

# CHANGE REQUEST COVER SHEET

**Change Request Number:** 13-62

**Date Received:** 4/30/2013

**Title:** Addition of GSA Green Products Compilation Web Tool and administrative updates

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**Name:** Tim Eckert

**Phone:** (202) 267-7527

**Policy OR Guidance:** Guidance

**Section/Text Location Affected:** T3.6.3D.2

**Summary of Change:** Addition of GSA Green Products Compilation Web Tool to Green Procurement Plan, plus administrative updates

**Reason for Change:** Additional resources for information on sustainable acquisition

**Development, Review, and/or Concurrence:** Office of Environment and Energy (AEE-400) and Acquisition Policy Division

**Target Audience:** Program offices and contracting workforce

**Potential Links within FAST for the Change:** None

**Briefing Planned:** No

**ASAG Responsibilities:** None

**Potential Links within FAST for the Change:** None

**Links for New/Modified Forms (or) Documents (LINK 1)** [null](#)

**Links for New/Modified Forms (or) Documents (LINK 2)** [null](#)

**Links for New/Modified Forms (or) Documents (LINK 3)** [null](#)

## SECTIONS EDITED:

### Procurement Guidance:

*T3.6.3 Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace*

*Appendix*

**Section 2 : Appendix - FAA Green Procurement Plan** [\[Old Content\]](#) [\[New Content\]](#) [\[RedLine Content\]](#)

## SECTIONS EDITED:

### **Section 2 : Appendix - FAA Green Procurement Plan**

**Old Content:** Procurement Guidance:

*T3.6.3 Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace*  
*Appendix*

### **Section 2 : Appendix - FAA Green Procurement Plan**

#### **1. Purpose**

a. The purpose of the Green Procurement Plan (GPP) is to enhance and sustain the FAA mission through cost-effective acquisition that complies with applicable requirements, reduces resource consumption, and minimizes waste generation. Green procurement is purchasing environmentally preferable products and services according to one or more of the established Federal “green” procurement preference requirements. This plan supplements requirements in the FAA Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan, FAA’s Acquisition Management System (AMS), and FAA Order 1050.10C, *Prevention, Control, and Abatement of Environmental Pollution at FAA Facilities*.

b. FAA’s GPP supports acquiring products and services through the use of sustainable environmental practices, including procuring biobased, environmentally preferable, low or non-toxic, energy-efficient, water-efficient, and recycled-content products.

Below are goals, objectives, and sustainable practices that FAA’s GPP impacts either directly or indirectly:

#### **1.1. Sustainable Acquisition**

Ensure that 95% of new contracts, task orders, and delivery orders for products and services are energy-efficient (ENERGY STAR® or Federal Energy Management Program ((FEMP)-designated), water-efficient, biobased, environmentally preferable, Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)-certified, non-ozone depleting, contain recycled-content, or non-toxic or less toxic alternatives when such products and services meet agency performance requirements, as applicable.

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## **1.2. Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction**

- a. Reduce using chemicals and toxic materials and purchase lower risk chemicals and toxic materials;
- b. Minimize generating waste and pollutants through source reduction (i.e., purchasing less); and
- c. Reduce printing paper use and acquire uncoated printing and writing paper containing at least 30% post-consumer fiber.

## **1.3. Sustainable Buildings**

- a. Construct or renovate buildings according to sustainability strategies, including resource conservation, reduction, use, siting and indoor environmental quality;
- b. Enhance indoor environmental quality through purchasing low-emitting materials; and
- c. Reduce environmental impact of materials and construction waste; purchase recycled-content, biobased and non-ozone-depleting products.

## **2. Roles and Responsibilities**

This section outlines the roles and responsibilities in developing requirements for commodity purchases to meet GPP goals and objectives.

### **2.1. FAA Acquisition Executive (FAE)**

The FAA Acquisition Executive (FAE) and associated staff are responsible for:

- a. Overseeing and facilitating implementation of FAA's GPP;
- b. Issuing procurement policies, guidance, and contract clauses and provisions consistent with green procurement requirements;
- c. Ensuring Contracting Officers conduct compliance monitoring for their contract's consistency with green procurement requirements, and assist in any necessary corrective actions; and
- d. Reviewing contracts for quarterly data requests.

### **2.2. Office of Environment and Energy (AEE)**

The Office of Environment and Energy (AEE), coordinating with the FAE, is responsible for:

- a. Facilitating environmental programs in the areas of acquisitions, facilities management, standards, waste prevention, recycling, and logistics activities as they relate to GPP;
- b. Distributing information on best practices through awareness and outreach programs to facilitate markets for environmentally preferable products, services, and new technologies;
- c. Facilitating and coordinating educational and promotional programs for agency employees and contractors, as appropriate;
- d. Promoting internally and externally FAA's GPP. This includes making recycled content suppliers aware of the FAA's preference program, educating program and acquisition offices about requirements to procure recycled content products, and providing FAA employees and contractors with information on sources of recycled products; and

The Office of Environment and Energy (AEE), in coordination with AFN Contracting Officers, is responsible for:

- e. Annually, the organizations will establish and document collaborative methods for setting, maintaining, and annually reviewing and updating objectives and targets for GPP performance that are appropriate for the nature and quantity of purchases made.

### **2.3. Contracting Officers**

Contracting Officers (COs) are responsible for:

- a. Ensuring contractor and program office awareness of GPP requirements applicable to their contracts;
- b. Reviewing and approving the Request for Procurement Exemption, if required, and providing Life Cycle Cost Analysis assistance to the program offices, if necessary;
- c. Providing guidance and facilitating acquisition planning for environmentally preferable goods and services including those available through Federal sources;
- d. Assisting in any market research necessary to determine the availability of environmentally preferable good and services;
- e. Ensuring that solicitations and contracts contain the appropriate FAA AMS clauses and provisions;
- f. Ensuring contractual record keeping and reporting requirements for contractors and all subcontractors are incorporated into evaluation factors for contract award, if applicable;

- g. Ensuring all contract actions from development through award, execution, and close-out meet GPP requirements, when appropriate;
- h. Working with program offices to provide contractual green procurement data for compilation and distribution; and
- i. Maintaining required documents in the contract file to include estimates, certifications, and written justifications for exceptions when required.

