

Cooper's
Comprehensive
Environmental
Desk Reference

with
Supplemental Spell Check Disk



André R. Cooper, Sr.

Cooper's Comprehensive Environmental Desk Reference

Compiled and Edited by
ANDRÉ R. COOPER, SR.



VAN NOSTRAND REINHOLD

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INTRODUCTION

Cooper's Comprehensive Environmental Desk Reference was designed to unlock the door to environmental jargon! It is a specialized reference to the standard jargon used by environmentalists, planners, compliance officers, bureaucrats, professionals and other participants in the environmental field.

Cooper's Comprehensive Environmental Desk Reference is presented in eight sections — Section I, provides instant access to thousand's of environmental terms and terminology (from A to Z) — Section II, provides a quick reference listing of over hundreds of environmental acronyms and abbreviations. Together sections I and II provide over 10,000 environmental terms, acronyms, and abbreviations — Section III, provides a Sample Phase I Environmental Site Assessment that can be used for student instruction or professional reference in conducting Phase I ESAs — Section IV, provides quick reference to the Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) List found in the Clean Air Act, — Section V, provides one of the most comprehensive sets of environmental data conversion tables available — Section VI, provides a listing of chemical elements and abbreviations — Section VII, provides information on EPA Offices and Programs, and — Section VIII, is the Environmental Jargon Finder, a topical index of selected terms included in the book.

Cooper's Comprehensive Environmental Desk Reference is an expanded version of a self-published work (*Cooper's Pocket Environmental Reference*) started in 1991. This environmental data has been used by practitioners in the field as a quick reference tool; by students in environmental programs; by realtors, bankers, and appraisers; and by the Department of Energy as a skill building tool leading to competence in the language of the environmental profession.

A wide variety of references were consulted in the preparation of this book. For the most part the following acts, as amended, were referred to frequently in compiling this first edition: NEPA; CAA; CERCLA; SARA; FWPCA; CWA; TSCA; SWDA; RCRA; ESA; PHS; EPCRTKA; Title 40 of the CFR; CEQA; NHPA; and other environmental legislation and deliverables prepared and reviewed over a ten year span in the environmental field. Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure data accuracy, but the author and publisher cannot assume responsibility for third party (government) information.

Cooper's Comprehensive Environmental Desk Reference is being sold with the understanding that neither the publisher nor the editors are engaged in rendering legal advice or services, of any kind, and no endorsement by DOE, DOD, EPA, or any other agency, on the information herein, implicit or explicit, has been received.

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Section I

Environmental Terms and Terminology

A

A/E Services

See Architectural and Engineering Services.

A-95 Clearinghouse

A multijurisdictional agency that operates in coordination with cities and counties to carry out the review provided for under the Office of Management and Budget's Circular A-95. Three types of clearinghouses exist: state; regional; and metropolitan.

A-95 Review

A review administered by the Federal Office of Management and Budget whose purpose is to assure review and comment by both public and private interests that might be impacted by federally funded real estate development programs.

A-Scale Sound Level

A measurement of sound approximating the sensitivity of the human ear, used to define the annoyance of sounds or intensity of noise pollution.

A-Stage

An early stage of polymerization of thermosetting resins in which the material is still soluble in certain liquids and is fusible.

AA

An acronym for the Agriculture Act of 1970; and the Antiquities Act of 1906.

AACS

An acronym for Airborne Activity Confinement Systems.

Abandoned Areas

Deserted mine areas in which work has ceased and in which further work is not intended. Areas that function as escapeways and areas formerly used as lunchrooms, shops, and transformer or pumping stations are not considered abandoned areas.

Abandoned Well

A well whose use has been permanently discontinued due to lack of resources, need, or one that is in a state of disrepair to the extent that it cannot be used for its intended purpose.

Abatement

Reducing the degree or intensity of, or sometimes eliminating, a pollutant or the condition generating the pollution.

Abatement Date

The date by which an owner/operator is allowed, and required, to correct the condition constituting noncompliance with environmental order, regulation, policy, ordinance, or act.

ABEL

EPA's computer model for analyzing a responsible party's, or violator's, ability to pay a civil

penalty for noncompliance with environmental laws.

Abiotic

A term meaning nonbiological.

Ablation

The removal of loose surface material by wind; the melting and evaporation of surface ice.

Ablative

A material that absorbs heat through a decomposition process called pyrolysis at or near the exposed surface.

ABOSFN

An acronym for Nominal Automatic Burnout Safety Factor.

