

# CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS TO THE PLASTIC PROGRAM DEFINITIONS

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This document provides corrections and clarifications applicable to the *Plastic Waste Reduction Program (Plastic Program) Definitions*, including their effective date. Project proponents and validation/verification bodies (VVBs) must apply and interpret the Plastic Program documents consistently with the corrections and clarifications set out in this document.

The corrections and clarifications will be incorporated into the next issued versions of the program documents.

Correction/ Clarification	Description	Document and Section Reference	Effective Date
Correction 1	<p><b>Removed definition for “region”</b></p> <p>The definition is already included in the <i>Plastic Waste Collection Methodology, v1.1</i> and <i>Plastic Waste Recycling Methodology, v1.1</i>.</p>	<i>Plastic Program Definitions, v1.0</i>	Effective immediately, including all project requests currently in the Verra project review process
Clarification 1	<p><b>Revised definitions related to recycling processes</b></p> <p>Minor edits were made to the recycling terminology to improve the clarity of the definitions.</p>	<i>Plastic Program Definitions, v1.0</i>	Effective immediately, including all project requests currently in the Verra project review process

The redlined corrections and clarifications are below. The text in ~~strikethrough red~~ represents deletions and in **green** represents insertions.

## Correction 1: Removed Definition for “Region”

Document and section references: *Plastic Program Definitions, v1.0, Section 2*

### **Region**

~~The spatial extent that covers preferably the geographic area containing the source of the plastic waste and, the project activity;, and the end destination of the plastic waste collected and/or recycled by the project activity; and at most covers the host country or countries in which the source of the plastic waste and the project activity and the end destination are located. The applicable~~

~~geographic area may be an administrative unit (e.g., municipality, district, state or country), based on the availability of data.~~

## Background

Verra has removed the definition of “region” from the *Plastic Program Definitions, v1.0* since this definition is relevant to the methodologies and is already included in the *Plastic Waste Collection Methodology, v1.1* and *Plastic Waste Recycling Methodology, v1.1*. This removal eliminates redundancy.

## Clarification 1: Revised Definitions for “Chemical Recycling,” “Mechanical Recycling,” “Recycled Material,” “Recycling Facility,” and “Source”

Document and section references: *Plastic Program Definitions, v1.0, Section 2*

### Chemical recycling

The conversion to monomer or production of new raw materials ~~(including specialty polymers, feedstocks for new plastics, fuels and waxes)~~<sup>1</sup> by changing the chemical structure of plastic waste through cracking, gasification or depolymerization, excluding energy recovery and incineration ~~(modified from “feedstock recycling” in ISO 15270:2008 Plastics – Guidelines for the recovery and recycling of plastics waste by addition of “including specialty polymers, feedstocks for new plastics, fuels and waxes”)~~

### Mechanical recycling

The processing of plastic waste into a recycled material ~~secondary raw material or products~~ via a combination of mechanical processes (e.g., preprocessing,<sup>2</sup> grinding, washing, separating, drying, re-granulating, compounding) without significantly changing the chemical structure of the material (modified from *ISO 15270:2008 Plastics – Guidelines for the recovery and recycling of plastics waste* by addition of “via mechanical processes (e.g., preprocessing, grinding, washing, separating, drying, re-granulating, compounding)”) )

### Recycled material

Material that has been reprocessed from collected plastic material by means of a manufacturing process and made into a final product or into a component (e.g., flakes, pellets or outputs of depolymerization such as pyrolysis oil, terephthalic acid (TPA) or mono-ethylene glycol (MEG)) for incorporation into a product (~~TE-101-V1.0-2019.10.01~~ *TE-101-V1.4-2022.07.21 – Terms and definitions for Textile Exchange standards and related documents*)

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<sup>1</sup> American Chemistry Council (n.d.). *What is Advanced Recycling?* Available at: <https://plastics.americanchemistry.com/what-is-advanced-recycling/#:~:text=Advanced%20plastics%20recycling%2C%20also%20called,Virgin%20Like%20Plastics.>

<sup>2</sup> Baling, a process in which plastic waste is compacted and secured as a bundle to facilitate handling, storage and transportation, is an example of a preprocessing activity. Baling in itself is not considered a mechanical recycling activity.

### Recycling facility

Material facility where the recycling process takes place ~~This can include waste sorting facilities that prepare plastic waste for recycling.~~

### Source

Location from which plastic packaging, composite material containing plastic or raw plastic material may be emitted or released (for the purposes of the Plastic Program, sources include, but are not limited to, the environment, landfills ~~material recovery facilities~~ and households/businesses).

### Background

Verra has revised these definitions to enhance clarity and reduce confusion around terminology relevant to activities that include recycling, whether as end-of-life in the case of collection projects or as a core activity in the case of recycling projects. All definitions, including these updated definitions, should be interpreted in conjunction with the *Plastic Standard, v1.0* and requirements of the applicable methodology.