

Air Program Acronyms

Government agencies seem to get buried in the acronyms they create to shorten many long phrases that are used often. Using acronyms can make it seem like the staff at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are speaking another language. This is a short translation guide and reference to help you understand some frequently used DNR Air Management Program acronyms.

Acronym	Full phrase or name	Description
ACC	Acceptable Concentration	Used in ch. NR 445 compliance demonstration
ACFM	Actual Cubic Feet per Minute	Measure of air/exhaust flow
ACM	Asbestos Containing Material	Material with more than 1% asbestos
AEI	Air Emissions Inventory	See EI; also AEMS and CRS
AQCR	Air Quality Control Region	Area designated for ambient air quality standards demonstrations
AQMD	Air Quality Management District	Area designated for ambient air quality standards demonstrations
BACT	Best Available Control Technology	For new source review under PSD or for NR 445 compliance
BTU	British Thermal Unit	Measure of heating capacity for boilers and other heating units
CAA	Clean Air Act	Federal rule that gives states authority for many of the air pollution control rules
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990	Amendments designed to curb major threats to environment and human health: acid rain, urban air pollution, and toxic air emissions
CAS	Chemical Abstract Service number	System classifying chemical compounds, unique number for each compound
CEM	Continuous Emission Monitoring	Equipment that can monitor an emissions point continuously
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System	
CFCs	Chlorofluorocarbons	Ozone depleting substance
CFM	Cubic Feet/Minute	Measure of air/exhaust flow
CO	Carbon Monoxide	Criteria pollutant, generated by fossil fuel combustion
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide	Greenhouse gas
DSCF	Dry Standard Cubic Foot	Unit of measure for air/exhaust flow
EA	Environmental Analysis or Environmental Assessment	Review of endangered species and other environmental effects caused by new construction, required prior to beginning construction of new industrial business
EF	Emission Factor	Unit used to help calculate emissions from a specific process or emissions unit
EI	Emission Inventory	System to record annual emissions and charge fees from each industrial facility that has air emissions



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Acronym	Full phrase or name	Description
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	Analysis done for a new project to determine the level of environmental impact it will have on issues like endangered species of plants or animals
EMS	Environmental Management System	System developed by a business to assess and monitor environmental aspects and impacts, with a goal of reducing the impacts under plan, do, check, act process
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Federal bureau that regulates pollution
ERC	Emission Reduction Credit	Credits for voluntary emissions reductions, must be permanent and enforceable (written in permit)
FESOP	Federally Enforceable State Operation Permit	Permit for sources that have potential to emit greater than major source levels, but have actual emissions below and are willing to take permit limits to avoid major source status
FID	Facility Identification Number	Nine-digit number used by WDNR to identify each facility
FIP	Federal Implementation Plan	EPA can issue if WDNR does not create programs that adequately meet the Clean Air Act
FOP	Federal Operations Permit	Permit issued to major sources under Title V of CAA
GACT	Generally Available Control Technology	National emissions standard for hazardous air pollutants set to a level of control that is generally available to the regulated industry sector
GEP	Good Engineering Practice (i.e. stack height)	In reference to a key stack height for modeling a facility
GOP	General Operation Permit	Permit issued to a whole source category (i.e. rock crushers or dry cleaners) that are very similar
Gr	Grain	Measure equal to 1/7000 pound
HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutant	Pollutants defined by EPA or WDNR to have chronic or acute toxic or carcinogenic affects on humans
HC	Hydrocarbons	Any compounds with hydrogen and carbon components
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons	Ozone depleting substance
LACT	Latest Available Control Technology (and operating practices)	Regulation in ch. NR 424, Wis. Adm. Code, to reduce organic compound emissions from process lines
LAER	Lowest Achievable Emission Rate	Highest control level for carcinogens in state HAP rules or in nonattainment area new source review permitting
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee	RMPs are sent to this group for overall planning, along with other emergency planning requirements
LON	Letter of Noncompliance	Letter that may be sent prior to NOV, as initial contact to determine if violation occurred
MACT	Maximum Achievable Control Technology	Federal standard for reducing HAP emissions at the highest levels of control
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement	Used to create written plans of action between two agencies (ie, federal and state or two state)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	Similar to MOA
MTBE	Methyl tertiary butyl ether	RfG found to cause water pollution and removed from requirements to be used for air emissions reductions
MTE	Maximum Theoretical Emissions	Emission rate from facility when operated at full design capacity for 24 hr/day, 365 day/yr and without control device operation taken into account
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards	Standards established by EPA for criteria pollutants at levels determined to be of human health concern

