

# Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification

Standard Audit Plan April 2024



## 1.0 Background



Waste Diversion from Landfill demonstrates an organization's commitment to waste minimization in manufacturing products and the responsible management of end-of-life materials. Due to the increasing demand for corporate reporting, Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification has become a critical sustainable performance measure.

GreenCircle Certified, LLC (GreenCircle) will evaluate a companies' waste minimization and end of life material management practices with a goal to provide companies with a percentage of waste they divert from landfill (percent by weight basis). The audit process will also assist with identifying continuous improvement opportunities, including areas of waste minimization and source reduction which are key to a sustainable materials management and waste diversion program.

GreenCircle will conduct the audit for Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification in accordance to the requirements and methods set forth in this audit plan and in GreenCircle's Certification Scheme; in compliance with ISO17065:2012. As part of GreenCircle's evaluation process, a review of all waste materials generated by the facility will be conducted to understand total material flows and management of materials; this will include municipal solid, residual, hazardous and universal waste.

Additionally, GreenCircle will evaluate the compliance to the LEED v4.1 rating system for any applicable attributes. For building products manufactured in a facility that reduces waste throughout the manufacturing process and is third-party verified to divert 90% or more of all waste from landfill and incineration may meet the requirements for LEED v4.1 Circular Products pilot credit.

### 2.0 Goal

The goal of a Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification is to audit and certify the waste minimization and diversion practices implemented at a facility. Additionally, GreenCircle will evaluate the responsible management of materials through acceptable means of waste diversion.

# 2.1 Acceptable Means of Waste Diversion Hierarchy

Acceptable means of waste diversion in product manufacturing include:

- Source Reduction
- Redesign to eliminate waste
- Reuse in same process





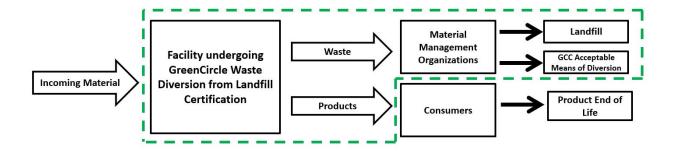
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- Reuse in different process
- Materials returned to suppliers
- Processing and selling to third- party
- Recycling
- Composting
- Anaerobic digestion with energy recovery
- Cement Kiln
- Waste-to-Energy (non-recoverable materials ONLY)

# **3.0 Company Qualifications**

GreenCircle may audit any company facilities as requested to support their sustainability goals. The certification boundary for the Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification is the waste generated from the evaluated facility and primary materials management organizations that process each waste stream. GreenCircle will evaluate each material stream and related management company. GreenCircle will audit the material management companies to ensure the residuals and any by-products from these operations are being diverted as claimed by the material management organization.



# 3.1 Zero Waste to Landfill

For Zero Waste to Landfill (Landfill Free) claims, GreenCircle will certify an organization with this claim if 100% of the material leaving the facility is intended to be diverted from landfill via GreenCircle's Acceptable Means of Waste Diversion methods. GreenCircle acknowledges the potential for contaminants to be co-mingled with diverted materials and has an allowance of up to 2% by weight of total residuals off the downstream material processors for a facility to still be considered zero waste to landfill. If there is more than 2% by weight residuals generated from the downstream processors,





an organization cannot claim zero waste to landfill and will be issued a landfill diversion percentage.