## **2.4. Program Offices**

Program offices (including requisitioners) are responsible for the following:

- a. Reviewing and revising procurement specifications or requirements during the planning phase of the acquisition to support FAA's procurement of environmentally preferable, energy- and water-efficient and recycled-content products. If the product or service involves the environmental attributes identified in Section 5. Environmental Attributes, then the specifications, and/or purchase requisition will be reviewed for conformance, and modified, as appropriate;
- b. Eliminating requirements for virgin materials, express preference for recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable, and maximize the purchase of products containing recovered material;
- c. Identifying and documenting whether recycled-content, biobased content, and energy- and water-efficient products, alternative fuel vehicles, and products containing non-ozone-depleting substances are not readily available;
- d. Determining if recycled-content and biobased products satisfy local requirements for price, availability, and performance and if FEMP-designated or ENERGY STAR® products are life-cycle cost effective and reasonably available;
- e. Consulting early in the procurement process with appropriate parties (e.g., environmental specialists, contracts specialist) to facilitate the process of procurement planning, including Life-Cycle Cost Analysis;
- f. Utilizing statements of work (SOWs) or specifications which eliminate virgin material requirements, promote the reuse of products, require the use of alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles, products containing recovered materials (e.g. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)-designated products), products that are ENERGY STAR® or energy-efficient, products that are water-efficient, biobased products, products that are environmentally preferable, low or non-toxic products, EPEAT-certified products, and non-ozone depleting products;

- g. Preparing any Request for Procurement Exemption or justification documentation; and
- h. Providing oversight of contract execution to ensure green procurement requirements are addressed in accordance with the terms of the contract.

### **3. Requirements**

a. The scope of FAA's GPP covers all agency acquisitions, including purchase card transactions. The GPP applies to contractors that construct/operate FAA facilities (see circular).

b. The following requirements establish the framework for FAA's GPP:

1. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Section 6002, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)
2. Farm Security and Rural Investment Act (FSRIA) of 2002, Section 9002
3. The Energy Policy Act (EPA) of 2005
4. Food, Conservation, and Energy Act (FCEA) of 2008
5. Executive Order (EO) 13150, Federal Workforce Transportation
6. EO 13221, Energy Efficient Standby Power Devices
7. EO 13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management
8. Instructions for Implementing Executive Order 13423
9. EO 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance
10. 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 247, Comprehensive Procurement Guideline for Products Containing Recovered Materials
11. FAA's Acquisition Management System (AMS):
  - (i) Policy 4.8: Environmental, Occupational Safety and Health, and Energy Considerations
  - (ii) Policy 3.6.3: Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace
  - (iii) Guidance T3.6.3: Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace

#### **4. Implementation**

FAA personnel involved in acquisitions will consider environmental and energy factors from requirement identification through the life-cycle acquisition process. This will enable FAA to reduce costs, improve efficiency, and reduce environmental impacts resulting from agency-procured products and services. Their actions will be consistent with the “waste management hierarchy:” reduce, reuse, and recycle, in that order.

#### **5. Environmental Attributes**

Through the acquisition process, the following environmental attributes should be considered, as a result of the potentially significant environmental impacts:

1. Alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles
2. Biobased products
3. Energy Star® and energy-efficient products
4. Environmentally preferable products
5. EPEAT-registered electronics
6. Priority Chemicals
7. Non-ozone depleting substances
8. Recovered material
9. Renewable energy
10. Water-efficient products
11. Use of green meetings and conferences

For additional information, see Section 13. Information Resources.

#### **6. Federal Supply Sources**

a. Established Federal supply sources, such as the SAVES Program, General Services Administration (GSA), Government Printing Office (GPO), Ability One Program, Defense General Supply Center (DGSC), and UNICOR are competitive sources for green products and

services. Procuring environmentally preferable products and services through these sources offers the following advantages:

1. Products have been competitively bid;
  2. Products meet or exceed EPA minimum content standards for recovered materials; and
  3. Electronic catalogs identifying green products.
- b. For items not available through federal supply sources, GPP requirements will be incorporated during the acquisition planning phase. In developing plans, drawings, statements of work, specifications or other product descriptions, Program Offices will consider the following factors: energy efficiency, elimination of virgin material requirements, use of recovered materials or biobased components, reuse of product, life-cycle cost, recyclability, use of environmentally preferable products, waste prevention (including reduction or elimination of hazardous waste), and ultimate disposal.

## **7. Procurement Exemption**

a. AMS Procurement Guidance T3.6.3A.7 requires 100 percent of purchases of EPA or USDA-designated items contain recycled content, unless the items:

1. Are not available competitively;
2. Are not available within a reasonable time frame;
3. Do not meet reasonable performance standards; or
4. Are only available at an unreasonable price.

b. The program office and/or CO as appropriate are responsible for documenting the decision not to buy recycled content products. The requisitioner is responsible for submitting a copy of the form to the responsible program manager. Written justification is not required for purchases below the threshold level of \$10,000.

## **8. Life-Cycle Cost Analysis**

A life-cycle cost analysis, wherever feasible and appropriate, is used to assist in selecting products and services. Whenever possible, cost will be calculated applying life-cycle cost concepts to determine cost effectiveness of green alternatives over the life of the item, not just the initial, up-front cost. When comparing alternative products, the initial cost of the acquisition, as well as maintenance costs, installation costs, operational costs, and disposal costs over the lifetime of the product will be considered in the analysis. A product having a higher initial cost



may have lower operational cost or a higher resale value and will, therefore, prove to be a better value and more cost-effective compared to the alternatives.

## **9. Promotion Program**

FAA will promote the purchase of environmentally preferable products by:

- a. Including explicit recovered materials preference standards for EPA or USDA-designated items in appropriate specifications, solicitations and contract language; and
- b. Providing informational materials, vendor and product information, and training to program and procurement offices regarding FAA's recovered materials preference program through: electronic media such as FAA websites, memos, publications, newsletters, and at appropriate conferences, workshops, and meetings.

