

Pollutant or Contaminant as defined by section 101(33) of CERCLA, includes, but is not limited to, any element, substance, compound, or mixture, including disease-causing agents, which after release into the environment and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains, will or may reasonably be anticipated to cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutation, physiological malfunctions (including malfunctions in reproduction) or physical deformations in such organisms or their offspring. The term does not include petroleum, including crude oil and any fraction thereof which is not otherwise specifically listed or designated as a hazardous substance under section 101(14)(A) through (F) of the Act, nor does it include natural gas, liquefied natural gas, or synthetic gas of pipeline quality (or mixtures of natural gas and such synthetic gas).

Preauthorization means EPA's prior approval to submit a claim against the Fund for necessary response costs incurred as a result of carrying out the NCP. The process of preauthorization consists of three steps:

- (1) EPA's receipt of the application for preauthorization;
- (2) EPA's review and analysis of the application; and
- (3) EPA's issuance of the Preauthorization Decision Document, which sets forth the terms and conditions for reimbursement.

Preauthorized response actions are response actions approved through the preauthorization process.

Respond or *Response* as defined by section 101(25) of CERCLA, means remove, removal, remedy, and remedial action, all such terms (including removal and remedial action) including enforcement activities related thereto.

Response claim means a preauthorized demand in writing for a sum certain for response costs referred to in section 111(a)(2) of CERCLA, including certain costs of actions referred to in section 122(b)(1) of CERCLA.

§ 307.15 Penalties.

(a) If any person knowingly gives a material statement or representation in the application for preauthorization or in the claim that is false, misleading, misrepresented, or misstated, and EPA relies upon such a statement or representation in making its decision, the preauthorization or the award by EPA may be withdrawn following written notice to the claimant.

(b) Any person who knowingly gives, or causes to be given, any false information as part of an application for preauthorization or of a claim (including any person who meets the conditions of paragraph (a) of this section) may, upon conviction, be fined or imprisoned in accordance with CERCLA section 112(b)(1) and other laws.

Subpart B—Eligible Claimants; Allowable Claims; Preauthorization

§ 307.20 Who may present claims.

(a) Subject to the provisions of this subpart, claims for the costs of response actions may be asserted against the Fund by any person other than the United States Government, States, and political subdivisions thereof, except to the extent the claimant is otherwise compensated for the loss. States and political subdivisions may assert such claims if they are potentially responsible parties subject to an agreement reached pursuant to section 122(b)(1) of CERCLA.

(b) Claims presented by an individual must be signed by that individual. If, because of death, disability, or other reasons satisfactory to EPA, the foregoing requirement cannot be fulfilled, the claim may be filed by a duly authorized agent, executor, administrator, or other legal representative. A claim presented by an entity or an authorized agent, executor, administrator, or other legal representative must be presented in the name of the claimant. The claim must be signed by the authorized agent, executor, administrator, or other legal representative (including the title or legal capacity of the person signing) and be accompanied by evidence of the authority to present a claim on behalf of the claimant as