Appendix 35-E
Glossary and Acronyms

AHU – Air-Handling Unit

Allergen – Substance (such as mold) that can cause an allergic reaction.

Antimicrobial – Agent that kills microbial growth.

APR – Air Purifying Respirator

Biocide – Substance or chemical that kills organisms such as molds.

Black Water – Contains sewage and other contaminants that can include pesticides, heavy metals and toxic organic and inorganic chemicals. More than 120 different viruses, parasitic agents such as Giardia, Cryptosporidium, and Entamoeba histolytica, and bacterial organisms such as Klebsiella, Salmonella, Escherichia coli, and Enterobacter, can be found in category 3-water. Black water originates from domestic and industrial wastes, and non-point (groundwater, surface water, sea, river, and atmospheric) sources. Ceiling Plenum – Space below the flooring and above the suspended ceiling that accommodates the mechanical and electrical equipment and that is used as part of the air distribution system.

Conditioned Air – Air that has been heated, cooled, humidified, or dehumidified to maintain an interior space within the "comfort zone" (sometimes referred to as "tempered" air).

Clean Water – Water that does not pose health risks and source origination is from water that does not contain contaminants. Examples of clean water sources are broken water lines, malfunctioning appliances, toilet tanks, snow, rainwater, or melting ice. Upon contact with structures, surfaces, and building materials clean water can progress to gray water condition.

Dampers – Controls that vary airflow through an air outlet, inlet, or duct. A damper position may be immovable, manually adjustable, or part of an automated control system.

Diffusers and Grilles – Components of the ventilation system that distribute and diffuse air to promote air circulation in the occupied space. Diffusers supply air and grilles return air.

Disinfectants – One of three groups of antimicrobials registered by EPA for public health uses. EPA considers an antimicrobial to be a disinfectant when it destroys or irreversibly inactivated infectious or other undesirable organisms, but not necessarily their spores. EPA registers three types of disinfectant products based upon submitted efficacy data; limited, general or broad spectrum, and hospital disinfectant.

EPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency

Exhaust Ventilation – Mechanical removal of air from a portion of a building (e.g., piece of equipment, room, or general area)

Fungi – Fungi are neither animals nor plants and are classified in a kingdom of their own. Fungi include molds, yeasts, mushrooms, and puffballs. In this document, the terms fungi and mold are used interchangeably. Molds reproduce by making spores. Mold spores waft through the indoor and outdoor air continually. When mold spores land on a

damp spot indoors, they may begin growing and digesting whatever they are growing on. Molds can grow on virtually any organic substance, providing moisture and oxygen are present. It is estimated that more than 1.5 million species of fungi exist.

Fungicide – Substance or chemical that kills fungi.

Gray Water – Can pose health risks and can contain significant levels of chemical and biological contamination. Water discharged from dishwashers, washing machines, sinks, showers, aquariums, and waterbeds are excellent examples of gray water. Extensive gray water contamination (flooding) or gray water exposed to environmental stresses (time and temperature changes) can progress to a black water categorization in as little as forty-eight (48) hours.

HEPA – High-Efficiency Particulate Air (filters)

HVAC – Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning system.

Hypersensitivity – Great or excessive sensitivity

IAQ – Indoor Air Quality
Make-up Air – Air brought into a building from outdoors through the ventilation system that has not been previously circulated through the system.

Mold – Molds are a group of organisms that belong to the kingdom Fungi. In this document, the terms fungi and mold are used interchangeably. There are over 20,000 species of mold.

MVOC – Microbial volatile organic compound, a chemical made by a mold that may have a moldy or musty odor.

Negative Pressure – Condition that exists when less air is supplied to a space than is exhausted from the space, so the air pressure within that space is less than that in surrounding areas.

OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration

PAPR – Powered Air Purifying Respirator

Plenum – Air compartment connected to a duct or ducts.

PM – Preventive Maintenance

Positive Pressure – Condition that exists when more air is supplied to a space than is exhausted, so the air pressure within that space is greater than that in surrounding areas.

PPE – Personal Protective Equipment

Remediate – Fix

Sanitizer – One of three groups of antimicrobials registered by EPA for public health uses. EPA considers an antimicrobial agent to be a sanitizer when it reduces but does not necessarily eliminate all the microorganisms on a treated surface. To be a registered sanitizer, the test results for a product must show a reduction of at least 99.9% in the number of each test microorganism over the parallel control.

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Sensitization – Repeated or single exposure to an allergen that results in the exposed individual becoming hypersensitive to the allergen.

Spore – Molds reproduce by means of spores. Spores are microscopic; they vary in shape and size (2-100 micrometers). Spores may travel in several ways—they may be passively moved (by a breeze or water drop), mechanically disturbed (by a person or animal passing by), or actively discharged by the mold (usually under moist conditions or high humidity).

Sterilizer – One of three groups of antimicrobials registered by EPA for public health uses. EPA considers an antimicrobial to be a sterilizer when it destroys or eliminated all forms of bacterial, fungi, viruses, and their spores. Because spores are considered the most difficult from of a microorganism to destroy, EPA considers the term sporicide to be synonymous with "sterilizer."

Ventilation Air – Defined as the total air, which is a combination of the air brought into the system from the outdoors and the air that is being re-circulated within the building. Sometimes used in reference only to the air brought into the system from the outdoors.