## **10. Procedures for Vendor Certification, Estimation, and Verification**

COs should ensure that vendors (1) provide written certification that their products meet the minimum requirements in the solicitation documents; (2) maintain copies of certification documents; and (3) produce copies of the written certification upon request by the FAA. RCRA Section 6002 requires procuring agencies to obtain estimates and certifications of the recycled content in the products to be supplied under a contract, and to verify those estimates and certifications.

## **11. Compliance Monitoring**

- a. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 and the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 require Federal agencies to establish affirmative procurement programs for purchasing EPA- and USDA-designated recycled content and biobased products, respectively. One required element of these programs is annual review and monitoring of the program (i.e., compliance monitoring).
- b. FAA will review and evaluate the effectiveness of the GPP annually. FAA will take the actions to track its procurement of recycled content products consistent with AMS T3.6.3A.7.

See additional information on compliance monitoring options already in use within the federal government.

- c. FAA will review new contracts, task orders, and delivery orders to ensure that, when applicable, 95% include products and services that are energy-efficient (ENERGY STAR® or Federal Energy Management Program ((FEMP)-designated), water-efficient, biobased, environmental preferable, Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)-

certified, non-ozone depleting, contain recycled-content, or non-toxic or less toxic alternatives where such products and services meet agency performance requirements.

## **12. Data Tracking and Reporting**

The FAA will establish compliance monitoring procedures, in accordance with Department of Transportation (DOT) specifications and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) scorecard requirements, to ensure that green purchasing activities are consistent and that data are accurate. Corrective actions will be implemented, as necessary to improve the data quality that will be used in the OMB scorecard and annual reports. The FAA Procurement Policy Team (AAP-110) will track the Agency's purchasing of items within the scope of this GPP, and report this information to AEE, at established intervals. AEE will report on FAA's compliance with requirements to review and revise specifications, product descriptions, and standards to enhance the procurement of environmentally preferable products.

## **13. Information Resources**

- a. The Acquisition section of the Federal government's comprehensive environmental stewardship and compliance assistance Web site is the portal for federal green purchasing programs. This site provides links to, and highlights from programs which enable agencies to meet green procurement goals, including but not limited to: Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP), Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG), the ENERGY STAR® Program, and FEMP.
- b. Routinely used government supply sources have green products, but these products must be sought and specifically requested. Products are available through supply catalogs published by the GSA and local contractors serving as AbilityOne Program distributors ().
- c. GSA offers a variety of environmental products and services to its Federal customers to assist them in their efforts to comply with procurement responsibilities outlined in federal environmental laws and regulations. Environmental products can be viewed and purchased from the GSAAAdvantage!® and GSA Global Supply online purchasing systems.
- d. EPA's Database of Environmental Information for Products and Services provides a quick reference guide to the various programs and products. The EPA database provides links to contract language, specifications, and policies; environmental standards and guidelines; vendor lists of product brands; and other useful sources of information (e.g., fact sheets, guidance, case studies).
- e. EPA maintains a list of designated recycled-content products and recommends the percentages of recycled content that the products must contain. Agencies can refer to EPA for a complete list of designated products, EPA's recommendations, and additional information.

f. USDA designates biobased products and provides guidance to assist agency purchasing of these products.

g. EPA's "Buying "Green" with the Government Credit Card" factsheet provides tips when using the government credit card that focus on buying products with recycled-content, buying products with reduced packaging; looking for the ENERGY STAR® label; asking if the product contains hazardous materials or toxic chemicals; and looking for other information on the environmental features of products.

h. Appendix B of OMB Circular A-123, Chapter 10 Environmental Requirements, prescribes policies and procedures to agencies regarding how to maintain internal controls that reduce the risk of fraud, waste, and error in government charge card programs. The requirement for compliance with OMB Circular A-123, Appendix B is contained in the Management Plan for the FAA Purchase Card Program.

i. EPA's ENERGY STAR® Program provides a current list of qualified products.

j. EPA Priority Pollutant List provides a current list of regulated chemical pollutants.

k. EPA information on resource conservation for construction and demolition.

l. FEMP products and requirements.

m. The EPA Acquisition Regulation (EPAAR) establishes policy and procedures for acquiring environmentally preferable meeting and conference services.

n. FedCenter provides a compilation of the products for which EPA, DOE, and USDA have provided environmental or energy attribute recommendations.

o. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) provides a catalog with environmental products.

## **14. Definitions**

**Alternative Fuel** – Fuel defined by Section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, as modified periodically by the Secretary of Energy by rule.

**Biobased Product** – A product determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be a commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is composed, in whole or in part, of biological products or renewable domestic agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials.

**Certification** – Provided by offerors/bidders/vendors, it is written documentation certifying the percentage of recovered materials contained in products or to be used in the performance of the

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contract is at least the amount required by applicable specifications or other contractual requirements. Certification on multi-component or multi-material products should verify the percentage of post-consumer materials and recovered material contained in the major constituents of the product. [US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines]

**Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines** – Regulations issued by EPA pursuant to Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962) identifying items produced (or which can be produced) with recovered materials. [EO 13101 and Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)]

**Designated Item** – A product or category of products designated by EPA in the Comprehensive Procurement Guideline and whose procurement by government agencies will help to create markets for materials recovered from solid waste.

**Energy-Efficient or FEMP-designated Product** – a product designated by the Federal Energy Management Program, Department of Energy as being among the highest 25 percent of equivalent products for energy efficiency.

**ENERGY STAR® Product** – A product that is rated for energy efficiency under an ENERGY STAR® Program established by Sec. 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

**Environmentally Preferable Products and Services** – Products or services having a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services, serving the same purpose. This comparison may consider raw materials acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, or product or service disposal.

**Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)** – A procurement tool designed to help institutional purchasers in the public and private sectors evaluate, compare and select electronic products based on their environmental attributes. The first EPEAT standard applies to computer desktops, laptops and monitors.

**EPEAT-Registered Products** – Products which meet the and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) 1680-2006 Standard for the Environmental Assessment of Personal Computer Products, and products registered under similar standards developed after the date of this Policy Letter, and are listed on the EPEAT Product Registry located at [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net).

