

Confederation of British Industry
Climate Change Agreement

Combined Cycle Gas Turbine
Climate Change Levy

Competitive Dialogue

Clean Development Mechanism

Construction (Design & Management)
2007 regulations

Comité Européen de Normalisation
(European Standards Committee)

Certified Emission Reductions

CDM

CDM (2007 regulations)

Glossary

OF TECHNICAL TERMS AND ACRONYMS

An agreement between... agreed targets for energy efficiency and... reductions.

A gas-fired electricity generation plant which uses waste heat to power a steam turbine.

A tax on the use of energy delivered to non-transmission users in the UK.

Procurement procedure for public sector contracts in which any economic operator may request to participate and whereby the contracting authority conducts a dialogue with the candidates submitted to that procedure, with the aim of developing one or more suitable alternatives capable of meeting the requirements, and on the basis of which the candidate chosen are invited to tender.

The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is an arrangement under the Kyoto protocol allowing industrialised countries to meet in emission reduction projects in developing countries, as an alternative to what is considered more costly emission reduction in their own countries.

CDM (2007 regulations) places legal duties on everyone involved in construction work.

European Standards body in Europe which sets norms for analysis and measurement.

A unit of Greenhouse Gas reductions that has been generated and certified under the provisions of Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol. Annex I investors in Certified Emission Reduction (CER) projects can compare their CDM projects, provided they meet certain eligibility criteria.

Trade association for energy from waste recovery in Europe.

A group of semi-sintered glass derived from the hydrocarbons methane and ethane, which has very

Introduction

This document contains a description of the main **abbreviations and terms** applied frequently in the waste sector today when discussing technology and related technical matters. It is intended as a quick guide to the main topics.