Aboveground Releases

Releases to the surface of the land or to surface water. This includes, but is not limited to, releases from the aboveground portion of an underground storage tank (UST) system and aboveground releases associated with overfills and transfer operations as the regulated substance moves to or from a UST system, tank, or facility.

Aboveground Storage Facility

A tank or other holding container, which is no more than 6 inches below its surrounding surface area.

Aboveground Storage Tank (AST)

A tank device situated in such a way that the entire surface area of the tank is completely above the plane of the adjacent surrounding surface and the entire surface area of the tank can be visually inspected.

Abrasion

1) The wearing away of surface materials by the abrasive action of moving solids, liquids, and/or gases. 2) In photography, a scratch or mark produced mechanically on an emulsion surface or film base.

Abrasive

A substance used to erode or polish a surface by friction, via liquid and solid materials such as emery, sand, and diamonds.

ABS-SC

An acronym for Automatic Backup Shutdown of the Safety Computer.

Absolute Age

The age of rock, mineral, or fossils in years; usually determined by radiometric dating.

Absolute Dud

A nuclear weapon which, when launched at or emplaced on a target, fails to explode.

Absolute Filter

A filter capable of cutting off 100% by weight of solid particles greater than a stated micron size.

Absolute Pressure (psia)

The sum of the atmospheric pressure and gauge pressure (psig).

Absorb

To transform radiant energy into a different form, with a resultant rise in temperature.

Absorbed Dose

1) The amount of a substance penetrating across the exchange boundaries of an organism, via either physical or biological processes, after contact (exposure). 2) The amount of energy imparted by nuclear (or ionizing) radiation to unit mass of absorbing material.

Absorbed Dose Rate

The energy from ionizing radiation absorbed per unit mass. The unit of absorbed dose is the gray (1 joule/kg) or, historically, the rad which is equal numerically to 10^{-2} joule/kg (100 erg/g).

Absorption

1) The incorporation of liquids or gases into the body. 2) The process by which liquid hazardous

materials are soaked up by sand, sawdust, or other material to limit the spread of contamination.

Absorption, Chemical

1) Adhesion of molecules of gas, liquid or dissolved solids to a surface. 2) The passage of one substance into or through another (e.g., an operation in which one or more soluble components of a gas mixture are dissolved in a liquid).

Absorption, Human

To take in a substance through a body surface such as the lungs, gastrointestinal tract, or skin and, ultimately, into body fluids and tissues.

Absorption, Radiation

The phenomenon by which radiation imparts some or all of its energy to any material through which it passes.

Absorption, Waste

An advanced method of treating wastes in which activated carbon removes organic matter from wastewater.

Absorption Coefficient

In acoustics, the ratio of sound waves absorbed by a material's surface to the total sound energy that strikes it. If the absorption coefficient = 1, then 100% of the sound energy is absorbed.

Absorption Hazards

Hazards where exposure to materials that can be absorbed through the skin or which can cause a skin effect (e.g., dermatitis) where appropriate personal protective equipment (clothing) is necessary but not worn. Such hazards do not depend on measurements of airborne concentrations. If a serious skin absorption or dermatitis hazard exists that cannot be eliminated with protective clothing, engineering or administrative controls should be utilized to minimize or prevent the hazard.

Absorption Unit

A factory-built assembly of component parts designed to produce refrigeration for comfort cooling or comfort heating by the application of heat.

Absorptive Capacity

A measure of the total amount of waste that can be dispersed in a particular environment without causing an adverse ecological or aesthetic impact.

Abstract of Title

A summary or condensation of the essential parts of all recorded instruments that affect a particular piece of real estate, arranged in the order they were recorded.

Abut

To border on. When two adjacent properties share a common public easement, such as a highway, they are called "abutting" properties. Properties that share a common property line are adjoining or adjacent sites.

AC

An acronym for Alternating Current.

ACAA

See Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration of World War II.

Acaricide

Chemicals, pesticides, and organochlorines used to kill ticks and mites.

Acaulescent

Stemless or nearly stemless.

ACC

An acronym for Abnormal Condition Control.

Acceleration

The rate of change of velocity with time. According to Newton, acceleration x mass = force = rate of change of momentum.

Acceleration Clause

A clause in a contract by which the time for payment of a debt is advanced, usually making the balance of the obligation due.

Accelerator

In the field of nuclear energy, a device used to speed up small particles for bombarding the nuclei of atoms. A device used to increase the kinetic energy of charged elementary particles.

