

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Executive Summary: Background and Findings</b> .....	<b>ES-1</b>
ES.1 GHGs and Climate Change .....	ES-1
ES.2 Climate Change Initiatives in the United States.....	ES-2
ES.3 Municipal Solid Waste and GHG Emissions .....	ES-4
ES.4 Genesis and Applications of the Report.....	ES-5
ES.5 The Impact of Municipal Solid Waste on GHG Emissions.....	ES-6
ES.6 Results of the Analysis .....	ES-12
ES.7 Other Life-Cycle GHG Analyses and Tools .....	ES-17
ES.8 Limitations of the Analysis .....	ES-19
<b>1. Life-Cycle Methodology</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1 The Overall Framework: a Streamlined Life-Cycle Inventory .....	2
1.2 MSW Materials Considered in the Streamlined Life-Cycle Inventory .....	2
1.3 Key Inputs for the Streamlined Life-Cycle Inventory.....	5
1.4 Summary of the Life-Cycle Stages .....	8
1.5 Estimating and Comparing Net GHG Emissions .....	14
<b>2. Raw Materials Acquisition and Manufacturing</b> .....	<b>17</b>
2.1 GHG Emissions from Energy Use in Raw Materials Acquisition and Manufacturing .....	17
2.2 Nonenergy GHG Emissions from Manufacturing and Raw Materials Acquisition .....	21
2.3 Results .....	21
2.4 Limitations .....	21
<b>3. Source Reduction and Recycling</b> .....	<b>31</b>
3.1 GHG Implications of Source Reduction.....	31
3.2 GHG Implications of Recycling.....	32
3.3 Open Loop Recycling.....	36
3.4 Source Reduction Through Material Substitution.....	38
3.5 Forest Carbon Sequestration .....	38
3.6 Limitations .....	45
<b>4. Composting</b> .....	<b>49</b>
4.1 Potential GHG Emissions.....	49
4.2 Potential Carbon Storage.....	50
4.3 Net GHG Emissions From Composting.....	60
4.4 Limitations .....	61
<b>5. Combustion</b> .....	<b>65</b>
5.1 Methodology .....	67
5.2 Results .....	76
5.3 Limitations .....	76
<b>6. Landfilling</b> .....	<b>79</b>
6.1 CH <sub>4</sub> Generation and Carbon Storage for Organic Materials .....	80
6.2 Fates of Landfill CH <sub>4</sub> .....	86

6.3	Utility CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions Avoided.....	88
6.4	Net GHG Emissions from Landfilling .....	88
6.5	Limitations .....	90
<b>7.</b>	<b>Energy Impacts.....</b>	<b>97</b>
7.1	Methodolgy for Developing Energy Factors .....	97
7.2	Energy Implications for Waste Management Options .....	98
7.3	Applying Energy Factors.....	99
7.4	Relating Energy Savings to GHG Benefits .....	100
<b>8.</b>	<b>Energy and Emission Benefits.....</b>	<b>107</b>
8.1	Net GHG Emissions for Each Waste Management Option.....	107
8.2	Applying GHG Emission Factors.....	109
8.3	Tools and Other Life-Cycle GHG Analyses .....	112
8.4	Opportunities for GHG Reductions.....	114
<b>Appendix A. Raw Materials Extraction Reference Point .....</b>		<b>125</b>
<b>Appendix B. Carbon Dioxide Equivalent Emission Factors.....</b>		<b>127</b>
<b>Appendix C. Roadmap from the Second Edition .....</b>		<b>135</b>