Disclaimer: This document is intended as a guide and source. Some regulatory definitions may change so should not be relied on for any legal purposes.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
ABPR	Animal By-Products Regulations	Imposes special rules on the collection and disposal routes of wastes containing animal protein, i.e. meat, fish, eggs, milk. Temperature, time and final pathogen count to be controlled for wastes containing animal by-products – meat & fish if these are composted/anaerobically digested.
AD	Anaerobic Digestion (also known as Methanisation in Europe)	The biological treatment of organic waste in the absence of oxygen which produces biogas (a mixture of CO ₂ and CH ₄ which can then be purified to produce a syngas for electricity production or used directly as a vehicle fuel). Digestate is also produced.
AH	Animal Health	Government's executive agency primarily responsible for ensuring that farmed animals in Great Britain are healthy, disease-free and well looked after.
APCR	Air Pollution Control Residue	A granular material resulting from using lime or bicarbonate to clean flue gases, which absorbs acid gases and heavy metals. Treated by physical-chemical treatment, cement stabilisation, or storage.
ASL	Approved Supply List	Important reference to determining hazardous status. It provides a list of chemicals and their risk phrases.
AT4	Aeration Test	Static Aeration test for biodegradable wastes over 4 days.
BAFO	Best And Final Offer	Refers to commercial bids. It is the final offer from the contractor following the conclusion of discussions. It indicates no further negotiation on amounts or terms.
BAT	Best Available Techniques	UK and European term. Refers to the most effective techniques for an operation at the appropriate scale and commercial availability, even if they are not in general use or have not been used in the UK. Enforced by EA during permitting.
BATAELs	Best Available Technique Achievable Emission Levels	Emission levels which are actually achievable by industrial facilities (therefore, below the authorised Emission Limit Values).
BATNEEC	Best Available Techniques Not Entailing Excessive Cost	The most effective techniques for an operation at the appropriate scale and commercial availability, but ensuring that benefits gained by using said techniques bear a reasonable relationship to the cost of obtaining them, e.g. it may not always be justifiable to obtain very small reductions in emissions at very high costs unless emissions are very toxic.
BERR	Business Enterprise, Regulatory Reform	Government Department for Industry Development; formerly the DTI, Department of Trade & Industry.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
BM100	Biogas emitted from waste over 100 days	Biogas is formed by anaerobic digestion of organic materials.
BMW	Biodegradable Municipal Waste	Municipal waste (waste from households, or other waste that, because of its nature or composition, is similar to waste from households) which is capable of being broken down by either anaerobic or aerobic decomposition, e.g. food, garden waste, paper, cardboard and biodegradable plastics.
BPEO	Best Practicable Environmental Option	Term used in order to take account of the total pollution from a process and the technical possibilities for dealing with it. In addition to controlling atmospheric emissions, it also includes appropriate measures to deal with any harmful discharges to water and for the treatment or disposal of other solid and liquid wastes to land.
BREEAM	Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method	BREEAM provides authoritative guidance on ways of minimising the adverse effects of buildings on the local and global environments. The assessment is based on 'credits' awarded for a set of performance criteria. Environmental performance is assessed under nine main categories: management (of the building and the occupant organisation), health and comfort, energy, transport, water consumption, materials, land use, site ecology and pollution.
BREF	Best Available Techniques Reference Document	Technical guidance from Europe on what constitutes Best Available Techniques in different industrial sectors (including waste incineration and waste treatment). The BREFs will inform the relevant decision makers about what may be technically and economically available to industry in order to improve their environmental performance and consequently improve the whole environment.
C&C	Coding & Classification Guidance	Coding and classification of waste guidance for physio-chemical treatment facilities are important in determining hazardous and non-hazardous status.
C&D	Construction & Demolition	Waste sourced from construction and demolition works, including: building and demolition waste, asphalt waste and excavated natural material.
C&I	Commercial and Industrial Waste	Waste generated by businesses and industries (including shopping centres, restaurants and offices) and institutions (such as schools, hospitals and government offices), excluding construction and demolition waste, and municipal waste.
CBA	Cost Benefit Analysis	A technique which purports to evaluate the social costs and benefits of investment projects in order to help decide whether or not the project should be undertaken.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
CBI	Confederation of British Industry	UK trade association for British industry.
CCA	Climate Change Agreement	An agreement between industry and DEFRA that has agreed targets for energy efficiency and carbon emission reductions.
CCGT	Combined Cycle Gas Turbine	A gas-fired electricity generation plant which uses waste heat to power a steam turbine.
CCL	Climate Change Levy	A tax on the use of energy delivered to non-domestic users in the UK.
CD	Competitive Dialogue	Procurement procedure for public centre contracts in which any economic operator may request to participate and whereby the contracting authority conducts a dialogue with the candidates admitted to that procedure, with the aim of developing one or more suitable alternatives capable of meeting its requirements, and on the basis of which the candidates chosen are invited to tender.
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism	The Clean Development Mechanism is an arrangement under the Kyoto protocol allowing industrialised countries to invest in emission reduction projects in developing countries, as an alternative to what is considered more costly emission reductions in their own countries.
CDM (2007 regulations)	Construction (Design & Management) 2007 regulations	CDM (2007 regulations) places legal duties on everyone involved in construction work.
