



APPENDIX E **Voluntary Use of Respiratory Protection Equipment**

Respiratory protection is an effective method for protection against various hazards when selected and worn properly. Sometimes, personnel may choose to wear respiratory protection to avoid hazardous exposures, even if the amount of hazardous substance does not exceed the limits established by OSHA standards. However, if respiratory protection is used improperly, not maintained, or not stored appropriately, the respiratory protection equipment itself can become a hazard. Therefore, voluntary use of respiratory protection at UW is not supported. Rather, if respiratory protection is requested, personnel must be enrolled in the UW Respiratory Protection Program with the appropriate hazard assessment, medical surveillance, and fit testing completed.