of CERCLA or any other response action, any release of source, byproduct, or special nuclear material from any processing site designated under section 102(a)(1) or 302(a) of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978; and the normal application of fertilizer. 2) For purposes of the NCP, release also means threat of release.
	remedial action process	Provides a careful progression through the four phases of identification, investigation, cleanup and closure.

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	remedial response	Long-term action that stops or substantially reduces a release or threat of a release of hazardous substances that is serious but not an immediate threat to public health.
	remediation	Cleanup or other methods used to remove or contain a toxic spill or hazardous materials from a Superfund site.
	remote sensing	The collection and interpretation of information about an object without physical contact with the object; e.g., satellite imaging and aerial photography.
	removal action	1) An action to abate, minimize, stabilize, mitigate, or eliminate the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance; such actions may be taken during any phase of the remedial action process. 2) As defined by CERCLA, the cleanup or removal of released hazardous substances from the environment, such actions as may be necessary taken in the event of the threat of release of hazardous substances into the environment, such actions as may be necessary to monitor, assess, and evaluate the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, the disposal of removed material, or the taking of such other actions as may be necessary to prevent, minimize or mitigate damage to the public health, welfare or the environment, which may otherwise result from a release or threat of a release. The term includes, in addition, but not limited to, security fencing or other measures to limit access, provision of alternative water supplies, temporary evacuation and housing of threatened individuals not otherwise provided for, action taken under section 104(b) of CERCLA, post-removal site control where appropriate, and any emergency assistance which may be provided under the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. 3) For the NCP, the term also includes the enforcement activities related thereto. 4) Short-term immediate actions taken to address releases of hazardous substances that require expedited response.
	replicate	Repeated operation occurring within an analytical procedure. Two or more analyses for the same constituent in an extract of a single sample constitutes replicate extract analyses.
	replicate sample	A sample prepared by dividing a sample into two or more aliquots. Duplicate samples are considered to be two replicates. In cases where aliquoting is impossible, as in the case of volatiles, duplicate samples must be taken for the replicate analysis.
	representative sample	A portion of material or water that is as nearly identical in content and consistency as possible to that in the larger body of material or water being sampled.
	representativeness	The degree to which data accurately and precisely represents a characteristic of a population, parameter variations at a sampling point, or an environmental condition. It is a qualitative parameter that is most concerned with the proper design of the sampling program.

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	residence time	The period of time that a given volume of groundwater remains in a permeable reactive barrier.
	residual	Amount of a pollutant remaining in the environment after a natural or technological process has taken place, e.g., the sludge remaining after initial wastewater treatment, or particulates remaining in air after it passes through a scrubbing or other process.
	residual risk	The extent of health risk from air pollutants remaining after application of the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT).
	residual saturation	In physical terms, residual saturation is defined as a saturation value in which a given phase is immobile. Also defined as the saturation of a phase at an arbitrarily high capillary pressure.
	residue	The dry solids remaining after the evaporation of a sample of water, sludge, or other material.
	resistance	For plants and animals, the ability to withstand poor environmental conditions or attacks by chemicals or disease. May be inborn or acquired.
	resolution	The separation between peaks on a chromatogram, calculated by dividing the depth of the valley between the peaks by the peak height of the smaller peak being resolved, multiplied by 100. Also termed separation or percent resolution.
	resource	A person, thing, or action needed for living or to improve the quality of life.
	resource conservation	Reductions of the amounts of solid waste that are generated, reduction of overall resource consumption, and utilization of recovered resources.
	resource recovery	1) The recovery of material or energy from solid waste. 2) The process of obtaining matter or energy from materials formerly discarded.
	resource recovery facility	Any facility at which solid waste is processed for the purpose of extracting, converting to energy or otherwise separating and preparing solid waste for reuse.
	resource recovery system	A solid waste management system which provides for collection, separation, recycling, and recovery of solid wastes, including disposal of nonrecoverable waste residues.
	respiration	Oxidation of compounds to provide energy for cells.
	respiration rate	Rate of reduction of oxygen concentration due to biological action.
	respiration test	Test used to provide rapid field measurement of biodegradation rates to determine the potential applicability of aerobic bioremediation at a contaminated site and to provide information for a full-scale treatment system design.
	response	Any investigation, evaluation, decision-making, or implementation step.
	response action	1) Generic term for actions taken in response to actual or potential health-threatening environmental events such as spills, sudden releases, and asbestos abatement/management problems. 2) A CERCLA-