# **4.0 Documentation Requirements**

To qualify for certification a company must provide twelve months<sup>i</sup> of data for the attributes that are being assessed. Documentation requirements will be included in the certification proposal and may include (but are not limited to):

- An overview of operations for the facility including a list of manufacturing processes (if applicable) and the types of products being produced or operations being conducted at the facility to better understand the types of waste materials that could be generated at the facility. This could be demonstrated in a process flow diagram (if applicable).
- Any documented and measured waste minimization/source reduction practices implemented within the facility that reduced the amount of material for product manufacturing going to landfill over the past year.
- A list of the waste materials generated at the facility. GreenCircle will need information on the weights of these waste materials by month for the past year; as well as the name, address and contact information for the downstream material management organization that manages each material.
- Data and documentation from the material management organizations that displays how they are handling materials. GreenCircle will need to understand and validate how materials are being handled after they leave the facility being analyzed and if the materials are managed per GreenCircle's "acceptable means of diversion" definitions. GCC will audit the mass of residuals and by-products at the material management organization and verify they are managed per GreenCircle acceptable means of diversion.
- Samples of purchasing slips, load tickets, and/or waste bills verifying the transactions between the company and the materials management organizations.
- The company must also provide GreenCircle access for a site visit of the facility. GreenCircle will determine if this requirement will be met through an on-site visit or a virtual visit for visual verification of the manufacturing process and waste streams.



## **5.0 Audit and Certification Process**



### 5.1 Data Collection

Once the proposal and certification agreement are signed, GreenCircle will conduct an initial project meeting, via video or conference call, with contact(s) at each manufacturing facility to discuss the required data, GreenCircle's audit process and project schedule. Through this initial project meeting, GreenCircle will gain an understanding of the material flows and tracking system of the facility. GreenCircle will provide an initial data request to be completed by the facility contact(s). See the Documentation Requirements for specific data that will be requested in the data collection stage.

Upon receiving initial data, GreenCircle will conduct an initial analysis of the waste streams at the facility. GreenCircle will coordinate with the facility contact to establish a schedule for submittal of any additional data and documentation. All data and documentation must be received before a site visit is conducted.

# 5.2 Material Management Organization Audit

GreenCircle will conduct a thorough review of the downstream material management organizations (MMOs) for the facility. This will include data collection and records review from each material management organization for the facility. As necessary, GreenCircle will complete an inspection and audit to selected management companies to validate the materials are being managed as reported and documented by the materials management company.

GreenCircle will attempt outreach to the MMOs up to three (3) times. If GreenCircle does not receive the requested information (quantity of materials collected, description of waste processing method and diversion rate), GreenCircle will request additional verification of the quantities submitted by the company to complete the analysis. GreenCircle will attempt to determine the diversion rate, if applicable, based on supporting information otherwise the materials sent to an unresponsive MMO will be considered to have a 0% diversion rate.

# 5.3 Site Audit

GreenCircle will conduct a site visit at the facility with a GreenCircle Certification Analyst to audit and verify the details of the operations or manufacturing processes and visually inspect the waste materials generated and management methods at the facility. GreenCircle will complete a walkdown of the processes and understand the material flows for the facility including analyzing all dumpsters and containers and the waste streams within them. GreenCircle requires a site visit for the initial certification and the



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third recertification. The first and second recertifications do not require a site visit unless major changes have occurred at the facility since GreenCircle's previous visit.

GreenCircle may allow a site visit to be conducted virtually if the material flows and waste stream generation and collection can be visually verified. To be eligible for a virtual site visit a company must provide:

- Process flow and facility diagrams in advance
- Participate in a virtual site visit screening meeting to review the capabilities of the facility to provide visual verification through virtual equipment and to review the process and facility diagrams

GreenCircle will also take into consideration the following:

- Scope of the audit
- Size of the facility
- Complexity of the production facility
- Complexity of the waste collection methods

# 5.4 Waste Diversion Calculations

GreenCircle will complete waste mass analysis to calculate the percentage of waste the facility is diverting from landfill. The equation used to calculate the percent of waste diverted from landfill claims is shown below:

Tons of Material Diverted through GreenCircle's Acceptable Means of DiversionTons of Waste Material Produced by the Facility

### 5.4.1 Exceptions

GreenCircle may exclude the office and support facilities, such as cafeterias, if they are not directly associated with the manufacturing operations, at the request of a company for certification of manufacturing only. All materials and processes used for production and all waste streams generated by production must be included in the audit. GreenCircle will note on the certificate that the boundary of the certification is operational waste only.