Acceptability of Plan Review Criterion

In planning, the determination of whether a contemplated course of action is worth the cost in manpower, material, and time involved. *See* Adequacy of Operation Plan Review Criterion.

Acceptable Daily Intake

An estimate similar in concept to the Reference Dose (RfD), however, derived using a less rigorously defined methodology. RfDs have replaced the ADI as EPA's preferred value for use in evaluating potential noncarcinogenic health effects resulting from exposure to a chemical.

Acceptable Quality Level (AQL)

Maximum amount of laboratory failings considered satisfactory in a process average; expressed as a percentage.

Acceptable Risks

Residual risks remaining after controls have been applied to associated hazards that have been identified, quantified, analyzed, communicated to the proper level of management, and accepted after cost/benefit evaluations.

Acceptance

1) The indication or manifestation by the offeree that he/she is willing to be bound by the terms of the offer. 2) In real estate, the consent by a person receiving an offer to enter into a binding agreement with the offeror.

Access Agreement

1) An agreement allowing public access to privately owned land. 2) An agreement allowing a contractor/consultant access to a site throughout the course of a specific project period.

Access to Classified Information

The ability and opportunity to obtain knowledge of classified information. Persons have access to classified information if they are permitted to gain knowledge of the information or if they are in a place where they would be expected to gain such knowledge. Persons do not have access to classified information by being in a place where classified information is kept if security measures prevent them from gaining knowledge of the information.

Accessible Emission Level

1) The maximum accessible emission level. 2) The magnitude of accessible laser (or collateral) radiation of a specific wavelength or emission duration at a particular point as measured by appropriate methods and devices. 3) Radiation to which human access is possible in accordance with the definition of the laser's hazard classification.

Accessible Environment

The atmosphere, land surface, surface water, oceans, and the portion of the lithosphere that is outside the controlled area.

Accessible Location

A location that can be reached by an individual standing on the floor, platform, runway, or other permanent work area.

Accession

A transaction whereby one or more objects are acquired in the same manner from one source at one time for a museum collection. Types of accessions include gifts, exchanges, loans, and transfers.

Accessory Attachment/Improvement

Any additional structure, air-conditioning unit, driveway, landscaping, skirting, awning, carport, shed, porch, or other items contracted for and included in the purchase document for the purchase or lease of a manufactured home, mobile home, and/or its installation site.

Accessory Structure

A structure on a site that is detached from the main facility and that has a use related, but incidental to that of the main facility.

Accessory Use

In zoning, a use of land incidental to the major zoning classification for the property, such as parking lots in commercial zones and swimming pools in residential zones.

Accident

1) Any unexpected, undesirable event that adversely affects human health, welfare, or the environment. 2) A deviation from normal operations or activities associated with a hazard that has the potential to result in an emergency. 3) Unwanted transfers of energy or environmental conditions which, due to the absence or failure of barriers and/or controls, produces injury to persons, property, or process. In the context of nuclear safety or radiation protection, events which lead or could lead to abnormal exposure conditions.

Accident Prevention Measures for Regulated Substances (APMRS)

Measures adopted for release prevention, detection, and correction requirements that may include monitoring, record-keeping, reporting, training, vapor recovery, secondary containment, including other design, equipment, work practice, and operational requirements.

Measures should make distinctions between various types, classes, and kinds of facilities, devices and systems taking into consideration factors including, but not limited to, the size, location, process, process controls, quantity of substances handled, potency of substances, and response capabilities present at any stationary source.

Prevention measures typically cover the use, operation, repair, replacement, and maintenance of equipment to monitor, detect, inspect, and control such releases, including training of persons in the use and maintenance of such equipment and in the conduct of periodic inspections.

Accident Prevention Program (APP)

A program for preventing accidental releases of regulated substances, including safety precautions, maintenance, monitoring, and employee training measures.

Accident Prevention Regulations for Hazardous Substances (APRHS)

The regulations that require owners or operators of stationary sources at which a regulated substance is present in more than a threshold quantity to prepare and implement a risk management plan to detect and prevent or minimize accidental releases of such substances from the stationary source, and to provide a prompt emergency response to any such releases in order to protect human health and the environment. These regulations cover storage, as well as operations. The regulations, as appropriate, recognize differences in size, operations, processes, class and categories of sources, and the voluntary actions of such sources to prevent such releases and respond to such releases.

