

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY: Alternative energy is any energy source that does not consume fossil fuel. These are renewable, widely available and environmentally friendly. They all have lower carbon emissions, compared to conventional energy sources. These are biomass energy, wind energy, solar energy, geothermal energy, Ocean Energy, Hydrogen Energy, hydroelectric energy sources.

ALTERNATIVE FUELS: Alternative fuels means alternatives to traditional gasoline and diesel fuels. Some of these are derived from renewable sources and some are from vegetable oils, animal fats, corn and other crops. They produce less pollution than gasoline or diesel. Some well-known alternative fuels are biodiesel, ethanol, chemically stored electricity, hydrogen, non-fossil methane, non fossil natural gas, vegetable oil, propane, and other biomass sources.

ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY: Alternative technology is a term used to refer to proven technology that is more environmentally friendly than the technology, which is functionally equivalent and also dominant in current practice.

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY: Technology that creates minimal environmental impact while serving basic human needs. It uses the simplest level of technology that can effectively achieve the intended purpose in a particular location.

BAGASSE: The remaining product mass pulp after renewable and sustainable raw materials (Bamboo, Reed, Rice, Hemp and Sugarcane) is processed from the fields. As biomass, it holds promise as a fuel source since it can produce more than enough heat energy to supply the needs of a common sugar mill. A renewable feedstock can be used for power generation.

BIO-BASED PRODUCTS: Products wholly or partly derived from biomass, such as plants, trees or animals (the biomass can have undergone physical, chemical or biological treatment). In industrial processes, enzymes are used in the production of chemical building blocks, detergents, pulp and paper, textiles, etc. By using fermentation and bio-catalysis instead of traditional chemical synthesis, higher process efficiency can be obtained, resulting in a decrease in energy and water consumption, and a reduction of toxic waste. As they are derived from renewable raw materials such as plants, bio-based products can help reduce CO₂ and offer other advantages such as lower toxicity or novel product characteristics (e.g. biodegradable plastic materials).

BIODEGRADABLE: Capable of being slowly destroyed and broken down into very small parts by natural processes, bacteria, etc.

BIODEGRADABLE PRODUCT: It has the ability to break down, safely and relatively quickly, by biological means, into the raw materials of nature and disappear into the environment. These products can be solids biodegrading into the soil (which also refers to as compostable), or liquids biodegrading into water.

Biodegradable plastic is intended to break up when exposed to microorganisms (a natural ingredient such as cornstarch or vegetable oil is added to achieve this result).

BIODEGRADATION: Biodegradation is the chemical dissolution of materials by bacteria or other biological means. The term is often used in relation to ecology, waste management, biomedicine, and the bioremediation and is now commonly associated with environmentally friendly products that are capable of decomposing back into natural elements. Biodegradable substances are break down and are absorbed into the eco-system.

BIODIESEL: Biodiesel is a domestically produced, renewable fuel that can be manufactured from vegetable oils, animal fats. These are used in diesel vehicles. Physical properties are similar to those of petroleum diesel, but it is a cleaner-burning alternative. Using biodiesel in place of petroleum diesel can reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

BIODYNAMIC AGRICULTURE: A method of organic farming that incorporates certain astrological and spiritual principles and practices. It was first developed in the early 1920s based on the spiritual insights and practical suggestions of the Austrian writer, educator and social activist Dr. Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925), whose philosophy is called —anthroposophy. Today, the biodynamic movement encompasses thousands of successful gardens, farms, vineyards and agricultural operations of all kinds and sizes on all continents, in a wide variety of ecological and economic settings.

BIOENERGY: Bioenergy is the most widely used form of renewable energy in the world. It is made available from materials derived from biological sources such as plants, wood, wood waste, straw, manure, sugarcane, and many other byproducts from a variety of agricultural processes. Energy is used for heat, electricity, or vehicle fuel.

BIOMASS: It refers to organic matter that has stored energy through the process of photosynthesis. It has become one of the most commonly used renewable sources of energy in the last two decades, second only to hydropower in the generation of electricity. Biomass is one of the most plentiful and well-utilised sources of renewable energy in the world.

BIOPLASTICS: These are a new generation of compostable & biodegradable plastics which are made from readily renewable resources such as corn, soybeans, potato, etc.

BLUE ANGEL: It is a label originating from Germany for products and services that are environmentally friendly. Its goal is to inform consumers about environmentally friendly products, assessing the product from manufacture, disposal as well as product use.