GreenCircle acknowledges that some materials (typically hazardous or other regulated waste) are mandated to be landfilled or incinerated without energy recovery (per local, state, or federal legislation). As part of the audit and certification process, GreenCircle will review the materials and applicable regulations and verify the regulatory requirements and confirm no alternatives for diversion are available. The quantities of



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these mandated materials will be documented and will be excluded from the company's total diverted percentage.



GreenCircle may consider exceptions on waste streams that occur infrequently or due to special circumstance for exclusion from the analysis such as:

- Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste is a common waste stream that might be excluded if this is not **regularly** generated on site such as a single event of construction. Further defined in Section 10, Key Terminology.
- If the material is a one-time shipment due to it being a rare circumstance that is generating the material, and the facility **provides attestation** related to the circumstance and not generating the waste regularly in the future, it may be excluded. If GreenCircle observes that the material is generated during the next certification, it will be included in the analysis.
- Local recycling markets or infrastructure may dictate the highest diversion capability or economic feasibility. GreenCircle will work with the company to determine the highest diversion capability by waste stream.

GreenCircle may lower its diversion rate of a waste stream, as reported by the company and MMO, if significant contamination is observed during the site visit. GreenCircle will discuss contamination with the MMO to determine the impact on the ability to properly divert the waste stream from landfill and if the MMO maintains records on contamination percentages from the company.

# **5.5 Certification Audit Deliverables**

Upon verification of the waste diversion claims, GreenCircle will issue GreenCircle Certified, LLC certificates and marks for the manufacturing facility and products manufactured at the certified facility. The certificate will document that an independent evaluation of the waste diversion from landfill has been conducted on behalf of the company for the manufacturing facility and associated products. The certificate will include a percentage of waste the facility has diverted from landfill or validation of a zero waste to landfill claim. All certificate holders must notify GreenCircle Certified, LLC of any significant changes in products or operations that could alter any of the claims detailed in certification.

GreenCircle will provide a written report on the audit process and findings. GreenCircle will also list the final certificates on the GreenCircle Certified Product Database and provide GreenCircle Marks for use in marketing.



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### 6.0 Waste Management Audit



GreenCircle can offer the verification of a company-developed waste management process and procedure at their facilities or the verification of the material management of a specific waste stream through downstream processes.

#### Waste Management System Audit and Verification

The intent of a waste management audit is to validate the system for waste material management and the implementation of this system across multiple facilities for both hazardous and non-hazardous waste materials. GreenCircle will review the company's policies and procedures for waste management. This may include program organization, operation procedures, tracking systems, and training programs. This audit will assess policies and procedures for elements of a quality waste management program in the following categories: Standard Policy, Data Tracking Methodology, Facility Engagement, Material Management Organization Engagement, and Source Reduction.

Requirements for eligibility include:

- Corporate standard policy for waste processing
  - Includes a periodic review of the management methods used by haulers
  - o Training of employees on proper waste management
- Standard method and procedure for data tracking of waste streams
  - Standard method for quantifying waste streams and documented assumptions
  - Documentation of diversion methods and diversion rates of each waste stream
  - Documentation such as purchase orders or hauling slips
  - Previous twelve months of waste tracking data and documentation
- Established waste diversion goal (corporate or by facility)
- Single stream recycling and cardboard recycling

To achieve a certified system audit on the waste management process, GreenCircle will audit a representative sample of facilities. Five (5) percent, with a minimum of three (3) locations, will undergo an audit against the system requirements and a GreenCircle Waste Diversion from Landfill certification audit that will include a site visit to the facilities. This audit will follow the Green Circle Waste Diversion from Landfill Audit Plan to conduct waste diversion calculations by facility utilizing the waste hierarchy criteria for certification. The system audit will also include interviews and documentation review of a percentage of the facilities for the elements of a quality waste management program, in addition to a customized audit for implementation and adherence of the company's standard procedures. The representative sample size will be determined by:



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- Greater than 50 total facility locations, 25% sites will be selected, not to exceed 40 sites
- Less than 50 total facility locations, 50% sites will be selected, not to exceed 25 sites

The representative sample must include facilities from each business unit or manufacturing process grouping. The system audit and all facility audits must be completed within six (6) months from initiation of the audit process.