Accident Prevention Risk Management Plan

A plan that provides for compliance with the requirements of the CAA that includes each of the following: a) a hazard assessment to assess the potential effects of an accidental release of any regulated substance. This assessment includes an estimate of potential release quantities and a determination of downwind effects, including potential exposures to affected populations. Such assessment shall include a previous release history of the past 5 years, including the size, concentration, and duration of releases, and shall include an evaluation of worst case accidental releases; b) a program for preventing accidental releases of regulated substances, including safety precautions and maintenance, monitoring and employee training measures to be used at the source; and c) a response program providing for specific actions to be taken in response to an accidental release of a regulated substance so as to protect human health and the environment, including procedures for informing the public and local agencies responsible for responding to accidental releases, emergency health care, and employee

training measures. Owners and/or operators stationary sources covered by certain provisions of the CAA are required to submit risk management plans to the Administrator, the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSHIB), the state in which the stationary source is located, and to any local agency or entity having responsibility for planning for or responding to accidental releases that may occur at the source.

Accident Prone Situation

A condition in which accidents are predisposed to happen due to the existence of unwanted energy flows around potential targets in the absence of adequate barriers.

Accident Response Capabilities Coordinating Committee (ARCCC)

An advisory body that assists the manager of the Albuquerque Operations Office in matters relating to the overall management and coordination of DOE's nuclear weapons accident response.

Accident Response Groups (ARG)

Groups of technical and scientific experts composed of DOE and DOE-contractor personnel assigned responsibility for providing DOE assistance to peacetime accidents and significant incidents involving nuclear weapons anywhere in the world.

Accident Scenario

A simulation of an imagined disaster to test the responsiveness of an emergency preparedness team and to help quantify the potential, or actual, extent of damage to life and property.

Accident Site

The geographic location of an unexpected, inadvertent occurrence. A system failure or release at a facility or along a transportation route, where a release of hazardous materials has occurred.

Accident Types

Classification of accidents according to cause, such as the energy or environmental conditions

involved (e.g., electrical accidents, radiation accidents).

Accidental Occurrences

Accidents, including continuous or repeated exposure to conditions, that result in bodily injury or property damage that are neither expected nor intended from the standpoint of the insured.

Accidental Release

An unanticipated emission of a regulated substance or other extremely hazardous substance into the ambient air from a stationary source.

Accidents, Explosive

Incidents or occurrences that result in an uncontrolled chemical reaction involving explosives.

Acclimation

Behavioral or physiological adaptation of organisms to external environmental conditions.

Acclimatization

The physiological and behavioral adjustments of an organism to changes in its environment.

Accountability

The obligation imposed by law or lawful order or regulation on an officer or other person for keeping accurate record of property, documents, or funds. The person having this obligation may or may not have actual possession of the property, documents, or funds. Accountability is concerned primarily with records, while responsibility is concerned primarily with custody, care, and safekeeping. *See* Responsibility.

Accreditation

1) The DOE process of evaluating a program which, through the use of radiation dosimeters, measures and records dose equivalents received by radiation workers. 2) A DOE process to formally recognize reactor and nonreactor facility training programs as meeting established accreditation objectives and criteria.

Accreditation Coordinators

DOE personnel appointed within the program office and the field organization who are responsible for reviewing accreditation documents and maintaining the communication between DOE and the contractor concerning all accreditation activities associated with the office.

Accreditation Maintenance Report (AMR)

DOE reports written 2 years after accreditation or renewal of accreditation that describe changes in the accredited training programs since the last accreditation review.

Accreditation Review Team (ART)

DOE groups and individuals representing the Training Accreditation Program with collective expertise in nuclear facility or reactor operations, nuclear facility training, instructional processes, and training program evaluation. These teams review the facility's Contractor Self-Evaluation Report (CSER), visit the facility, evaluate training, and prepare a report of conclusions and recommendations.

Accredited

The status conferred upon DOE and DOE contractor dosimetry programs that have undergone the accreditation process and met or exceeded the applicable criteria of DOE/EH-0026 and DOE/EH-0027. Programs are accredited for a period of 2 years from the date of notification.

Accrediting Boards

Independent groups of individuals responsible for making the decision to award or deter accreditation.

Accretion

An increase in the area of riparian land due to the gradual deposit of solid materials by the water (alluvion), or due to the gradual but permanent receding of a waterway (dereliction).

Accuracy

The relationship of a result or the mean of a set of results to the true value. Accuracy is assessed by

means of measuring divergence from a reference sample and deducting for error percentages.