Acronym	Full phrase or name	Description
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System	Codes developed jointly by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to provide new comparability in statistics about business activity across North America
NESHAPs	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants	Federal standards established for specific HAPs to reduce emissions (vinyl chloride, beryllium, asbestos, etc.); MACT and GACT are NESHAPs
NMHC	Non-methane Hydrocarbons	Methane is not regulated as a hydrocarbon, so a definition of HC was needed to exclude methane emissions
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide	Component of NO _x emissions
NOV	Notice of Violation	Document issued by WDNR or EPA
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxides	Criteria pollutant
NR 400 Series	Chapters NR 400-499, Wis. Adm. Code	Code series that contains air pollution rules for WI
NRB	Natural Resources Board	Board appointed by WI Governor that provides direction to and approves all regulations established by WDNR
NSPS	New Source Performance Standards	Standards established by EPA to require emissions reductions from specific processes when installed new
NSR	New Source Review or Nonattainment area Source Review	Review for issuance of permits for construction or modification of a source with air pollution; nonattainment area sources have more stringent requirements
O ₃	Ozone	Criteria pollutant, not regulated as itself but through one of its precursors, VOCs (NO _x is another, regulated); only ground-level ozone (a.k.a. smog) is regulated
OAQPS	Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards	Office in EPA that handles all the air pollution issues
P2	Pollution Prevention	Principle of emissions reductions by changing process (via raw materials, etc.) instead of via end of pipe controls
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls	Very hazardous substance banned from any new uses but still around in old equipment
PD	Preliminary Determination	Section of permit documentation WDNR writes to support decisions made in review of application
PM10	Particulate Matter < 10 microns	Criteria pollutant
PM2.5	Fine Particulate Matter < 2.5 microns	Particulate matter size newly regulated by EPA
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration	Permit program established by EPA to ensure areas in attainment of NAAQS stay that way by requiring controls on large sources
PTE	Potential to Emit	Emission rate from facility where reductions from MTE that are enforceable (through a permit) can be taken into account (i.e., limits on hours of operations, raw material used, or straight cap on emissions)
RACT	Reasonably Available Control Technology	Industry specific technology based regulations established by WI to reduce emissions from those industries
RfC	Reference Concentration	Levels established by EPA and used by WDNR to include specific HAPs in state HAP rule
RfG	Reformulated Gas	Requirement for nonattainment areas for ozone, to reduce emissions from vehicles, MTBE and ethanol mixes
RMP	Risk Management Plan	Required under s. 112(r) of CAA, to notify public (via LEPC) of potential risks in their area

Acronym	Full phrase or name	Description
ROG	Reactive Organic Gas(es)	Term used to define organic compounds considered sufficiently reactive to form ozone in atmosphere
ROP	Registration Operation Permit	Generic permit written for any source that can cap emissions at 25% of the major source levels
RVP	Reid Vapor Pressure	Measure of organic compounds to indicate volatility
SCC	Source Category Code	Code used to define specific processes at emissions source and track emissions factors assigned to that process, and even specific materials used at the process
SCFM	Standard Cubic Feet per Minute	Airflow at "standard" temperature and pressure, usually set at 70°F and 1 atm
SCR	Selective Catalytic Reduction	Control option for NO _x reduction
SDS	Safety Data Sheet	Technical documentation on chemistry and safety precautions for materials, provided by manufacturers
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification	A nationally recognized set of codes used to define types of business activities,
SIP	State Implementation Plan	Plan developed by states and approved by EPA to spell out how state will implement authority given by EPA
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide	Criteria pollutant
TLV	Threshold Limit Values	Rates established by ACGIH for hazardous compounds and used in state HAP rule to set thresholds
TOC	Total Organic Carbon	Measure of organic compounds that includes methane and other compounds not included in VOC definition
TPD	Tons per Day	Units for emission rates
TPY	Tons per Year	Units for emission rates
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds	Regulated as precursor to ozone, a criteria pollutant; list of compounds in NR 400 defined as non-VOCs based on reactivity to form ozone

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