CEN	Comité Européen de Normalisation (European Standardisation Committee)	European Standards body in Europe which sets norms for analysis and measurement.
CERs	Certified Emission Reductions	A unit of Greenhouse Gas reductions that has been generated and certified under the provisions of Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol. Annex I investors in CDM projects can earn Certified Emission Reduction units for the amount of greenhouse gas emission reductions achieved by their CDM projects, providing they meet certain eligibility criteria.
CEWEP	Confederation of European Waste to Energy Plants	Trade association for energy from waste incinerators in Europe.
CFCs	ChloroFluoroCarbons	A group of semi-inert gases derived from the hydrocarbons methane and ethane, which liquefy easily.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
CHIP	Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for supply) Regulations	CHIP is a law that requires the supplier of a dangerous chemical to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the hazards of the chemical (classification) • Give information about the hazards to their customers Suppliers usually provide this information on the package itself (eg. a label) and, if supplied for use at work, in a safety data sheet (SDS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package the chemical safely
CHP	Combined Heat and Power	Plant generating both heat and power (usually electricity) in a single process.
CIWEM	Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management	Leading professional and examining body for scientists, engineers, other environmental professionals, students and those committed to the sustainable management and development of water and the environment.
CIWM	Chartered Institution of Wastes Management	Leading professional body for waste and resource management.
CLO	Compost Like Outputs	Organic materials stabilised from MBT that cannot go to agricultural land. Some outlets can go to land remediation but this is very limited and stringent.
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide	Produced by burning carbon and absorbed by plants during photosynthesis. CO ₂ is the best known greenhouse gas and is used as an international standard to gauge and reduce climate change. Greenhouse gases absorb and emit infrared radiation from the sun, thus heating the earth's atmosphere. The other principal greenhouse gases are water vapour, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone and some halocarbons.
CO ₂ (eq)	Carbon dioxide equivalents	Includes other greenhouse gases converted to the equivalent of CO ₂ , e.g. CH ₄ = 25 times as potent as CO ₂ , N ₂ O = 310 times as potent.
COREPER	EU Council of Ministers Committee of Permanent Representatives	COREPER's defined role is to prepare the agenda for the ministerial council of EU meetings as well as procedural decisions. COREPER consists of two committees. COREPER I, where deputy heads of mission deal largely with social and economic issues. COREPER II consists of heads of mission and deals largely with political, financial and foreign policy issues.
CO _t	Carbon Trading (for councils)	A scheme managed by the LGIU (London Government Information Unit) which will enable local authorities and approved parties to commit to reducing carbon emissions.
CRI	Chemical Release Inventory	A publically available annual inventory showing the releases of each pollutant to the environment from industries.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
DEFRA	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	UK government department responsible for environmental protection, food production and standards, agriculture, fisheries and rural communities in Britain.
DG TREN	Energy and Transport Directorate-General in the European Commission	Responsible for conventional energies, new energies and demand management, security and nuclear safety, and transport in the EU.
Dirty MRF	Dirty Materials Recovery Facility	A facility which tries to reclaim material from mixed solid municipal waste.
DM	Dry Matter	A measurement of the mass of something when completely dried.
DRI	Dynamic Respiration Index	Parameter used to determine the biodegradability of wastes. It measures the demand of oxygen (due to microbial respiration) over a number of days (generally 4). Dynamic means that air is continuously supplied to the sample (as opposed to Static methods where the oxygen supplied to the sample is limited to the volume of the sample container).
EA	Environment Agency	Environmental regulatory body which monitors rivers, sea, beaches, air and soil to ensure they are free from pollution. They enforce laws and rules to stop pollution and can take companies and individuals to court for breaking these laws.
EC	European Community	Made up of the majority of European countries, which have to follow mutual rules and work together. All EC countries have to put an EC Directive (a law) into their own legal system.
ECJ	European Court of Justice	Highest court in the EU. Its job is to make sure that EU legislation is interpreted and applied in the same way in all EU countries, so that the law is equal for everyone. The Court has the power to settle legal disputes between EU member states, EU institutions, businesses and individuals.
EfW / ERF	Energy from Waste / Energy Recovery Facility	Usually refers to the incineration of waste. Energy produced can then be used to generate electricity. Energy can also be recovered from organic material via anaerobic digestion.
EIPPCB	European Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Bureau	The European IPPC Bureau exists to catalyse an exchange of technical information on best available techniques under the IPPC Directive 2008/1/EC, and to create the Best Available Techniques Reference Document which must be taken into account when the competent authorities of Member States determine conditions for IPPC permits.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
ELV	End-of-Life Vehicles	Vehicles that have reached the end of their use. These vehicles are classed as hazardous waste until they have been fully treated. There are ELV regulations (The EC ELV Directive) established to help reduce the amount of waste.
ELVs	Emission Limit Values	Regulatory emission levels allowed.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	US environment agency.
ERFO	European Recovered Fuels Organisation	Members of ERFO are European companies which produce solid recovered fuels (SRF) or intend to do so.
ERI	Energy Recovery Incineration	ERI is the combustion of waste under controlled conditions in which the heat released is recovered for a beneficial purpose. This may be to provide steam or hot water for industrial or domestic users, or for electricity generation.