**Green Hierarchy** – The logical order by which waste prevention and effective environmental practices are applied.

**Greenhouse Gases** – Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

**Green Products/Services** – Products and services meeting the requirements of one or more of the components of federal green procurement preference programs as defined in RCRA Section 6002; FSRFA (“Farm Bill”) section 9002; the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EP Act 2005); and 13150; Electronic Stewardship requirements; and any federal Green Procurement Program implemented after the date of this document.

**Life-Cycle Assessment** – The comprehensive examination of a product's environmental and economic effects throughout its lifetime including new material extraction, transportation, manufacturing, use, and disposal.

**Life-Cycle Cost** – The amortized annual cost of a product, including costs associated with capital, installation, operations, maintenance, and disposal, discounted over the lifetime of the product.

**Ozone-depleting Substances** – Any substance designated as a Class I or Class II substance by the Environmental Protection Agency in 40 CFR Part 82.

**Postconsumer Material** – A material or finished product that has served its intended use and has been discarded for disposal or recovery having completed its life as a consumer item. “Postconsumer material” is a part of the broader category of “recovered materials.”

**Preference** – When two products or services are equal in performance characteristics and price, the Government, in making purchasing decisions, will favor the more environmentally-sound or energy-efficient product.

**Procurement Preference Program** – The first element of an agency affirmative procurement program, in which an agency expresses a preference for purchasing recycled content products designated by EPA. [Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)]

**Recovered Material** – Waste materials and by-products recovered or diverted from solid waste, excluding those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process.

**Recyclability** – The ability of a product or material to be recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream for the purpose of recycling.

**Recycled Material** – A material utilized in place of raw or virgin material in product manufacturing (See “Recovered Material.”)

**Recycling** – The series of activities, including collection, separation, and processing, by which products or other materials are recovered from the solid waste stream for use as raw materials in the manufacture of new products (other than fuel for producing heat or power by combustion).

**Renewable Energy** – Energy produced by solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, hydrokinetic, ocean (including tidal, wave, current and thermal), geothermal, municipal solid waste, or new hydroelectric generation capacity achieved from increased efficiency or additions of new capacity at an existing hydroelectric project.

**Scope 1** – Direct greenhouse gas emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the federal agency.

**Scope 2** – Indirect greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the generation of electricity, heat, or steam purchased by a federal agency.

**Scope 3** – Indirect greenhouse gas emissions from sources not owned or directly controlled by a federal agency but related to agency activities such as vendor supply chains, delivery services, and employee travel and commuting.

**Solid Waste** – Garbage, refuse, sludge, and other discarded solid materials, including those from industrial, commercial, and agricultural operations, and from community activities. This excludes solids or dissolved materials in domestic sewage or other significant pollutants in water resources, such as silt, dissolved or suspended solids in industrial wastewater effluents, dissolved materials in irrigation return flow, etc... [RCRA, Section 1004)

**Specification** – A clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for materials, products, or services including the minimum requirement for materials' quality and construction and any equipment necessary for an acceptable product. In general, specifications are in the form of written descriptions, drawings, prints, commercial designations, industry standards, and other descriptive references. [EPA Guidelines]

**Sustainable** – To create and maintain conditions, under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations.

**Verification** – Procedures used by procuring agencies to confirm both vendor estimates and certifications of the percentages of recovered material contained in the products supplied to them or to be used in the performance of a contract. [EPA Guidelines]

**Virgin Material** – A mined or harvested raw material to be used in manufacturing.

**Waste Prevention** – Any change in the design, manufacturing, purchase, or use of materials or products (including packaging) to reduce their toxicity before they become municipal solid waste. Waste prevention also refers to the reuse of products or materials.

**Waste Reduction** – Preventing or decreasing the amount of waste being generated through waste prevention, recycling, or purchasing recycled and environmentally preferable products.

**Water-Efficient Product or Service** – A product or service that uses less water than competing products or services that serve the same purpose, including those meeting EPA’s WaterSense standards.

**New Content:** Procurement Guidance:

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*Appendix*

## **Section 2 : Appendix - FAA Green Procurement Plan**

### **1. Purpose**

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7. EO 13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management
8. Instructions for Implementing Executive Order 13423
9. EO 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance
10. 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 247, Comprehensive Procurement Guideline for Products Containing Recovered Materials
11. FAA's Acquisition Management System (AMS):
  - (i) Policy 4.8: Environmental, Occupational Safety and Health, and Energy Considerations
  - (ii) Policy 3.6.3: Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace
  - (iii) Guidance T3.6.3: Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace

### **4. Implementation**

FAA personnel involved in acquisitions will consider environmental and energy factors from requirement identification through the life-cycle acquisition process. This will enable FAA to reduce costs, improve efficiency, and reduce environmental impacts resulting from agency-

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procured products and services. Their actions will be consistent with the “waste management hierarchy:”- reduce, reuse, and recycle, in that order.

## **5. Environmental Attributes**

Through the acquisition process, the following environmental attributes should be considered, as a result of the potentially significant environmental impacts:

1. Alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles
2. Biobased products
3. Energy Star® and energy-efficient products
4. Environmentally preferable products
5. EPEAT-registered electronics
6. Priority Chemicals
7. Non-ozone depleting substances
8. Recovered material
9. Renewable energy
10. Water-efficient products
11. Use of green meetings and conferences

For additional information, see Section 13. Information Resources.

## **6. Federal Supply Sources**

a. Established Federal supply sources, such as the SAVES Program, General Services Administration (GSA), Government Printing Office (GPO), Ability One Program, Defense General Supply Center (DGSC), and UNICOR are competitive sources for green products and services. Procuring environmentally preferable products and services through these sources offers the following advantages:

1. Products have been competitively bid;
2. Products meet or exceed EPA minimum content standards for recovered materials; and

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3. Electronic catalogs identifying green products.

b. For items not available through federal supply sources, GPP requirements will be incorporated during the acquisition planning phase. In developing plans, drawings, statements of work, specifications or other product descriptions, Program Offices will consider the following factors: energy efficiency, elimination of virgin material requirements, use of recovered materials or biobased components, reuse of product, life-cycle cost, recyclability, use of environmentally preferable products, waste prevention (including reduction or elimination of hazardous waste), and ultimate disposal.

