Organics: This term is usually used to denote the grand total of all chemical species that contain carbon atoms in their chemical formula.

Oxidant: An oxidizing species. An oxidizing chemical provides an oxygen atom upon reacting with another chemical.

Oxidation (various types): A chemical reaction which increases the oxygen content of a compound or in which a compound or radical loses electrons, that is in which the positive valence is increased.

Oxides of Nitrogen: This term usually denotes the sum of nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2). Other forms are nitrate (NO_3^-), nitrous oxide (N_2O), and dinitrogen pentoxide (N_2O_5).

Ozone: Bluish, explosive gas, boiling point -112°C. Pleasant, characteristic odor at concentration of less than 2 ppm, irritating and injurious at higher concentration. Unstable, rapidly photolyzed in sunlight, strong oxidant. Used as disinfectant for air and water, for bleaching of waxes, textiles, oils and organic synthesis. It is an important component of atmospheric chemical reactions.

PAN: see peroxyacetal nitrate.

Parameterization: The representation of a physical, chemical or other process by a convenient mathematical expression containing quantities (parameters) for which measurements or estimates are usually available.

Particle: Any object, solid or liquid, having definite physical boundaries in all directions; in air pollution, practical interest is concentrated on particles less than 1 millimeter in diameter.

Particle size distribution: A frequency distribution of particle sizes (radii or diameters).