ERU	Emission Reduction Unit	A unit issued and equal to one metric ton of CO ₂ equivalent, calculated in accordance with the Kyoto rules.
ESA	Environmental Services Association	Trade association for the waste sector.
ETS	Emissions Trading Scheme	The EU Emissions Trading Scheme is a Europe wide scheme which aims to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and combat the serious threat of climate change. EU ETS puts a price on carbon that businesses use and creates a market for carbon.
EU	European Union	Political and economic union of 27 member states.
EWC	European Waste Catalogue	Classifies waste materials and categorises them according to what they are and how they are produced.
FEAD	Fédération Européenne des Activités du Déchet et de l'Environnement / European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services	Trade Association; European equivalent of ESA.
FGT	Flue Gas Treatment	The treatment of toxic gases created as a result of incineration. The incineration of waste such as Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), hazardous industrial waste, medical waste and sewerage sludge results in the formation of a flue gas containing a range of pollutants. Most of these pollutants can be removed by conventional treatment methods such as scrubbing, bag filters and Electrostatic Precipitators (ESP). However, dioxins and heavy metals such as mercury and cadmium are not normally removed to low enough concentrations by conventional treatment.
FoE	Friends of the Earth	UK environmental campaigning organisation.
GLA	Greater London Authority	The GLA is a unique form of strategic citywide government for London. It is made up of a directly elected Mayor – the Mayor of London – and a separately elected Assembly – the London Assembly.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
GVC	Gross Calorific Value	The number of heat units measured as being liberated when a unit mass of fuel is burned in oxygen saturated with water vapour under standardised conditions.
GWP	Global Warming Potential	An index used to approximate the effect of an instantaneous release of a unit mass (1kg) of a greenhouse gas in atmosphere, relative to that of carbon dioxide. The index takes into account the lifetime of the gas and describes the relative effectiveness of the gas in contributing to global warming.
HDPE	High Density PolyEthylene	A strong, opaque, high density form of polyethylene. It has some branching, giving it stronger intermolecular forces and tensile strength than lower-density polyethylene.
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste	Any material discarded by a household, which is difficult to dispose of or which puts human health or the environment at risk because of its chemical or biological nature. This includes: electrical equipment (cathode ray tube televisions, computer monitors, fridges/freezers, microwaves and fluorescent tubes), gas bottles, automotive batteries, engine and cooking oil, fire extinguishers, household batteries, hazardous chemicals and asbestos.
HRT	Hydraulic Retention Time	HRT is a measure of the average length of time that a soluble compound remains in a constructed reactor.
HTI	High Temperature Incinerator	Incineration at temperatures in excess of 1100°C. This delivers a destruction efficiency of 99.99% and is ideally suited to the secure disposal of hazardous byproducts, redundant or obsolete products, laboratory waste and agents, contaminated electrical equipment and contaminated soils.
HWRC	Household Waste Recycling Centre, or Civic Amenity site.	A facility provided by the Waste Disposal Authority which is available to the public to deposit waste which cannot be collected by the normal household waste collection round. This includes recycling, bulky goods and some hazardous waste.
IBA	Incinerator Bottom Ash	A form of ash produced in incineration facilities which is discharged from the moving grate. The ash typically has small amounts of ferrous and non-ferrous metal contained with it that can be extracted and recycled.
ICER	Industry Council for Electronic and Electrical Equipment Recycling	An association of member companies dealing with the recycling or treatment of waste from all electrical and electronic equipment.
INCPEN	Industry Council for Packaging and the Environment	INCPEN is a research organisation, which draws together an influential group of companies who share a vision of the future where all production, distribution, and consumption is sustainable.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	An intergovernmental panel established by UNEP and WMO to assess the scientific, technical and socioeconomic information relevant for the understanding of human induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for mitigation and adaptation.
ISDS	Invitation to Supply Detailed Submission	Following an ISOS an ISDS provides a more detailed proposal.
ISO	International Standards Organisation	Central body for the formation and dissemination of industry standards for all national standards bodies.
ISOS	Invitation to Supply Outline Submission	Initial outline PFI proposal.
JI	Joint Implementation	A mechanism developed under the Kyoto Protocol designed to assist developed countries in meeting their emission reduction targets through joint projects with other developed countries.
LAFO	Last And Final Offer	LAFO closes any further negotiations and the refusal to entertain any counter offer.
LARAC	Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee	Leading national local authority organisation promoting waste reduction and recycling. LARAC facilitates the exchange of information on waste reduction and recycling throughout local government and with other organisations; provides expert responses to national, European and private sector initiatives; and assists others with technical information and advice to promote best practice in waste management.
LATS	Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme	A strict legislative system to divert biodegradable waste from landfill to comply with the Landfill Directive.
LAWDC	Local Authority Waste Disposal Company	Company responsible for the disposal of waste collected by the local council. They were established as arms reach companies when the industry was privatised.
LCA	Life Cycle Analysis / Assessment Method	Method for evaluating 'the whole life of a product or service' to ascertain the environmental impacts caused or necessitated by its existence. These stages involved include: raw materials acquisition, manufacturing, distribution and retail, use and reuse and maintenance, recycling and waste management.