## TABLE OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit ES-1 Net GHG Emissions from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options.....	ES-8
Exhibit ES-2 Components of Net Emissions for Various MSW Management Strategies .....	ES-10
Exhibit ES-3 Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks Associated with the Material Life Cycle.....	ES-11
Exhibit ES-4 Net GHG Emissions from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options.....	ES-14
Exhibit ES-5 GHG Emissions of MSW Management Options Compared to Landfilling .....	ES-15
Exhibit 1-1 Materials Analyzed and Energy-related Data Sources .....	4
Exhibit 1-2 Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks Associated with the Material Life Cycle.....	9
Exhibit 1-3 Components of Net Emissions for Various MSW Management Strategies .....	10
Exhibit 2-1 Carbon Coefficients For Selected Fuels (Per Million Btu) .....	23
Exhibit 2-2 GHG Emissions from the Manufacture of Selected Materials .....	24
Exhibit 2-3 Process GHG Emissions Per Ton of Product Manufactured from Virgin Inputs.....	26
Exhibit 2-4 Transportation GHG Emissions Per Ton of Product Manufactured from Virgin Inputs .....	27
Exhibit 2-5 Process GHG Emissions Per Ton of Product Manufactured from Recycled Inputs .....	28
Exhibit 2-6 Transportation GHG Emissions Per Ton of Product Manufactured from Recycled Inputs.....	29
Exhibit 2-7 Retail Transport Energy and Emissions .....	30
Exhibit 3-1 GHG Emissions for Source Reduction.....	34
Exhibit 3-2 Composition of Mixed Paper Categories .....	35
Exhibit 3-3 Loss Rates For Recovered Materials.....	36
Exhibit 3-4 Relationship Between Paper Recovery and Pulpwood Harvest .....	40
Exhibit 3-5 Increased Forest Carbon Storage per Unit of Reduced Pulpwood Harvest.....	41
Exhibit 3-6 Change, with respect to baseline, in carbon stocks for FORCARB II pools.....	42
Exhibit 3-7 Forest Carbon Storage from Recycling and Source Reduction.....	43
Exhibit 3-8 GHG Emissions for Recycling.....	46
Exhibit 4-1 Soil Carbon Storage--Colorado and Iowa sites; 10, 20, and 40 tons-per-acre Application Rates .....	56
Exhibit 4-2 Incremental Carbon Storage as a Function of Nitrogen Application Rate .....	57
Exhibit 4-3 Total Soil C; Iowa Site, Corn Harvested for Grain .....	58
Exhibit 4-4 Incremental Carbon Storage: MTCE/Wet Ton Versus Time .....	59
Exhibit 4-5 Difference in Carbon Storage Between Compost Addition and Base Case .....	60
Exhibit 4-6 Net GHG Emissions from Composting.....	61
Exhibit 5-1 Gross Emissions of GHGs from MSW Combustion.....	70
Exhibit 5-2 Avoided Utility GHG Emissions from Combustion at Mass Burn and RDF Facilities .....	71
Exhibit 5-3 Estimating the Weighted Average Carbon Coefficient of the U.S. Average Mix of Fuels Used to Generate Electricity .....	73
Exhibit 5-4 Estimating the Emission Factor for Utility Generated Electricity.....	74
Exhibit 5-5 Avoided GHG Emissions Due to Increased Steel Recovery from MSW at WTE Facilities .....	75
Exhibit 5-6 Net GHG Emissions from Combustion at WTE Facilities.....	77
Exhibit 6-1 Landfill Carbon Mass Balance .....	81
Exhibit 6-2 Experimental and Adjusted Values for CH <sub>4</sub> Yield and Carbon Storage .....	84
Exhibit 6-3 CH <sub>4</sub> Yield for Solid Waste Components .....	85
Exhibit 6-4 Carbon Storage for Solid Waste Components.....	85

Exhibit 6-5 Composition of Mixed Paper Categories from Barlaz Experiments .....	87
Exhibit 6-6 GHG Emissions from CH <sub>4</sub> Generation.....	89
Exhibit 6-7 Calculation to Estimate Utility GHGs Avoided through Combustion of Landfill CH <sub>4</sub> .....	92
Exhibit 6-8 Net GHG Emissions from Landfilling .....	93
Exhibit 6-9 Net GHG Emissions from CH <sub>4</sub> Generation at Landfills with Recovery .....	94
Exhibit 6-10 Net GHG Emissions from CH <sub>4</sub> Generation at Landfills with Recovery .....	95
Exhibit 7-1 Energy Savings per Ton Recycled .....	98
Exhibit 7-2 Recycling GHG Benefits Attributable to Energy Savings (Recycling vs. Landfilling) .....	99
Exhibit 7-3 Energy Consumed/Avoided for Source Reduction .....	101
Exhibit 7-4 Energy Consumed/Avoided for Recycling.....	102
Exhibit 7-5 Energy Consumed/Avoided for Combustion .....	103
Exhibit 7-6 Energy Consumed/Avoided for Landfilling .....	104
Exhibit 7-7 Net Energy Consumed/Avoided from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options .....	105
Exhibit 7-8 Energy Consumed/Avoided for MSW Management Options Compared to Landfilling .....	106
Exhibit 8-1 Recommended Surrogates for Voluntary Reporting .....	108
Exhibit 8-2 GHG Emissions for Source Reduction.....	116
Exhibit 8-3 GHG Emissions for Recycling .....	117
Exhibit 8-4 GHG Emissions for Composting.....	118
Exhibit 8-5 GHG Emissions for Combustion.....	119
Exhibit 8-6 GHG Emissions for Landfilling .....	120
Exhibit 8-7 Net GHG Emissions from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options .....	121
Exhibit 8-8 Net GHG Emissions of MSW Management Options Compared to Landfilling .....	122
Exhibit A-1 Net GHG Emissions from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options - Emissions Counted from a Raw Materials Extraction Reference Point.....	125
Exhibit A-2 Net GHG Emissions from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options - Emissions Counted from a Raw Materials Extraction Reference Point .....	126
Exhibit B-1 Net GHG Emissions from Source Reduction and MSW Management Options - Emissions Counted from a Waste Generation Reference Point (MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton).....	127
Exhibit B-2 GHG Emissions of MSW Management Options Compared to Landfilling (MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton) .....	128
Exhibit B-3 GHG Emissions for Source Reduction (MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton of Material Source Reduced) .....	129
Exhibit B-4 Recycling (GHG Emissions in MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton).....	130
Exhibit B-5 Composting (GHG Emissions in MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton) .....	131
Exhibit B-6 Combustion (GHG Emissions in MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton) .....	132
Exhibit B-7 Landfilling (GHG Emissions in MTCO <sub>2</sub> E/Ton) .....	133
Exhibit C-1 GHG Emissions for Source Reduction .....	137
Exhibit C-2 GHG Emissions for Recycling .....	138
Exhibit C-3 Net GHG Emissions from Composting .....	139
Exhibit C-4 Gross Emissions of GHGs from MSW Combustion .....	139
Exhibit C-5 Net GHG Emissions from Landfilling.....	140