

Resource Conservation Planning Basics

Applying Toxics Use Reduction Planning Methods to Resource Conservation (RC) Planning



Toxics Use Reduction Act 2006 Amendments



Developed to provide options for MA companies who have been engaged in TUR Planning for multiple cycles and are finding limited options Facilities that have completed one TUR Plan and at least two Plan updates may choose to:

- Continue with Toxics Use Reduction Plan Updates;
- Develop a Resource Conservation Plan;
- Implement a TURA EMS



Resource Conservation Planning: New Opportunities

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Offers planning flexibility



Integrates TUR into other sustainability activities



Provides cost savings and cost avoidance



Focuses on production efficiencies



Supports efforts to minimize operation's footprint



What is Resource Conservation?

310 CMR 50.10 Definitions





RC focuses on "Natural Assets"

Natural Assets Include

- Energy
- Water
- Materials contributing to solid waste
- TURA chemicals below thresholds
- TURA-exempt substances



RC Plan Contents

Targeted asset(s)

Facility-wide review of the asset(s)

Identification of RC opportunities in specific operations

Detailed assessment of selected operations

- Process flow diagram
- Baseline use of asset
- Identification of RC options
- Technical and economic evaluation of options
- Implementation schedule

Summary of RC options implementation decisions

Expected change in the use of the asset





Materials Contributing to Solid Waste



RC Guidance: page 34

- Big picture
 - Any waste is an opportunity for improvement
- Facility-wide use characterization
- Example opportunities
- Example operations for detailed evaluation
 - Is it Resource Conservation?
 - Focus on Source Reduction!
 - Technical and financial evaluation, like with TUR planning



Materials Contributing to Solid Waste Planning

2012 RC progress report	The total expected reduction in solid waste was 8 tons	
	The actual reduction in solid waste, based on 2014 progress report, was 15 tons	
2020 RC Plan	Minimize office paper by 2%	
	Rejected previous plan to remove paper towels in bathrooms per COVID recommendations	
3 RC Plans in 2022	Recycling plastic bottles and aluminum cans for 2-ton reduction	
	Beneficial reuse of byproduct through composting for 90% reduction	
	Install waste drum compactor and PPE and battery recycling programs for 4% reduction	

UMASS LOWELL

Reduced Footprint



Climate Change/Greenhouse Gases (GHG)



Water impact



Land and marine pollution



Chemical footprint

Think Resiliency!



Resource Conservation Activities in Massachusetts