Acetic Acid (C₂H₄O₂)

Ethanoic acid, the acid in vinegar, an important industrial material obtained by fermentation from ethanol.

Acetone (C₃H₆O)

Propanone; a laboratory and industrial solvent used for making plastics. It is mixable with water and often used as a cleaning agent.

Acetylcholine

A substance in the human body having important neurotransmitter effects on various internal systems; often used as a bronchoconstrictor.

ACH

An acronym for Air Changes per Hour.

Achene

A small, thin drywalled fruit, such as those of buttercups or dandelions, that do not split when ripe.

Acicular

A needlelike bristle, spine or crystal.

Acid

1) A compound consisting of hydrogen plus one or more other elements and which, in the presence of certain solvents or water, reacts with the production of hydrogen ions. Acid reacts with alkali to form a salt water, has a sour taste, and turns blue litmus red. 2) A term applied to water with a pH less than 5.5. 3) A corrosive solution with a pH less than 7. *See* pH.

Acid Deposition

A complex chemical and atmospheric process whereby recombined emissions of sulfur and nitrogen compounds are redeposited on earth in wet or dry form. *See* Acid Rain; Particulates.

Acid Deposition Report (ADR)

A biennial report to Congress describing technical information about acid deposition to facilitate communication with policymakers and the public. The report includes, a) actual and projected emissions and acid deposition trends; b) average ambient concentrations of acid deposition precursors and their transformation products; c) the status of ecosystems (including forests and surface waters), materials, and visibility affected by acid deposition; d) the causes and effects of such deposition, including changes in surface water quality and forest and soil conditions; e) the occurrence and effects of episodic acidification, particularly with respect to high elevation watersheds; and f) the confidence level associated with each conclusion to aid policymakers in use of the information.

Acid Dipping

The immersion of metal-based equipment into a tank of acid-based cleaning solvents to remove debris and clean the object.

Acid Precipitation Research Program (APRP)

A program carried out by the Acid Precipitation Task Force for coordinating, augmenting, monitoring, and sponsoring additional research in the scientific community as necessary to ensure the availability and quality of data and methodologies needed to evaluate the status and effectiveness of acid deposition control programs. Research and monitoring efforts include, but are not limited to, a) *continuous monitoring of emissions of precursors of acid deposition*; b) maintenance, upgrading, and application of models, such as the Regional Acid Deposition Model, that describe the interactions of emissions with the atmosphere, and models that describe the response of ecosystems to acid deposition; c) analysis of the costs, benefits, and effectiveness of the acid deposition control program; and d) publication and maintenance of a National Acid Lakes Registry that tracks the condition and change over time of a statistically representative sample of lakes in regions that are known to be sensitive to surface water acidification.

Acid Precipitation Task Force (APTF)

A task force comprised of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and such additional members as the president may select. The responsibilities of the Task Force shall include reviewing the status of research activities conducted to date under the comprehensive research plan developed pursuant to the Acid Precipitation Act of 1980 (42 USC 8901 et seq.) and developing plans that identify significant research gaps and establish a coordinated program to address current and future research priorities.

Acid Rain

Rainwater that has an acidity content greater than the postulated natural pH of about 5.6. It is formed when sulfur dioxides and nitrogen oxides, as gases or fine particles in the atmosphere, combine with water vapor and precipitate as sulfuric acid or nitric acid in rain, snow, or fog. The dry forms are acidic gases or particulates. *See Acid Deposition.*

Acid Suit

See Anticontamination Clothing, Personal Protective Equipment.

Acknowledgment

1) A declaration made by a person to a notary public, or other public official, authorized to take acknowledgments, that a written instrument was executed by the individual and that it is was done as a free and voluntary act. 2) A message from the addressee informing the originator that his or her communication has been received and is understood.

Aclinic Line

See Magnetic Equator.

ACLs

An acronym for Alternate Concentration Limits.

ACOE

An acronym for Army Corps of Engineers.

Acoustic

A term used to describe the qualities and characteristics associated with sound transmissions.

Acoustic Intelligence

Intelligence derived from the collection and processing of acoustic phenomena.

Acoustical Surveillance

Employment of electronic devices, including sound-recording, -receiving, or -transmitting equipment, for the collection of information.

Acquired Character

A change in an organism resulting in response to an outside environmental influence.

Acquisition

The act or process of acquiring fee title or interest other than fee title to real property, including acquisition of development rights; obtaining ownership or possession of property by lawful means.

