



Environmental Choice^M Program Panel Review Process

VERIFICATION AND LICENSING CRITERIA CCD-139

Product : Floodwater Control Barriers

Notice

Throughout this document, any reference to a standard or guideline means to its latest edition.

The Environmental Choice Program (ECP) reserves the right to accept equivalent test data for the test methods specified in this document.

Interpretation

1. In this set of requirements, please note the following definitions:

“animal-resistant” means that the product’s material will not be considered a food source by any animal species and thus is not prone to attack and degradation by such organisms; it is further understood that the material’s resistance is not due to any inherent toxicity of the material or treatment with toxic pesticides, but rather from a chemical inertness that renders it unattractive to potential consumers;

“chemically inert” means that the material is non-reactive and will thus resist chemical reactions with elements and compounds normally encountered in fluvial or marine waters or the environment in which the material is expected to be used. Additionally, it can be further understood that “chemically inert” implies that the material’s presence will not change the chemistry, toxicity or BOD- or COD-loading of the surrounding waters or local environment.

“flood conditions” means a significant temporary rise in local water levels caused by *inter alia*: prolonged periods of heavy rains, rapid snowmelt, breaches in fluvial or coastal dikes or levees, etc.;

“floodwater control barrier” means a system of weighted barrier units designed to hold back water for the duration of a localized flood conditions;

“individual barrier unit” means a single, weighted unit, such as a hollow plastic container, that in combination with other individual barrier units forms a floodwater control barrier;

“recyclable material” means a material for which a proven recycling technology exists and is accessible to the material’s user; and

“UV-resistant” means that the product will resist decomposition under exposure to ultra-violet radiation, such as encountered during long-term exposure to sunlight.

General Requirements

2. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, the **floodwater control barriers** must:
 - (a) meet or exceed all applicable governmental and industrial safety and performance standards; and
 - (b) be manufactured and transported in such a manner that all steps of the process, including the disposal of waste products arising therefrom, will meet the requirements of all applicable governmental acts, by laws and regulations including, for facilities located in Canada, the *Fisheries Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA).

Product Specific Requirements

3. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, the **floodwater control barriers** must:
 - (a) must perform at least as well as conventional sandbag deployments as temporary structures to control changing local water levels during flood conditions;
 - (b) consist of discrete, individual barrier units that are resistant to damage from flood conditions, including *inter alia*: crushing from water, impalement from water-bourne objects, resistance to adverse weather conditions, etc.; and
 - (c) be constructed from materials that are:
 - (i) UV-resistant;
 - (ii) chemically inert;
 - (iii) animal resistant; and
 - (iv) 100% recyclable.
4. To be authorized to carry the EcoLogo^M, the **floodwater control barriers** must be produced and utilized in a manner that is consistent with the criteria listed below.
 - (a) Individual barrier units must:
 - (i) be weighted with either unmodified water taken directly from the flood source, or some other inert, indigenous material; and
 - (ii) be equipped with an outlet device that allows for controlled emptying to help prevent subsequent erosion.
 - (b) The manufacturer must ensure either appropriate training of the user for deployment, use and decommissioning of the floodwater control barriers, or supply trained staff to undertake these functions.

- (c) Recognizing that the product's resistance to wear and attack cannot guarantee prevention of punctures and wear-out, the manufacturer must not recommend indefinite re-use of individual barrier units.
- (d) Notwithstanding item 4 (c), and recognizing that, under some circumstances, limited re-use of individual barrier units should be possible, the manufacturer must:
 - (i) provide specific instruction/training to users regarding post-flood inspection, assessment, minor repair and storage of individual barrier units for subsequent reuse;
 - (ii) provide protective cases for possible storage of individual barrier units; and
 - (iii) facilitate recycling of non-reusable barrier units, either:
 - (a) by implementing, wherever possible, their own program to collect non-reusable barrier units for recycling from the user; or
 - (b) where such a recycling program is demonstrably impractical, directing users, in writing, to utilize appropriate local facilities/contractors to ensure that the barriers' plastic is recycled;
- (e) The EcoLogo must be accompanied by the criteria statement "floodwater control barrier".

Verification

- 5. To verify a claim that a product meets the criteria listed in this document, the ECP will require access, as is its normal practice, to relevant quality control and production records and the right of access to facilities and/or areas used in growing, drying, processing and storing on an announced basis.
- 6. Compliance with requirement 2(b) shall be attested to by a signed statement of the Chief Executive Officer or the equivalent officer of the licensee. The ECP shall be advised in writing immediately by the licensee of any noncompliance which may occur during the term of the license. On the occurrence of any noncompliance, the license may be suspended or terminated as stipulated in the license agreement.

Conditions for EcoLogo Use

- 7. The EcoLogo may appear on wholesale or retail packaging, or on the product itself, provided that the product meets the requirements in this document.
- 8. All licensees and authorized users must comply with the ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M* regarding the format and usage of the EcoLogo.
- 9. Any accompanying advertising must conform with the relevant requirements stipulated in this guideline, the license agreement and the ECP's *Guide to Proper Use of the EcoLogo^M*.