Data Request may include:

- Policies on waste management
- Operating procedures on waste management practices and tracking
- Operating processes for implementing practices and tracking
- Training documentation or programs related to waste management
- Previous 12 months of data and documentation on facility waste management methods, waste streams, waste quantities and disposal methods
  - Including total outgoing material quantities by type, on a monthly basis
  - Description and quantity of internal reuse
  - Description and documentation on waste reduction initiatives in place
- Contact information and descriptions of contracted material management organizations
  - Including sample copies of purchase slips, load tickets or waste bills for each material management organization
  - GreenCircle may conduct outreach to material management organizations for data validation

If non-conformances to mandatory requirements are identified, in the facilities evaluated in the initial selection, the company will have the opportunity to implement corrective actions and GreenCircle will follow-up to validate corrective actions have been implemented prior to issuing a certification.

GreenCircle will then document the results in a Certification Report that includes observations for improvements and corrective actives, per facility, to meet the company's standard procedural requirements. The deliverables will include a system audit certificate, as well as GreenCircle Certified Waste Division from Landfill certificates for the facilities that received the certification audit. The GreenCircle certificates, through the achievement of a system audit, are valid for three years, pending annual data verifications.

In addition to the system audit, a company can request the certification of company level waste diversion from landfill. The data requirements include:

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• System audit with no non-conformances





- Standardized program for collecting and recording waste data
- Waste data for all facilities for the previous twelve months
- Internally calculated waste diversion rates
- Management review program of the integrity and control of waste data records

### Specific Waste Stream Audit and Verification

GreenCircle will review the company's tracking of waste streams generated monthly, for the last 12 months, focusing on the specific waste stream as requested to verify the management of materials to as being processed as described.

GreenCircle will then audit the downstream material management organizations; collecting both documentation on the quantities received, type of material received, and processes methods of the waste streams. This will include interviews with each material management organization and may include a site visit to the process facility(s).

Data Request may include:

- 1. Previous 12 months of data and documentation on facility waste management methods, waste streams, waste quantities and disposal methods
  - a. Including total outgoing material quantities by type, monthly
- 2. Contact information and descriptions of contracted material management organizations
  - a. Including sample copies of purchase slips, load tickets or waste bills for each material management organization
- 3. Participation in the audit and data from the necessary material management organizations
  - a. Total incoming waste stream quantities from the company by type monthly
  - b. Process flow diagram or pictorial representation of waste stream processing
  - c. Description of processes for the materials collected and quantity of materials used, from the company, during the evaluation period
  - d. Weights and types of contaminants from the incoming waste stream and the end destination of those materials
  - e. Visual verification of the processing and end product which may be conducted through a site visit

This audit can also be customized as verification of a company's take back program.

# 7.0 Annual Recertification Process

All certified claims are recertified annually. It is important for GreenCircle to evaluate any changes within the operations or manufacturing processes to ensure continued



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compliance with the established criteria. The completion of recertification ensures continued transparency and further use of the GreenCircle mark. A site visit is required for the third recertification cycle.

As part of the recertification process, organizations that earn the Zero Waste to Landfill certification may expected, as documented in the audit deliverables from the initial certification, to develop and implement a plan for continuous improvement that focuses on waste minimization, source reduction, and use of sustainable materials management practices to reduce waste and manage materials that cannot be reduced or eliminated using more preferred management methods based upon the waste hierarchy.