Acquisition of the Equivalent

The substitution of one resource for another resource that provides the same or substantially similar services, when such substitutions are in addition to any substitutions made, or anticipated, as part of response actions and when such substitutions exceed the level of response actions determined appropriate to the site pursuant to the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Acre Foot

A term used in measuring the volume of water, equal to the quantity of water required to cover 1 acre of a level area 1 foot in depth (e.g., 43,560 cubic feet, 1232.73 cubic meters).

Acronyms

Alphanumeric abbreviations for complex terms, names, programs, procedures, or concepts. There are over 10,000 terms and acronyms in this edition of *Cooper's Comprehensive Environmental*

Desk Reference. Acronyms, and their corresponding phrases, are found in their correct alphabetical position in the main body of the text. A comprehensive listing of all acronyms mentioned in the book and their corresponding meanings are included in their own section.

ACRR

An acronym for Annular Core Research Reactor.

ACRS

An acronym for the Advisory Commitment on Reactor Safety.

Acrylic Fiber

A manufactured synthetic material made of any long-chain synthetic polymer composed of a minimum 85%, by weight, of acrylonitrile units.

Acrylic Resins

A widely used group of synthetic resins, obtained from the polymerization of monomers derived from acrylic acid.

ACS

An acronym for Alternative Control Strategies.

Act of God

An unanticipated grave natural disaster or physical phenomenon of an extraordinary, fated, and compelling character, the effects of which could not have been foreseen or avoided.

Act of Nature

An act exclusively by violence of nature and without the interference of any human agency. A natural occurrence that cannot be foreseen or prevented. Also called an Act of God.

Actinmycetes

A group of moldlike bacteria that smell like very rich earth and are significant in the stabilization of organic solid waste by composting.

Actinoids

The radioactive elements from the periodic table ranging from actinium to lawrencium, including:

actinium (89); thorium (90); protactinium (91); uranium (92); neptunium (93); plutonium (94); americium (95); curium (96); berkelium (97); californium (98); einsteinium (99); fermium (100); mendelevium (101); nobelium (102); and lawrencium (103).

Actinomorphic

Having radial symmetry.

Action Areas

All areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action.

Action Charlie

Procedural shutdown, manual scram.

Action Description Memoranda (ADM)

An internal DOE document (normally, not more than 6 pages) containing a concise description of a proposed action and discussion of relevant potential environmental issues, to assist DOE in determining the appropriate level of NEPA document for a proposed action.

Action Levels

1) Regulatory levels recommended by EPA, for enforcement by FDA and USDA, when pesticide residues occur in food or feed commodities for reasons other than the direct application of the pesticide. As opposed to "tolerances" which are established for residues occurring as a direct result of proper usage, action levels are set for inadvertent residues resulting from previous legal use or accidental contamination. 2) In the Superfund program, the existence of a contaminant concentration in the environment high enough to warrant action or trigger a response under SARA and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan. The term can be used similarly in other regulatory programs. *See* Tolerance.

Action Plans

DOE plans intended to set forth specific actions that the site will undertake to remedy deficiencies noted in a Tiger Team Assessment Report. The

plans include timetables and funding requirements for the implementation of planned actions.

Action Propensity

The ability to make things happen. In an organization, the general manager has a much higher action propensity, than those in staff positions regarding safety, for example.

Actions

All activities or programs of any kind authorized, funded, or carried out, in whole or in part, by federal agencies in the United States or upon the high seas. Examples include, but are not limited to, a) actions intended to conserve listed species or their habitat; b) the promulgation of regulations; c) the granting of licenses, contracts, leases, easements, rights-of-way, permits, or grants-in-aid; or d) actions directly or indirectly causing modifications to the land, water, or air.

Activate

1) To put into existence by official order a unit, post, camp, station, base, or shore activity that has previously been constituted and designated by name or number, or both, so that it can be organized to function in its assigned capacity. 2) To prepare for active service a naval ship or craft that has been in an inactive or reserve status.

Activated Carbon

A form of carbon with a high adsorptive capacity for gases, vapors, and colloidal solids; it is made by heating carbon to 900°C with steam and/or carbon dioxide which gives it a porous particulate structure. It is used to control odors, fumes, and other types of pollution, and is also used as the primary filter material in gas masks. In waste treatment it is used to remove dissolved organic matter from wastewater. It is also used in motor vehicle evaporative control systems. *See* Carbon Absorption.

Activated Sludge

1) The biologically active material used to purify sewage, in the third level of treatment. When added to aerated sewage the organisms break down the organic matter that is present, using it as