LCI	Life Cycle Inventory	The end result of a LCA with aggregate emission such as CO ₂ , NO _x , SO ₂ or other impacts determined for a particular product and presented as an inventory of impacts.
LCIA	Life Cycle Impact Assessment	LCIA is the phase of the LCA where inventory data on inputs and outputs are translated into indicators about the system's potential impacts on the environment, on human health and availability of natural resources.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
LCPD	Large Combustion Plant Directive	The LCPD aims to reduce acidification, ground level ozone and particles throughout Europe by controlling emissions of SO ₂ , NOx and dust (particulate matter) from large combustion plants (LCPs) in power stations, petroleum refineries, steelworks and other industrial processes running on solid, liquid or gaseous fuel. These pollutants are major contributors to acid deposition, which acidifies soils and freshwater bodies, damages plants and aquatic habitats, and corrodes building materials.
LDA	London Development Agency	Body responsible for producing the Mayor's Economic Development Strategy for London.
LDPE	Low Density PolyEthylene	It has more branching (on about 2% of the carbon atoms) than HDPE, so its intermolecular forces (instantaneous-dipole induced-dipole attraction) are weaker, its tensile strength is lower, and its resilience is higher. Also, since its molecules are less tightly packed and less crystalline because of the side branches, its density is lower.
LEAP	Local Environmental Action Plan (Environment Agency)	Environmental Plan laid out by each local authority.
LFT	Landfill Tax	A levy per tonne or cubic metre of waste sent to landfill.
LGA	Local Government Association	A body for advancing the interests of local authorities
LIM	Loose Incinerator Metals	Ferrous metal removed from IBA at an energy recovery facility.
LOI	Loss on Ignition	A way of measuring organic and carbonate content of a sediment.
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas	A gaseous mixture of light hydrocarbons, whose maintained principal components are propane, butanes and butenes, liquefied by increased pressure or lowered temperature.
LTCS	Landfill Tax Credit Scheme	The LTCS enables waste operators to claim back up to 6.8% of their tax liability to HM Tax and Customs if they provide funding to organisations through their tax credits for certain types of qualifying environmental projects.
MCA	Municipal Collection Authority	Local authority responsible for the collection of municipal waste.
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility	Where (usually dry) recyclates are sorted before delivery to recycling companies (reprocessors).
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste	Combined residential and commercial waste material generated in a given municipal area. This includes household waste and any other wastes collected by a Waste Collection Authority, or its agents, such as municipal parks and gardens waste, beach cleansing waste, commercial or industrial waste, and waste resulting from the clearance of fly-tipped materials.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
MSWI	Municipal Solid Waste Incineration	The incineration of MSW.
MWLP	Minerals and Waste Local Plan	A plan produced by County Councils and Unitary Councils setting out strategic guidance on mineral workings, safeguarding reserves and ensuring environmental protection for the whole of their area.
NAMAS	National Measurement Accreditation Service	Now under UKAS, it is responsible for checking standards and assessment bodies (accreditation is the mechanism by which such bodies are themselves assessed and is fundamental to business confidence in certification, testing, and calibration).
NAP	National Allocation Plan	The National Allocation Plan defines the basis on which allocations of free greenhouse gas emission allowances to individual installations covered by the Emissions Trading Scheme will be made.
NCV	Net Calorific Value	The gross calorific value less the latent heat of evaporation of the water that forms during combustion of the fuel. It is important to clarify the basis on which CV is quoted.
NGO	Non-Government Organisation	Legally constitutes voluntary, non-profit organisations, with no participation or representation of any government. e.g. Greenpeace.
NISP	National Industrial Symbiosis Programme	An innovative business opportunity programme that delivers benefits for members and generates positive outcomes for the environment and society. Industrial symbiosis brings together companies from all business sectors with the aim of improving cross industry resource efficiency through the commercial trading of expertise.
NOx	Nitrogen Oxides	Produced when fuel is combusted and reacts with nitrogen. It is a powerful greenhouse gas which is 210 times as potent as CO ₂ .
OBC	Outline Business Case	A business case prepared by the Council to establish the need for the project. It will include an output specification, i.e. what is required and how realistic it is to achieve.
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister	Now the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in charge of community cohesion and equality, as well as responsible for housing, urban regeneration, planning and local government.
OFGEM	Office of Gas and Electricity Market	Government regulator body for the electricity and downstream natural gas markets in Great Britain.
OFWAT	Office of Water Services	The economic regulator for the water and sewerage industry in England and Wales.
ORA	Oil Recycling Association	A UK trade association whose members collect and process for recovery the majority of waste automotive, shipping and industrial oils in the UK.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
PAH	Polyaromatic hydrocarbons	(See hydrocarbons) A chemical compound that contains more than one fused benzene ring. They are produced as a result of burning petroleum fuels, coal products and tar; e.g. Naphthalene, Anthracene, Phenanthrene.
PAMs	Pamphlets and Magazines	Trade acronym for 'periodicals and magazines'.
PAS 100	Publicly Available Standard code number 100	Industry standard for composts certified by the BSI. The specification covers the entire process: raw materials, process conditions, through to quality control and the output quality of compost and its stability. If complied with the compost is no longer a waste, otherwise each application of compost requires a special exemption to go to land.
PAS 110	Publicly Available Standard code number 110	For digestate produced from anaerobic digestion of organic waste. Currently the standard is in consultation, therefore there are no current figures to comply with.
