

GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

ENVIRONMENTAL TERMS

Environment – Environment has been defined as “The external circumstances, conditions and objects that affect the existence and development of an individual, organism, or group. These circumstances included biophysical, social, economic, historical, cultural and political aspects” (Department of Environment Affairs, 1992).

Environmental Management System – An environmental management system describes the activities for systematically managing environmental products and services, including those organized around making environmental considerations an integral component of the organizational mission. Central to the model on which an EMS is patterned is the concept of a “continuous feedback loop.” To this end, EMS starts with the development of policy, moves to planning activities and policy implementation, develops tracking and corrective actions, progresses to management review, and finally feeds information back through these steps and ultimately to baseline policy development – where changes may be required based on experiences and insights gained during the preceding phases. (See also “ISO 14001.”)

Army Public Involvement Committee – This is a working group dedicated to the critical task of further improving the Army’s commitment to environmental public involvement and support for the Army Public Involvement Campaign Plan. It is a small group consisting of “action level” representatives from key command and staff organizations, with outside expertise brought in on an “as needed” basis. Committee members look for solutions that reflect the Army’s limited supply of resources and leverages the Army’s existing programs and resources for maximum advantage

ISO 14001 – ISO, or International Organization for Standardization, 14001 defines the specification standard for an environmental management system (EMS), and is the standard the Army is adapting in developing its own EMS. ISO 14001 consists of five basic elements: (1) Environmental Policy, (2) Planning, (3) Implementation and Operation, (4) Checking and Corrective Action, and (5) Periodic Management Review. ISO 14001 further defines EMSs as “...that part of the overall management system. This includes organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes, and resources for developing, achieving, reviewing, and maintaining environmental policy. (See also “Environmental Management System.”)

Meaningful Involvement – As defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), this means potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health; that the public’s contribution can influence the regulatory agency’s decision; that the concerns of all participants involved will be considered in the decision-making process; and that the decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – NEPA requires commanders at all levels to evaluate environmental impacts of activities before making decisions. The goals of NEPA are to provide efforts to eliminate damage to the environment and to achieve a better understanding of ecological systems and natural resources. An additional goal is to integrate public involvement in federal decision-making.

Public – The term “the public” is used in the broadest sense, meaning the general population of the United States. Many segments of the “the public” may have a particular interest or may be affected by Army programs and decisions. In addition to private individuals, “the public” includes, but is not limited to:

- Representatives of consumer, environmental and other advocacy groups
- Environmental justice groups
- Indigenous peoples
- Minority and ethnic groups
- Business and industrial interests, including small businesses
- Elected and appointed public officials
- News media
- Trade, industrial, agricultural and labor organizations
- Public health, scientific, and professional representatives and societies
- Civic and community associations
- Faith-based organizations
- Research, university, education, and governmental organizations and associations

Public Involvement – Public involvement encompasses the full range of activities the Army uses to engage the American people in its planning and decisionmaking processes. It is a progression of activities that begins with communication, the purpose of which is to build awareness and interest on the importance of a complementary approach to military readiness and environmental sustainability. It evolves information exchange with the public affected by Army activities (e.g., industry, state and federal regulators, other government organizations, non-governmental organizations, and local communities), and progresses through obtaining recommendations from the public, collaboration on key programs and projects, and, when necessary, negotiation of enforceable agreements.

Stakeholders – Individuals who are representatives from organizations or interest groups that have a strong interest in the Agency’s work and policies.

Sustainability - In context of the *Army Strategy for the Environment*, (add hyperlink here) a condition in which the Army is able to fully execute its present missions without compromising either its ability to accomplish future missions or the ability of its neighboring communities and other stakeholders to realize their aspirations. Sustainability takes full accounting of the "triple bottom line" of mission, environment, and social impact of Army operations.

Strategic Environmental Assessment – Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a process of anticipating and addressing the potential environmental consequences of proposed initiatives at higher levels of decision-making. It aims at integrating environmental

considerations into the earliest phase of policy, plan, or program development, on a par with economic and social considerations. For the Army, SEA represents the first systematic attempt to examine and evaluate the environment in terms of its influence on Army missions, with a particular emphasis on the planning and activities underway in connection with Army Transformation. SEA, as a process, is also designed to foster communication and collaboration between environmental and operational planners and decisionmakers. (See also “Army Transformation.”)

Timely Information – “Timely Information” means distributing information sufficiently far enough in advance so that the interested public has enough time to review relevant material, decide whether to become involved, and make plans for that involvement. Timely applies to the availability of background information on particular issues, as well as notice of public meetings, public comment periods or other critical involvement activities.

Tribe – “Tribe” means an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village or community that the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe pursuant to the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994, 25 USC. 479a.

MILITARY TERMS

Army Transformation Roadmap – A document detailing Army actions to identify and build required capabilities now, allowing for better execution of joint operations by the Current Forces, while developing the future force capabilities required to provide relevant, ready, responsive and dominant land power to Future Joint Forces. It is a best effort to plan for contingencies, real and imagined, in an uncertain future with unknown threats, unknown defenses and unknown resources.

DOTMLPF – DOTMLPF stands for Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel and Facilities. It embodies the framework for identifying, assessing, and managing the way Army members think, train, and ultimately perform across the full spectrum of operations. Environmental DOTMLPF integration, on its part, describes the activities necessary to achieve a seamless integration of environmental considerations into the DOTMLPF management framework.

Joint Force – Joint Force (upper case) refers to the Armed Forces of the United States. The term, when used in lower case letters (i.e., “joint force”), refers to an element or elements of the Armed Forces organized for a particular mission or task.

Transformation – Transformation is “a process that shapes the changing nature of military competition and cooperation combinations of concepts, capabilities, people and organizations that exploit the Nation’s advantages, and protect against our asymmetric vulnerabilities to sustain our strategic position, which helps underpin peace and stability in the world.” (*Transformation Planning Guidance*, April 2003)