### Waste Management System Audit

The annual recertification of the system audit will be conducted through a data verification check in for two years following the initial audit. This includes a review of the waste management policies and procedures and data verification of the last twelve months of waste data and check in interview of the facilities that received a GreenCircle Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification. GreenCircle may also select additional facilities for a check in interview based on observations or identified areas of improvements from the initial assessment.

# 8.0 Complaints, Appeals and Disputes

GreenCircle must be contacted immediately if there is a complaint, appeal and/or dispute brought against a certification that GreenCircle has verified. GreenCircle will follow the GreenCircle Appeals, Complaints and Disputes procedure to review and resolve the issue.

# 9.0 Labeling Requirements

The Client agrees to promptly cease display and use of the GreenCircle Certified, LLC mark: (1) Upon expiration of the certification period; (2) If Client is no longer in compliance with the certification requirements in this audit plan or the GreenCircle terms and conditions Please reference the **GreenCircle Certified Mark Usage Guidelines** for further details and more information on using the mark. The Client shall take caution to ensure that the GreenCircle Certification mark is not associated with products and/or operations which do not comply with the GreenCircle Certification System (GCCS). The Client will be asked to remove the GreenCircle mark immediately if it is found that they have applied the mark on a non-conforming GCCS product and/or operation. If the Client fails to remove the misused mark, an investigation will be conducted pertaining to the misuse, in which the full cost of the investigation shall be borne by the Client. The Client shall not allow the GCCS Certification mark to remain on







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non-conforming products offered for sale. Such action could invite prosecution under U.S. Trademark statutes or attract other penalty provisions in other U.S. or State law.



# 10.0 Key Terminology

Anaerobic Digestion with Energy Recovery: The process of using microorganisms to break down organic material in the absence of oxygen. The anaerobic digestion process produces a biogas and is considered an acceptable means of waste diversion when the gas is captured and reused as an energy source.

**Alternative Daily Cover:** Material other than earthen material placed on the surface of the active face of a municipal solid waste landfill at the end of each operating day to control vectors, fires, odors, blowing litter, and scavenging. GreenCircle will analyze the types of materials used for ADC and determine if this is an appropriate form of diversion.

**Beneficial Reuse:** Any materials that would be waste that is turned into a commodity. Beneficial reuse could also be defined as the reuse of byproducts from one manufacturing process in another process.

**Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D):** Waste generated from the construction, renovation, repair, and demolition of structures such as residential, commercial, and industrial buildings. The composition of C&D waste varies; however, it is composed mainly of wood products, asphalt, drywall, masonry, metals, shingles, insulation, paper, and cardboard.

Single event C&D waste is defined as a new building or renovation on a campus or new production equipment requiring construction/renovation of facility spaces that occurs intermittently. The waste generated from a single event C&D can be excluded from the analysis as the waste is not regularly occurring at the facility.

Recurring C&D is defined by on-going maintenance, construction or renovation on a campus where C&D waste is generated most weeks or months throughout the year on a continuous basis These wastes are included in the analysis and should be managed at the highest diversion method possible.

**Commercial and Industrial Waste:** The solid component of the waste stream arising from commercial, industrial, government, public or domestic premises (not collected as Municipal Solid Waste), but does not contain listed waste, hazardous waste, or radioactive waste.





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*Composting:* The biological decomposition of organic materials such as leaves, grass clippings, brush, and food waste into a soil amendment. Composting is a form of recycling.

**Disposal:** The placement of waste into or on the land. Disposal facilities are designed to permanently contain the waste and prevent the release of harmful pollutants to the environment.

**Energy Recovery (Waste-to-Energy):** The conversion of non-recoverable materials from waste into heat, electricity, or fuel through a variety of processes, including combustion, gasification, pyrolyzation, and anaerobic digestion. This process is often called waste-to-energy. GreenCircle will audit and analyze the materials that are managed via energy recovery to verify that the materials are truly non-recoverable, and all means to find alternative management methods have been evaluated. Bottom ash material being generated in the Waste to Energy process will be analyzed and assessed per applicable state and local regulations.