PCB	Printed Circuit Board or Polychlorinated Biphenol	Chlorinated hydrocarbons formerly used as plastercizers and in transformer-cooling oils to enhance flame retardant and insulating properties. They are highly persistent bioaccumulative pollutants found worldwide. Now banned, they were used in old electrical components and they must be specially disposed of by incineration.
PE	Polyethylene	A thermoplastic polymer of ethylene (ethene) (C ₂ H ₄). Widely used in packaging.
PET	Polyethylene terephthalate	A thermoplastic polymer resin used in beverage, food and other liquid containers.
PFI	Private Finance Initiative	A method to provide financial support between the public and private sectors. These projects aim to deliver work for the public sector where private firms are contracted to complete and manage the projects. The public services are leased to the public and the government authority makes annual payments to the private company.
PM10	Particulate Matter <=10	Particle matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 micrometers.
PM2.5, PM1	Particulate Matter <=2.5	Particle matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers.
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants	Organic compounds resistant to environmental degradation through chemical, biological and photolytic processes. They therefore persist in the environment.
PP	Polypropylene	A thermoplastic polymer used in many applications such as packaging, textiles and stationery.
PPC	Pollution Prevention and Control	An EC Directive applicable to industry.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
PPG	Parliamentary Planning Guidance, or Planning Policy Guidance	Prepared by the government after public consultation to explain statutory provisions and provide guidance to local authorities and others on planning policy and the operation of the planning system.
PPP	Public Private Partnership	Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) is an umbrella term covering the Private Finance Initiative (PFI), Partnering Arrangements, Outsourcing, the Wider Markets Initiative and the Defence Estates Prime Contracting Programme.
PRN	Packaging Waste Recovery Note	A company that recycles (reprocesses) packaging and records the weight of material recycled in a PRN. Under Packaging Waste Regulations, companies (or compliance schemes) buy PRNs as evidence of recycling.
PS	Polystyrene	Polystyrene is an aromatic polymer made from the aromatic monomer styrene, a liquid hydrocarbon that is commercially manufactured from petroleum by the chemical industry. It is not easily recycled.
PTEs	Potentially Toxic Elements	E.g. heavy metals that can be found in compost.
QP	Quality Protocol	A quality protocol gives guidance on how to recover waste, remove it from the regulatory regime and cut through red tape. Protocols are being developed for Incineration Bottom Ash, for example, and render the materials non waste for reuse, in advance of the Waste Framework Directive.
RAS	Radio Active Substances	Substances which emit energy waves due to a decaying atomic nuclei.
RDF	Refuse Derived Fuel	Fuel produced from shredding municipal solid waste. Non-combustable materials are removed.
REA	Renewable Energy Association	Membership organisation which represents British renewable energy producers and promotes the use of sustainable energy in the UK.
REACH	Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals	EU regulation for the registering, evaluating and authorisation of chemicals.
RES	Renewable Energy Sources	Replenishable power source (e.g. solar energy, tidal power, wave power).
ROCs	Renewable Obligation Certificates	There is a legal requirement for electricity supply companies to buy a set percentage of their electricity from renewable energy sources. The renewable energy company obtains what is known as a ROC for each Megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity generated from renewable sources.
RoHS	Restriction of Hazardous Substances	EU Directive controlling use of hazardous substances during manufacturing, handling and storage.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
RSA	Radioactive Substances Act	The Radioactive Substances Act 1993 is concerned with the control of radioactive material and any subsequent accumulation and disposal of radioactive waste. The conditions attached to the authorisation are concerned with the control and security of the accumulated radioactive waste and its subsequent disposal.
SEEDA	South East of England Development Agency	SEEDA is the Regional Development Agency for the South East. It is responsible for the sustainable economic development and regeneration of the South East of England.
SEPA	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency	Scotland's environmental regulator and advisory body.
SMEs	Small to Medium Enterprises	Enterprises which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have fewer than 250 employees, and have either, - an annual turnover not exceeding £37 million, or - an annual balance-sheet total not exceeding £25 million
SO ₂	Sulphur Dioxide	Produced from sulphur in fuel during combustion. Also produced naturally by volcanoes. Contributes to acidification of lakes, sea and soil.
SRF	Solid Recovered Fuel	Used to be called Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF). Fuel produced from shredding municipal solid waste. Non-combustable materials are removed.
SRI	Static Respiration Index	Parameter used to determine the biodegradability of wastes. It measures the demand of oxygen (due to microbial respiration) over a number of days (generally 4). Static means that only a limited volume of air is supplied to the sample, i.e. the air available within the volume of the sample recipient.
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest	An area protected due to its biodiversity.
TCA	The Composting Association	The Trade Association representing the organics sector throughout England.
VOCs	Volatile Organic Compounds	A special waste category, containing carbon which evaporates easily. Involved in formation of ground level ozone and depletion of the ozone layer. Petroleum and most organic solvents are VOCs.
WAC	Waste Acceptance Criteria	Set criteria to be met before waste is accepted at landfill.
WAF	Water Accumulated Fraction	A sample preparation used for analysis of leachable contaminants from waste.
WCA	Waste Collection Authority	The WCA is the local council responsible for collection of household waste and waste from some businesses. The WCA instructs contractors of the types of waste they will collect, the day they will collect it and how often, and any special arrangements for collecting waste for recycling.