## **7. Procurement Exemption**

a. AMS Procurement Guidance T3.6.3A.7 requires 100 percent of purchases of EPA or USDA-designated items contain recycled content, unless the items:

1. Are not available competitively;
2. Are not available within a reasonable time frame;
3. Do not meet reasonable performance standards; or
4. Are only available at an unreasonable price.

b. The program office and/or CO as appropriate are responsible for documenting the decision not to buy recycled content products. The requisitioner is responsible for submitting a copy of the form to the responsible program manager. Written justification is not required for purchases below the threshold level of \$10,000.

## **8. Life-Cycle Cost Analysis**

A life-cycle cost analysis, wherever feasible and appropriate, is used to assist in selecting products and services. Whenever possible, cost will be calculated applying life-cycle cost concepts to determine cost effectiveness of green alternatives over the life of the item, not just the initial, up-front cost. When comparing alternative products, the initial cost of the acquisition, as well as maintenance costs, installation costs, operational costs, and disposal costs over the lifetime of the product will be considered in the analysis. A product having a higher initial cost may have lower operational cost or a higher resale value and will, therefore, prove to be a better value and more cost-effective compared to the alternatives.

## **9. Promotion Program**

FAA will promote the purchase of environmentally preferable products by:

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- a. Including explicit recovered materials preference standards for EPA or USDA-designated items in appropriate specifications, solicitations and contract language; and
- b. Providing informational materials, vendor and product information, and training to program and procurement offices regarding FAA's recovered materials preference program through: electronic media such as FAA websites, memos, publications, newsletters, and at appropriate conferences, workshops, and meetings.

## **10. Procedures for Vendor Certification, Estimation, and Verification**

COs should ensure that vendors (1) provide written certification that their products meet the minimum requirements in the solicitation documents; (2) maintain copies of certification documents; and (3) produce copies of the written certification upon request by the FAA. RCRA Section 6002 requires procuring agencies to obtain estimates and certifications of the recycled content in the products to be supplied under a contract, and to verify those estimates and certifications.

## **11. Compliance Monitoring**

- a. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 and the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 require Federal agencies to establish affirmative procurement programs for purchasing EPA- and USDA-designated recycled content and biobased products, respectively. One required element of these programs is annual review and monitoring of the program (i.e., compliance monitoring).
- b. FAA will review and evaluate the effectiveness of the GPP annually. FAA will take the actions to track its procurement of recycled content products consistent with AMS T3.6.3A.7.

See additional information on compliance monitoring options already in use within the federal government.

- c. FAA will review new contracts, task orders, and delivery orders to ensure that, when applicable, 95% include products and services that are energy-efficient (ENERGY STAR® or Federal Energy Management Program ((FEMP)-designated), water-efficient, biobased, environmental preferable, Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)-certified, non-ozone depleting, contain recycled-content, or non-toxic or less toxic alternatives where such products and services meet agency performance requirements.

## **12. Data Tracking and Reporting**

The FAA will establish compliance monitoring procedures, in accordance with Department of Transportation (DOT) specifications and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) scorecard requirements, to ensure that green purchasing activities are consistent and that data are

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### **13. Information Resources**

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g. EPA's "Buying "Green" with the Government Credit Card" factsheet provides tips when using the Government purchase card that focus on buying products with recycled-content, buying products with reduced packaging; looking for the ENERGY STAR® label; asking if the product contains hazardous materials or toxic chemicals; and looking for other information on the environmental features of products.

- h. Appendix B of OMB Circular A-123, Chapter 10 Environmental Requirements, prescribes policies and procedures to agencies regarding how to maintain internal controls that reduce the risk of fraud, waste, and error in Government charge card programs. The requirement for compliance with OMB Circular A-123, Appendix B is contained in the Management Plan for the FAA Purchase Card Program.
- i. EPA's ENERGY STAR® Program provides a current list of qualified products.
- j. EPA Priority Pollutant List provides a current list of regulated chemical pollutants.
- k. EPA information on resource conservation for construction and demolition.
- l. FEMP products and requirements.
- m. FedCenter provides a compilation of the products for which EPA, DOE, and USDA have provided environmental or energy attribute recommendations.
- n. The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) provides a catalog with environmental products.
- o. The GSA Green Products Compilation Web Tool facilitates the procurement of green/sustainable products and services. The products listed are those for which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, or U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued designations or otherwise provided guidance for environmental or energy attributes.

## **14. Definitions**

**Alternative Fuel** – Fuel defined by Section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, as modified periodically by the Secretary of Energy by rule.

**Biobased Product** – A product determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be a commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is composed, in whole or in part, of biological products or renewable domestic agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials.

**Certification** – Provided by offerors/bidders/vendors, it is written documentation certifying the percentage of recovered materials contained in products or to be used in the performance of the contract is at least the amount required by applicable specifications or other contractual requirements. Certification on multi-component or multi-material products should verify the percentage of post-consumer materials and recovered material contained in the major constituents of the product. [US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines]



**Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines** – Regulations issued by EPA pursuant to Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962) identifying items produced (or which can be produced) with recovered materials. [EO 13101 and Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)]

**Designated Item** – A product or category of products designated by EPA in the Comprehensive Procurement Guideline and whose procurement by government agencies will help to create markets for materials recovered from solid waste.

**Energy-Efficient or FEMP-designated Product** – a product designated by the Federal Energy Management Program, Department of Energy as being among the highest 25 percent of equivalent products for energy efficiency.

**ENERGY STAR® Product** – A product that is rated for energy efficiency under an ENERGY STAR® Program established by Sec. 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

**Environmentally Preferable Products and Services** – Products or services having a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services, serving the same purpose. This comparison may consider raw materials acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, or product or service disposal.

**Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)** – A procurement tool designed to help institutional purchasers in the public and private sectors evaluate, compare and select electronic products based on their environmental attributes. The first EPEAT standard applies to computer desktops, laptops and monitors.