**Hazardous Waste:** Waste that includes any unwanted or discarded material (excluding radioactive material), which because of its physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics can cause significant hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed. Some hazardous and regulated wastes have legal requirements that specify these regulated wastes must be disposed of in a landfill or incinerator without energy recovery. GreenCircle will evaluate all wastes generated by a facility and document any regulated wastes that are required to be landfilled or incinerated without energy recovery. The percentage of these materials will be disclosed but will be subtracted from the total mass of waste when calculating the diversion rate.

**Incineration:** A process for the combustion of solid and liquid wastes, such as hazardous, medical, municipal, or sewage waste. The total mass of solid waste sent to an incinerator that does not recover energy for beneficial reuse. From an environmental/life cycle perspective, incineration without energy recovery has minimal benefits over landfill and less benefit than energy recovery. Sending waste to incineration without energy recovery is considered disposal.

*Material Management Organization (MMO):* Any organization that hauls, processes, treats, or otherwise manages outgoing material (other than finished product) from the facility.

*Materials Returned to Supplier:* Sending materials back to a supplier for reuse rather than having those same materials enter a waste stream.

*Municipal Solid Waste:* More commonly known as trash or garbage—consists of items used and then thrown away.



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Non-Recoverable Materials: A material generated from a facility that does not have a feasible management alternative such as source reduction, redesign, reuse, recycling, or composting and evidence is provided of the alternative evaluation. Sometimes management alternatives may exist however the materials must be transported long distances due to limited or no availability of more preferred or sustainable waste management infrastructure within the local and/or regional area. The environmental impacts and costs to recover and transport these materials long distances may not be feasible and create more environmental impact compared to managing the materials in an energy recovery facility. GreenCircle acknowledges this issue and will require documentation from the facility that all reasonable means of diversion using sustainable material management practices have been evaluated; as well as, the economic and environmental impact analysis demonstrating recycling or other acceptable means of waste diversion are not feasible for the materials. Based on GreenCircle's review of this documentation, materials may be deemed non-recoverable and will be permitted to be diverted to an energy recovery facility as long as the energy recovery facility is typically located within 100 miles of the facility generating the waste. GreenCircle will conduct life cycle analysis to understand the environmental impacts associated with transportation and management of materials as part of the analysis of non-recoverable material management. Facilities that are managing a large percentage of materials via energy recovery that includes recoverable materials, will not be eligible for zero waste to landfill certification. For facilities that generate large volumes of nonrecoverable materials (i.e. wood product manufacturers using composite wood materials that are not recyclable or compostable due to chemical ingredients such as resins and glues) may be certified if the energy recovery can be shown to have a life cycle net, energy, alternate fuel, environmental, or carbon benefit as reviewed by the Certification Officer or technical committee.

**Processing and Selling to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party:** Processing material that would otherwise be sent to a waste stream and selling it to another organization for use in a new process.

*Radioactive Waste:* Any radioactive substance in the form of a solid, liquid or gas that is left over, surplus or an unwanted byproduct of any business or domestic activity.

**Redesign to Eliminate Waste:** A practice of source reduction specifically targeting the reduction or elimination of waste. Per ISO 14021 all source reduction claims will be made as a comparison. In the GreenCircle Waste Diversion from Landfill Certification process, redesign to eliminate waste claims will be compared to the year immediately preceding the certification period. In order to certify source reduction claims, the amount of material reduced must be measured and verifiable.

**Residual Waste:** Non-Hazardous industrial waste. It includes waste material (solid, liquid or gas) produced by industrial, mining and agricultural operations.



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Reusable: Products that are designed to be, and can be, used more than once.