ABBREVIATION	DEFINITION	COMMENTS
WDA	Waste Disposal Authority	Responsible for managing the waste that is collected by the local council. In some cases the WDA is the same council as the WCA. WDA's are also responsible for plans to deal with municipal waste and civic amenity sites.
WEEE	Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment	WEEE is a waste type consisting of any broken or unwanted electrical device.
WHO	World Health Organisation	The WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.
WID	Waste Incineration Directive	The WID is a European law which aims to prevent, or limit as far as practicable, negative effects on the environment from the incineration and co-incineration of waste. The Directive applies to most activities that involve the burning of waste, whether for disposal or when used as fuel.
WM2	Environment Agency Guidance: Hazardous Waste – Interpretation of the definition and classification of hazardous waste	A guide book from the regulator on how to determine hazardous status of waste.
WPA	Waste Planning Authority	Authority responsible for assessing which sites in the county are suitable and appropriate for building waste facilities of all types. They are responsible for implementing the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in respect of waste planning.
WRAP	Waste and Resources Action Programme	A Government funded organisation that helps individuals, businesses and local authorities to reduce waste and recycle more, making better use of resources and helping to tackle climate change.
WRATE	Waste and Resources Assessment Tool for the Environment	A Life Cycle Assessment software tool specifically designed to be user friendly and can be used to assess the environmental aspects of PFI type integrated contracts over the life cycle of the activity. WRATE is the successor of WIZARD.