**EPEAT-Registered Products** – Products which meet the and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) 1680-2006 Standard for the Environmental Assessment of Personal Computer Products, and products registered under similar standards developed after the date of this Policy Letter, and are listed on the EPEAT Product Registry located at [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net).

**Green Hierarchy** – The logical order by which waste prevention and effective environmental practices are applied.

**Greenhouse Gases** – Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

**Green Products/Services** – Products and services meeting the requirements of one or more of the components of federal green procurement preference programs as defined in RCRA Section 6002; FSRIA (“Farm Bill”) section 9002; the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EP Act 2005); and 13150; Electronic Stewardship requirements; and any federal Green Procurement Program implemented after the date of this document.

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**Life-Cycle Assessment** – The comprehensive examination of a product's environmental and economic effects throughout its lifetime including new material extraction, transportation, manufacturing, use, and disposal.

**Life-Cycle Cost** – The amortized annual cost of a product, including costs associated with capital, installation, operations, maintenance, and disposal, discounted over the lifetime of the product.

**Ozone-depleting Substances** – Any substance designated as a Class I or Class II substance by the Environmental Protection Agency in 40 CFR Part 82.

**Postconsumer Material** – A material or finished product that has served its intended use and has been discarded for disposal or recovery having completed its life as a consumer item. “Postconsumer material” is a part of the broader category of “recovered materials.”

**Preference** – When two products or services are equal in performance characteristics and price, the Government, in making purchasing decisions, will favor the more environmentally-sound or energy-efficient product.

**Procurement Preference Program** – The first element of an agency affirmative procurement program, in which an agency expresses a preference for purchasing recycled content products designated by EPA. [Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)]

**Recovered Material** – Waste materials and by-products recovered or diverted from solid waste, excluding those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process.

**Recyclability** – The ability of a product or material to be recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream for the purpose of recycling.

**Recycled Material** – A material utilized in place of raw or virgin material in product manufacturing (See “Recovered Material.”)

**Recycling** – The series of activities, including collection, separation, and processing, by which products or other materials are recovered from the solid waste stream for use as raw materials in the manufacture of new products (other than fuel for producing heat or power by combustion).

**Renewable Energy** – Energy produced by solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, hydrokinetic, ocean (including tidal, wave, current and thermal), geothermal, municipal solid waste, or new hydroelectric generation capacity achieved from increased efficiency or additions of new capacity at an existing hydroelectric project.

**Scope 1** – Direct greenhouse gas emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the federal agency.

**Scope 2** – Indirect greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the generation of electricity, heat, or steam purchased by a federal agency.

**Scope 3** – Indirect greenhouse gas emissions from sources not owned or directly controlled by a federal agency but related to agency activities such as vendor supply chains, delivery services, and employee travel and commuting.

**Solid Waste** – Garbage, refuse, sludge, and other discarded solid materials, including those from industrial, commercial, and agricultural operations, and from community activities. This excludes solids or dissolved materials in domestic sewage or other significant pollutants in water resources, such as silt, dissolved or suspended solids in industrial wastewater effluents, dissolved materials in irrigation return flow, etc.... [RCRA, Section 1004)

**Specification** – A clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for materials, products, or services including the minimum requirement for materials' quality and construction and any equipment necessary for an acceptable product. In general, specifications are in the form of written descriptions, drawings, prints, commercial designations, industry standards, and other descriptive references. [EPA Guidelines]

**Sustainable** – To create and maintain conditions, under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations.

**Verification** – Procedures used by procuring agencies to confirm both vendor estimates and certifications of the percentages of recovered material contained in the products supplied to them or to be used in the performance of a contract. [EPA Guidelines]

**Virgin Material** – A mined or harvested raw material to be used in manufacturing.

**Waste Prevention** – Any change in the design, manufacturing, purchase, or use of materials or products (including packaging) to reduce their toxicity before they become municipal solid waste. Waste prevention also refers to the reuse of products or materials.

**Waste Reduction** – Preventing or decreasing the amount of waste being generated through waste prevention, recycling, or purchasing recycled and environmentally preferable products.

**Water-Efficient Product or Service** – A product or service that uses less water than competing products or services that serve the same purpose, including those meeting EPA's WaterSense standards.

**Red Line Content: Procurement Guidance:**

*T3.6.3 Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety, and Drug Free Workplace  
Appendix*

**Section 2 : Appendix - FAA Green Procurement Plan**

**1. Purpose**

a. The purpose of the Green Procurement Plan (GPP) is to enhance and sustain the FAA mission through cost-effective acquisition that complies with applicable requirements, reduces resource consumption, and minimizes waste generation. Green procurement is purchasing environmentally preferable products and services according to one or more of the established Federal “green” procurement preference requirements. This plan supplements requirements in the FAA Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan, FAA’s Acquisition Management System (AMS), and FAA Order 1050.10C, *Prevention, Control, and Abatement of Environmental Pollution at FAA Facilities*.

b. FAA’s GPP supports acquiring products and services through the use of sustainable environmental practices, including procuring biobased, environmentally preferable, low or non-toxic, energy-efficient, water-efficient, and recycled-content products.

Below are goals, objectives, and sustainable practices that FAA’s GPP impacts either directly or indirectly:

**1.1. Sustainable Acquisition**

Ensure that 95% of new contracts, task orders, and delivery orders for products and services are energy-efficient (ENERGY STAR® or Federal Energy Management Program ((FEMP)-designated), water-efficient, biobased, environmentally preferable, Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)-certified, non-ozone depleting, contain recycled-content, or non-toxic or less toxic alternatives when such products and services meet agency performance requirements, as applicable.

**1.2. Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction**

a. Reduce using chemicals and toxic materials and purchase lower risk chemicals and toxic materials;

b. Minimize generating waste and pollutants through source reduction (i.e., purchasing less); and

c. Reduce printing paper use and acquire uncoated printing and writing paper containing at least 30% post-consumer fiber.

**1.3. Sustainable Buildings**

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- a. Construct or renovate buildings according to sustainability strategies, including resource conservation, reduction, use, siting and indoor environmental quality;
- b. Enhance indoor environmental quality through purchasing low-emitting materials; and
- c. Reduce environmental impact of materials and construction waste; purchase recycled-content, biobased and non-ozone-depleting products.