**Recyclable:** "Recyclable" is a characteristic of a product, packaging or associated component that can be diverted from the waste stream through available processes and programs and can be collected, processed, and returned to use in the form of raw materials or products. The Federal Trade Commission's Green Guides require that a product be able to be recycled within 60% of the current US infrastructure in order to be considered "recyclable". During the audit process GreenCircle will analyze and verify the availability of a recycling infrastructure in the local and regional area to determine if materials can be diverted. If the infrastructure for specific materials is not available to the facility and the facility can provide documentation that all reasonable means of diversion have been evaluated; as well as, the economic and environmental impact analysis demonstrating recycling or other acceptable means of waste diversion are not feasible for the materials then GreenCircle will consider this material nonrecoverable.

*Recycling:* A process that turns product or material waste from manufacturing that would otherwise be waste into valuable resources for new materials and products.

*Source Reduction:* Also known as waste minimization or prevention. A practice that eliminates waste before it is created or using less material to manufacture products than previous practices. This includes the design, manufacture, purchase or use of materials and disposal of products with a reduction in volume of material.

*Waste Diversion:* The prevention of waste sent to landfill through recycling, reuse, composting and other means as defined by GreenCircle's acceptable means of diversion as listed above.

*Universal Waste:* Specific hazardous waste streams that a generator can choose to manage in an alternative manner in place of the more complex hazardous waste requirements. Types of hazardous waste can include: lamps, pesticides, batteries, mercury containing equipment, ballasts, etc.

**Zero Waste to Landfill (Landfill-Free):** Zero waste is disposed directly to landfill or to incineration without energy recovery by the particular facility. In order to be certified zero waste to landfill, an organization must send 100% of the waste streams to a downstream material management organization with the intent to divert this material from landfill. GreenCircle acknowledges the potential for contaminants to be co-mingled with diverted materials and has an allowance of up to 2% by weight of total residuals off of the downstream material processors for a facility to still be considered zero waste to landfill. If there is more than 2% by weight residuals generated from the downstream processors, an organization cannot claim zero waste to landfill and will be issued a landfill diversion rate percentage. As part of the recertification process, organizations



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that earn the Zero Waste to Landfill certification are required to develop and implement a plan for continuous improvement that focuses on waste minimization, source reduction, and use of sustainable materials management practices to reduce waste and manage materials that cannot be reduced or eliminated using more preferred management methods based upon the waste hierarchy.

# **11.0 Reference Documents**

**ISO17020: 2012** *Conformity assessment -- Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection,* The International Standards Organization. This International Standard defines the requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection. GreenCircle adheres to these requirements in the development of the certification process and audit plans.

**ISO 14021:2016** Environmental labels and declarations—Self-Declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labeling), The International Standards Organization

**ISO 17065:2012** *Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes, and services,* The International Standards Organization. This International Standard defines the requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services. GreenCircle adheres to these requirements in the development of the certification process and audit plans.

**40 CFR 261.1** *Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste*, The Environmental Protection Agency

*Review of Waste-to-Energy and Avoided Landfill Methane Emissions,* California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

**The Federal Trade Commission's Green Guides (2012) -** Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims

GreenCircle Certification Scheme, GCC-OPS-03-1, Revision 6

EPA Waste Guidelines, The Environmental Protection Agency, Updated 2009

USGBC LEED v4.1 Building Design and Construction Circular Products Pilot Credit







# **Amendment History**

Date	Issue	Summary of Amendments
1/15/2014	Rev. o	Official issue date of document.
7/15/2014	Rev.1	Update language on certification boundary and ADC.
6/30/2015	Rev. 2	Clarification language on certification boundary and zero waste to landfill claims.
5/20/2022	Rev. 3	Editorial updates
1/9/2023	Rev. 4	Clarification language in definitions section
11/25/2023	Rev. 5	Editorial updates
3/01/2023	Rev. 6	Added exceptions and site visit clarifications
4/1/2024	Rev. 7	Update for compliance to Certification Scheme

# Certification Officer:

Michelle Borene





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