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		authorized action involving either a short-term removal action or a long-term removal response. This may include but is not limited to: removing hazardous materials from a site to an EPA-approved hazardous waste facility for treatment; containment or treatment of the waste on-site; identifying and removing the sources of ground-water contamination and halting further migration of contaminants.
	responsiveness summary	A summary of oral and/or written public comments received during a comment period on key documents, and the response to those comments.
	restoration	Measures taken to return a site to pre-violation conditions.
	retardation	Preferential retention of contaminants in the subsurface by one or more physical, chemical, or biological factors.
	retention time	Elapsed time between injection of a sample extract into a gas chromatograph and the elution of the target compound on the chromatogram.
	reversible effect	An effect which is not permanent; especially adverse effects which diminish when exposure to a toxic chemical is ceased.
	riparian habitat	Areas adjacent to rivers and streams with a high density, diversity, and productivity of plant and animal species relative to nearby uplands.
	rising head test	A type of Slug Test where a solid or known volume of water is quickly removed from an aquifer so that the rising head (water level in the well) can be monitored to determine the hydraulic conductivity. Values are often greater than those obtained from a falling head test for the same well.
	risk	A measure of the probability that damage to life, health, property, and/or the environment will occur as a result of a given hazard.
	risk characterization	The last step in the risk assessment process which characterizes the potential for adverse health effects and evaluates the uncertainty involved.
	risk communication	The exchange of information about health or environmental risks among risk assessors and managers, the general public, news media, interest groups, etc.
	risk estimate	A description of the probability that organisms exposed to a specific dose of a chemical or other pollutant will develop an adverse response (e.g., cancer)
	risk factor	Characteristic (e.g., race, sex, age, obesity) or variable (e.g., smoking, occupational exposure level) associated with increased probability of a toxic effect.
	risk management	The process of evaluating and selecting alternative regulatory and non-regulatory responses to risk. The selection process necessarily requires the consideration of site-specific scientific, legal, economic, social, political, and behavioral factors.
	risk management concept	Ensures that higher relative risk sites receive higher priority in the cleanup process; focuses on risk while also evaluating all relevant factors at a particular

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		cleanup site.
	risk management priorities	Relative risk, legal agreements, military readiness, stakeholder's concerns, innovative technologies, and cost effective contracting procedures help determine the priority of sites for cleanup within funding limits.
	risk reduction	The lowering or elimination of the level of risk posed to human health or the environment through interim remedial action, remedial action, or institutional or engineering controls.
	risk specific dose	The dose associated with a specified risk level.
	risk value	a calculated numeral that describes the probability or potential for developing cancer from exposure to carcinogenic contaminants.
	risk-based analysis	An evaluation concerned with identifying the human health and environmental risks by identifying the fate and transport of contaminants and identifying exposures to assumed receptors (animals or humans).
	risk-based method	A process that combines environmental data obtained for a hazardous waste site, risk assessment calculations, and a series of risk management decisions.
	river basin	The land area drained by a river and its tributaries.
	rolling milestones provision	Calls for annual updates to agreement milestones based on yearly appropriations; milestones are displayed in a Site Management Plan.
	rotosonic drilling	a dual cased drilling system that employs the use of high frequency vibration to obtain continuous core samples.
	route of exposure	The avenue by which a chemical or physical agent comes into contact with an organism (e.g., inhalation, ingestion, dermal contact, injection.)
	Rule of Five	A novel weight of evidence approach to derive a site specific clean up goal. Designed to provide a more objective (less subjective) approach to the use of lines of evidence in the development of PRGs in ecological risk assessment.
	runoff	That part of precipitation that flows to surface streams. Direct or over-land runoff is that portion of rainfall which is not absorbed by soil, evaporated, or transpired by plants, but finds its way into streams as surface flow. That portion which is absorbed by soil and later discharged to surface streams is groundwater runoff.