## **2. Roles and Responsibilities**

This section outlines the roles and responsibilities in developing requirements for commodity purchases to meet GPP goals and objectives.

### **2.1. FAA Acquisition Executive (FAE)**

The FAA Acquisition Executive (FAE) and associated staff are responsible for:

- a. Overseeing and facilitating implementation of FAA's GPP;
- b. Issuing procurement policies, guidance, and contract clauses and provisions consistent with green procurement requirements;
- c. Ensuring Contracting Officers conduct compliance monitoring for their contract's consistency with green procurement requirements, and assist in any necessary corrective actions; and
- d. Reviewing contracts for quarterly data requests.

### **2.2. Office of Environment and Energy (AEE)**

The Office of Environment and Energy (AEE), coordinating with the FAE, is responsible for:

- a. Facilitating environmental programs in the areas of acquisitions, facilities management, standards, waste prevention, recycling, and logistics activities as they relate to GPP;
- b. Distributing information on best practices through awareness and outreach programs to facilitate markets for environmentally preferable products, services, and new technologies;
- c. Facilitating and coordinating educational and promotional programs for agency employees and contractors, as appropriate;
- d. Promoting internally and externally FAA's GPP. This includes making recycled content suppliers aware of the FAA's preference program, educating program and acquisition offices

about requirements to procure recycled content products, and providing FAA employees and contractors with information on sources of recycled products; and

The Office of Environment and Energy (AEE), in coordination with AFN Contracting Officers, is responsible for:

e. Annually, the organizations will establish and document collaborative methods for setting, maintaining, and annually reviewing and updating objectives and targets for GPP performance that are appropriate for the nature and quantity of purchases made.

### **2.3. Contracting Officers**

Contracting Officers (COs) are responsible for:

a. Ensuring contractor and program office awareness of GPP requirements applicable to their contracts;

b. Reviewing and approving the Request for Procurement Exemption, if required, and providing Life Cycle Cost Analysis assistance to the program offices, if necessary;

c. Providing guidance and facilitating acquisition planning for environmentally preferable goods and services including those available through Federal sources;

d. Assisting in any market research necessary to determine the availability of environmentally preferable good and services;

e. Ensuring that solicitations and contracts contain the appropriate FAA AMS clauses and provisions;

f. -Ensuring contractual record keeping and reporting requirements for contractors and all subcontractors are incorporated into evaluation factors for contract award, if applicable;

g. Ensuring all contract actions from development through award, execution, and close-out meet GPP requirements, when appropriate;

h. Working with program offices to provide contractual green procurement data for compilation and distribution; and

i. Maintaining required documents in the contract file to include estimates, certifications, and written justifications for exceptions when required.

### **2.4. Program Offices**

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Program offices (including requisitioners) are responsible for the following:

- a. Reviewing and revising procurement specifications or requirements during the planning phase of the acquisition to support FAA's procurement of environmentally preferable, energy- and water-efficient and recycled-content products. If the product or service involves the environmental attributes identified in Section 5. Environmental Attributes, then the specifications, and/or purchase requisition will be reviewed for conformance, and modified, as appropriate;
- b. Eliminating requirements for virgin materials, express preference for recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable, and maximize the purchase of products containing recovered material;
- c. Identifying and documenting whether recycled-content, biobased content, and energy- and water-efficient products, alternative fuel vehicles, and products containing non-ozone-depleting substances are not readily available;
- d. Determining if recycled-content and biobased products satisfy local requirements for price, availability, and performance and if FEMP-designated or ENERGY STAR® products are life-cycle cost effective and reasonably available;
- e. Consulting early in the procurement process with appropriate parties (e.g., environmental specialists, contracts specialist) to facilitate the process of procurement planning, including Life-Cycle Cost Analysis;
- f. Utilizing statements of work (SOWs) or specifications which eliminate virgin material requirements, promote the reuse of products, require the use of alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles, products containing recovered materials (e.g. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)-designated products), products that are ENERGY STAR® or energy-efficient, products that are water-efficient, biobased products, products that are environmentally preferable, low or non-toxic products, EPEAT-certified products, and non-ozone depleting products;
- g. Preparing any Request for Procurement Exemption or justification documentation; and
- h. Providing oversight of contract execution to ensure green procurement requirements are addressed in accordance with the terms of the contract.

### **3. Requirements**

- a. The scope of FAA's GPP covers all agency acquisitions, including purchase card transactions. The GPP applies to contractors that construct/operate FAA facilities (see circular).

b. The following requirements establish the framework for FAA's GPP:

1. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Section 6002, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)
2. Farm Security and Rural Investment Act (FSRIA) of 2002, Section 9002
3. The Energy Policy Act (EPAct) of 2005
4. Food, Conservation, and Energy Act (FCEA) of 2008
5. Executive Order (EO) 13150, Federal Workforce Transportation
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f. USDA designates biobased products and provides guidance to assist agency purchasing of these products.

g. EPA's "Buying "Green" with the Government-~~Credit Card~~" factsheet provides tips when using the ~~government credit~~Government purchase card that focus on buying products with recycled-content, buying products with reduced packaging; looking for the ENERGY STAR® label; asking if the product contains hazardous materials or toxic chemicals; and looking for other information on the environmental features of products.

h. Appendix B of OMB Circular A-123, Chapter 10 Environmental Requirements, prescribes policies and procedures to agencies regarding how to maintain internal controls that reduce the risk of fraud, waste, and error in ~~government~~Government charge card programs. The requirement for compliance with OMB Circular A-123, Appendix B is contained in the Management Plan for the FAA Purchase Card Program.

i. EPA's ENERGY STAR® Program provides a current list of qualified products.

j. EPA Priority Pollutant List provides a current list of regulated chemical pollutants.

k. EPA information on resource conservation for construction and demolition.

l. FEMP products and requirements.

m. ~~The EPA Acquisition Regulation (EPAAR) establishes policy and procedures for acquiring environmentally preferable meeting and conference services. n.~~ FedCenter provides a compilation of the products for which EPA, DOE, and USDA have provided environmental or energy attribute recommendations.

