

## FACT SHEET

### Revisions to Procedure 2 - Quality Assurance Requirements for Particulate Matter Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems at Stationary Sources

#### ACTION

- On November 8, 2016, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing direct final changes to the quality assurance requirements known as Procedure 2. Procedure 2 establishes the minimum requirements for evaluating the effectiveness of quality control (QC) and quality assurance (QA) procedures.
- Procedure 2 is used to evaluate the quality of data produced by particulate matter (PM) continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS). PM CEMS continuously determine compliance with emission standards or operating permit limits.
- Procedure 2, requires that when conducting the annual QA/QC tests, the PM CEMS measurements should not be higher or lower than the values used to develop the correlation curve for that PM CEMS. The correlation curve establishes the relationship between the facility's PM emissions and output signal of the PM CEMS.
- As facilities have installed more robust PM emission control devices and PM emission limits have been reduced, a number of facilities have found that their PM emissions are lower than when their PM CEMS correlation curve was developed. As a result, the facilities are now unable to meet the one of the criteria for passing the annual Procedure 2 QA/QC tests.
- EPA is proposing to allow facilities to extend their correlation curve to the lowest PM CEMS response obtained during their annual quality assurance evaluations - Response Correlation Audit or Relative Response Audit. This extended correlation regression line would then be used to determine if the data are acceptable.
- This change would ensure that facilities that have reduced their emissions since completing their correlation testing will continue to be able to successfully complete their annual Procedure 2 QA/QC testing. This action also corrects a typographical error in section 10.4 of Procedure 2.
- EPA is issuing this action as a direct final rule with a parallel proposal. The final rule will be effective 90 days after it is published in the *Federal Register*. If EPA receives adverse comment within 30 days of publication, the Agency will withdraw the direct final rule and address the comments in a separate final action.

## **BACKGROUND**

- On January 12, 2004, the EPA promulgated Procedure 2 - Quality Assurance Requirements for Particulate Matter Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems at Stationary Sources (69 FR 1786).
- PM CEMS are currently a compliance option available to coal fired power plants subject to the Mercury and Air Toxics MATS rule and facilities subject to the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Portland Cement Production.

## **HOW TO COMMENT**

- EPA will accept comment on the proposal for 30 days after publication in the *Federal Register*. Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0382, may be submitted by one of the following methods:
  - [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov): follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
  - Email: Comments may be sent by electronic mail (email) to [a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov). Include Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0382 in the subject line of the message.
  - Fax: Fax your comments to: (202) 566-9744. Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0382.
  - Mail: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mail Code 28221T, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0382, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.
  - Hand/Courier Delivery: EPA Docket Center, Room 3334, EPA WJC West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- Interested parties can download the QA Procedure from EPA's web site on the Internet under Recent Actions at the following address: <https://www.epa.gov/emc>.
- Other places to read the proposed rule and background information (use Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0382):
  - **EPA's electronic public docket and comment system** at <http://www.regulations.gov>.
  - **The EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room** (for hard copies).
    - The Public Reading Room is located at EPA Headquarters, Room Number 3334 in EPA WJC West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.
    - DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.
    - You will have to show photo identification, pass through a metal detector, and sign the EPA visitor log. Any materials you bring with you will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. You will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.

- For further information about the rulemaking, contact Kim Garnett at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-1158 or [garnett.kim@epa.gov](mailto:garnett.kim@epa.gov).