CARBON DIOXIDE: Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is an atmospheric colourless gas with a faint, sharp odour and a sour taste. It is a major component of the carbon cycle. It is produced through natural processes; carbon dioxide is also released through anthropogenic activities, such as the combustion of fossil fuels, coal, coke, etc. It is the predominate gas contributing to the greenhouse effect, and is known to contribute to climate change.

CARBON COUNT: It is the measurement of total amount of carbon dioxide produced by every individual through his lifestyle each day. It includes measurement of CO₂ through different activities like electricity consumption, transportation, lighting, usage of appliances etc.

CARBON FOOTPRINT: It is the amount of carbon we – or our houses, business, cars, any activity and so on – put into the environment. It is the way of calculating the impact we have on the atmosphere by the amount of greenhouse gases, or carbon dioxide, we produce.

CARBON OFFSET: It is the use of carbon credits to enable businesses to compensate for their emissions, meet their carbon reduction goals and support the move to a low carbon economy. It is to negate a carbon footprint.

CARBON NEUTRAL: Over its life cycle, a product or process that does not add more carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. When the number of carbon offsets obtained is equal to an individual

or organisation's carbon footprint, that person or organisation is carbon neutral.

CARBON NEGATIVE: Carbon negativity is the reduction of an entity's carbon footprint to less than neutral, so that the entity in question has a net effect of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere rather than adding it.

CARBON TAX: It is usually defined as a tax based on greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) generated from burning fuels. The idea is that polluters will pay per tonne of carbon they release into the atmosphere. It sends a price signal that will, over time, elicit a powerful market response across the entire economy, resulting in reduced emissions.

CARBON TRADING: Carbon trading is an approach used to control carbon dioxide (CO₂) pollution by providing economic incentives for achieving emissions reductions. It is sometimes called cap and trade or carbon emissions trading. Carbon trading is currently the central pillar of the Kyoto Protocol and other international agreements aimed at slowing climate change.

CERTIFIED ORGANIC: Agricultural product certified by the authenticated certifying agency to meet specific standards and regulations.

CHEMICAL-FREE: Any product that is free from or produced without the use of artificial chemicals. It is generally interpreted to mean — that the product in question is healthy, derived from

natural sources, or otherwise free from synthetic components.

CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS (CFCs): Stable, artificially created chemical compounds containing carbon, chlorine, fluorine and sometimes hydrogen. Chlorofluorocarbons, used primarily to facilitate cooling in refrigerators and air conditioners, have been found to deplete the stratospheric ozone layer which protects the earth and its inhabitants from excessive ultraviolet radiation. It is non eco friendly.

CLIMATE CHANGE: Climate change refers to any significant change in the measures of climate lasting for an extended period of time. In other words, climate change includes major changes in temperature, precipitation, or wind patterns, among other effects, that occur over several decades or longer

COMPOSTABLE: A product that is —compostable|| is one that can be placed into a composition of decaying biodegradable materials, and eventually turns into a nutrient-rich material. It is almost synonymous with —biodegradable||, except it is limited to solid materials and does not refer to liquids.

COMPOSTING: A process whereby organic wastes, including food and paper, decompose naturally, resulting in a produce rich in minerals and ideal for gardening and farming as a soil conditioner, mulch, resurfacing material, or landfill cover.

CONSERVATION: The environment and its resources should be used by humans and managed in a responsible manner.

CRADLE TO CRADLE: A design protocol that advocates the elimination of waste by recycling a material or product into a new or similar product at the end of its intended life, rather than disposing of it.

CRADLE TO GATE: Cradle-to-gate is an assessment of a partial product life cycle from manufacture (‘_cradle’) to the factory gate, i.e. before it is transported to the user or consumer. The use phase and disposal phase of the product are usually omitted. Cradle-to-gate assessments are sometimes the basis for environmental product declarations.

CRADLE TO GRAVE: Assess and monitor a subject or object for the entire period from birth to death. In terms of a life cycle assessment (LCA) for a product process from manufacturing, packing and transportation, uses of the product and disposal of the product considered.

CRUELTY FREE/NOT TESTED ON ANIMALS: This is a general claim that specifies that no animal testing have been done on the product and its ingredients. It is generally found on cosmetics and personal care products. However, the claim is not being verified by any government agency or any independent organisation. Most raw materials used in cosmetics were tested on animals years ago. The manufacturer might use those raw materials and base their ‘_cruelty-free’ claim on the fact that the

materials or products are not currently used on animals. The animal rights movement to describe products that have been manufactured without animal product often uses it.

Source:

http://www2.dupont.com/Packaging_Graphics/de_DE/assets/downloads/Glossary_of_SustainabilityTerms_EU.pdf
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