~~on.~~ The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) provides a catalog with environmental products.

*o. The GSA Green Products Compilation Web Tool facilitates the procurement of green/sustainable products and services. The products listed are those for which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, or U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued designations or otherwise provided guidance for environmental or energy attributes.*

## 14. Definitions

**Alternative Fuel** – Fuel defined by Section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, as modified periodically by the Secretary of Energy by rule.

**Biobased Product** – A product determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be a commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is composed, in whole or in part, of biological products or renewable domestic agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials.

**Certification** – Provided by offerors/bidders/vendors, it is written documentation certifying the percentage of recovered materials contained in products or to be used in the performance of the contract is at least the amount required by applicable specifications or other contractual requirements. Certification on multi-component or multi-material products should verify the percentage of post-consumer materials and recovered material contained in the major constituents of the product. [US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines]

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**Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines** – Regulations issued by EPA pursuant to Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962) identifying items produced (or which can be produced) with recovered materials. [EO 13101 and Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)]

**Designated Item** – A product or category of products designated by EPA in the Comprehensive Procurement Guideline and whose procurement by government agencies will help to create markets for materials recovered from solid waste.

**Energy-Efficient or FEMP-designated Product** – a product designated by the Federal Energy Management Program, Department of Energy as being among the highest 25 percent of equivalent products for energy efficiency.

**ENERGY STAR® Product** – A product that is rated for energy efficiency under an ENERGY STAR® Program established by Sec. 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act.

**Environmentally Preferable Products and Services** – Products or services having a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services, serving the same purpose. This comparison may consider raw materials acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, or product or service disposal.

**Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)** – A procurement tool designed to help institutional purchasers in the public and private sectors evaluate, compare and select electronic products based on their environmental attributes. The first EPEAT standard applies to computer desktops, laptops and monitors.

**EPEAT-Registered Products** – Products which meet the and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) 1680-2006 Standard for the Environmental Assessment of Personal Computer Products, and products registered under similar standards developed after the date of this Policy Letter, and are listed on the EPEAT Product Registry located at [www.epeat.net](http://www.epeat.net).

**Green Hierarchy** – The logical order by which waste prevention and effective environmental practices are applied.

**Greenhouse Gases** – Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride.

**Green Products/Services** – Products and services meeting the requirements of one or more of the components of federal green procurement preference programs as defined in RCRA Section 6002; FSRIA (“Farm Bill”) section 9002; the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EP Act 2005); and 13150; Electronic Stewardship requirements; and any federal Green Procurement Program implemented after the date of this document.

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**Life-Cycle Assessment** – The comprehensive examination of a product's environmental and economic effects throughout its lifetime including new material extraction, transportation, manufacturing, use, and disposal.

**Life-Cycle Cost** – The amortized annual cost of a product, including costs associated with capital, installation, operations, maintenance, and disposal, discounted over the lifetime of the product.

**Ozone-depleting Substances** – Any substance designated as a Class I or Class II substance by the Environmental Protection Agency in 40 CFR Part 82.

**Postconsumer Material** – A material or finished product that has served its intended use and has been discarded for disposal or recovery having completed its life as a consumer item. “Postconsumer material” is a part of the broader category of “recovered materials.”

**Preference** – When two products or services are equal in performance characteristics and price, the Government, in making purchasing decisions, will favor the more environmentally-sound or energy-efficient product.

**Procurement Preference Program** – The first element of an agency affirmative procurement program, in which an agency expresses a preference for purchasing recycled content products designated by EPA. [Section 6002 of RCRA, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 6962)]

**Recovered Material** – Waste materials and by-products recovered or diverted from solid waste, excluding those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process.

**Recyclability** – The ability of a product or material to be recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream for the purpose of recycling.

**Recycled Material** – A material utilized in place of raw or virgin material in product manufacturing (See “Recovered Material.”)

**Recycling** – The series of activities, including collection, separation, and processing, by which products or other materials are recovered from the solid waste stream for use as raw materials in the manufacture of new products (other than fuel for producing heat or power by combustion).

**Renewable Energy** – Energy produced by solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, hydrokinetic, ocean (including tidal, wave, current and thermal), geothermal, municipal solid waste, or new hydroelectric generation capacity achieved from increased efficiency or additions of new capacity at an existing hydroelectric project.

**Scope 1** – Direct greenhouse gas emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the federal agency.

**Scope 2** – Indirect greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the generation of electricity, heat, or steam purchased by a federal agency.

**Scope 3** – Indirect greenhouse gas emissions from sources not owned or directly controlled by a federal agency but related to agency activities such as vendor supply chains, delivery services, and employee travel and commuting.

**Solid Waste** – Garbage, refuse, sludge, and other discarded solid materials, including those from industrial, commercial, and agricultural operations, and from community activities. This excludes solids or dissolved materials in domestic sewage or other significant pollutants in water resources, such as silt, dissolved or suspended solids in industrial wastewater effluents, dissolved materials in irrigation return flow, etc... [RCRA, Section 1004]

**Specification** – A clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for materials, products, or services including the minimum requirement for materials' quality and construction and any equipment necessary for an acceptable product. In general, specifications are in the form of written descriptions, drawings, prints, commercial designations, industry standards, and other descriptive references. [EPA Guidelines]

**Sustainable** – To create and maintain conditions, under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations.

**Verification** – Procedures used by procuring agencies to confirm both vendor estimates and certifications of the percentages of recovered material contained in the products supplied to them or to be used in the performance of a contract. [EPA Guidelines]

**Virgin Material** – A mined or harvested raw material to be used in manufacturing.

**Waste Prevention** – Any change in the design, manufacturing, purchase, or use of materials or products (including packaging) to reduce their toxicity before they become municipal solid waste. Waste prevention also refers to the reuse of products or materials.

**Waste Reduction** – Preventing or decreasing the amount of waste being generated through waste prevention, recycling, or purchasing recycled and environmentally preferable products.

**Water-Efficient Product or Service** – A product or service that uses less water than competing products or services that serve the same purpose, including those meeting EPA's WaterSense standards.



