

APPENDIX 8

GLOSSARY

Glossary

Aerobic Decomposition - a biodegradable process carried out by bacteria in warm, well aerated conditions.

Aftercare - the maintenance work needed to ensure that a restored landfill site does not produce environmental problems and is fully returned to a beneficial afteruse.

Afteruse - the use to which a landfill site is put following its restoration.

Agricultural Waste - All waste arising from agricultural premises.

Anaerobic Digestion - the use of micro-organisms to break down the organic part of waste in the absence of air.

Backfill - the material used for, or the act of refilling an excavation.

Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) - the option that provides the most benefit or least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost, and in the long term as well as the short term.

Bring System - where facilities are provided at supermarkets and other locations visited regularly by householders, in which they may deposit recyclable wastes.

Catchment Area - the area from which solid waste is collected for a specific landfill or transfer station etc.

Civic Amenity Site - sites for the collection of household waste, often with recycling points. Sites are intended to reduce the incidence of fly tipping. (Also known as Household Waste Recycling Centres).

Commercial Waste - waste from premises used for the purpose of trade or business, sport, recreation or entertainment.

Compost - organic matter decomposed aerobically or anaerobically and used as a fertiliser or soil conditioner.

Contamination - contamination is the addition, or the result of the addition, or presence of a material or materials to, or in, another substance to such a degree as to render it unfit for its intended purpose.

Controlled Waste - consists of household, commercial or industrial waste. It can only be treated or disposed of under licence from the Environment Agency.

Decomposition - breakdown of matter into more simple molecules. Decomposition may be caused by physical, chemical or micro-biological action.

Demolition Wastes - masonry and rubble wastes arising from the demolition or construction of buildings or other civil engineering structures. (This may also include a small fraction of non-inert waste e.g. timber).

Difficult Wastes - waste difficult to dispose of and might require special management site to avoid nuisance or pollution.

Domestic Wastes - waste or refuse that arises from private houses; synonymous with "household waste".

Environmental Impact - the total effect of any operation on the surrounding environment.

Groundwater - water held in water-bearing rocks, in pores and fissures underground.

Hazardous Wastes - a waste that, by virtue of its composition, carries the risk of death, injury or impairment of health, to humans or animals, the pollution of waters, or could have an unacceptable environmental impact if improperly handled, treated or disposed of. The term should not be used for waste that merely contains a hazardous material or materials. It should be used only to describe wastes that contain sufficient of these materials to render the waste as a whole hazardous within the definition given above.

Heavy Metals - a term for ferrous and non-ferrous metals having a density greater than about 4 which possess properties which may be hazardous in the environment. The term usually includes the metals copper, nickel, zinc, chromium, cadmium, mercury, lead, arsenic, and may include selenium and others.

Household, Waste - waste from a domestic property, caravan, residential home or from premises forming part of a university or school or other educational establishment; premises forming part of a hospital or nursing home.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) - place provided by the Waste Disposal Authority where members of the public can deliver household wastes for disposal. Recycling facilities may also provided at these sites. (Also known as Civic Amenity Sites).

Hydrogeology - the study of water in rocks.

Incineration - the burning of waste at high temperatures. This results in a reduction bulk and may involve energy reclamation.

Industrial Waste - wastes from any factory, transportation apparatus, from scientific research, dredging, sewage and scrap metal.

Inert Waste - waste that does not significantly decompose or rot when deposited in landfill.

Landfill - the deposit of waste onto and into land in such a way that pollution or harm to the environment is prevented and, through restoration, to provide land which may be used for another purpose.

Landfill Gas - a gas produced by the decomposition of biodegradable waste. It consists primarily of a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide.

Landraising- where land is raised by the deposit of waste material above existing or original ground level.

Landspreading - the application of wastes or sludges to the land and thereby facilitating their degradation and incorporation into the top layer of soil. Fertiliser is usually added to assist aerobic breakdown.

Leachate - liquid that seeps through a landfill site and by so doing extracts substances from the deposited waste.

MRF - Materials Recovery Facility, for non-inert or inert material.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)- Wastes which are collected by local authorities. Principally comprising wastes collected from households and civic amenity sites but also include street sweepings, local authority collected commercial and industrial waste.

Planning permission - formal consent given by the local planning authority to develop and use land.

Recovery - the reclamation, collection and separation of materials from the waste stream.

Recycling - the recovery and re-use of materials from wastes.

Reduction - reducing the volume of waste by use of technology requiring less waste generation from production, or production of longer lasting products with lower pollution potential.

Re-Use - the repeated utilisation of an item/material for its original (or other) purpose.

Secondary Liquid Fuels - industrial wastes such as solvents, inks and paints blended for use as secondary fuels to power industrial furnaces and kilns such as cement kilns.

Special Waste - waste which contains substances deemed to be dangerous to life as defined by the Special Waste Regulations 1996 and the Special Waste (Amendment) Regulations 1996.

Transfer Station - a bulk collection point for waste prior to its removal for disposal.

Waste - (Directive Waste) - means any substance or object set out in Part II of Schedule 4 to the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 which the producer or the person in possession of it discards or intends or it's required to discard but with the exception of anything excluded from the scope of the Directive by Article 2 of the Directive (DOE Circular 11/94 Annex 2).

Waste Arisings - these are wastes generated within an area e.g. County, derived from waste disposals minus imports plus exports.

Waste Disposal - the process of getting rid of unwanted, broken, worn out, contaminated or spoiled materials in an orderly, regulated fashion.

Waste Management Licence (WML) - A licence granted by the Environment Agency under Part II of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, which authorises the keeping, treatment or disposal of waste in or on land.

Waste Minimisation - the reduction of unwanted outputs from the manufacturing process and the manufacture of products that are likely to result in less waste when they are used.