

## FACT SHEET

### PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURE: CONTINUOUS PARAMETER MONITORING SYSTEMS

#### ACTION

- On September 21, 2008, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed requirements to help to ensure that continuous parameter monitoring systems (CPMS) are properly selected, installed, and placed into operation. The proposal would also help to ensure that CPMS provide quality data on an ongoing basis.
- Continuous parameter monitoring systems supply data to demonstrate compliance with an applicable regulation on a continuous basis as defined by the regulation. Typically, CPMS provide a check on proper process or control device operation, which can be used to assess compliance with an emissions limit.
- The types of CPMS covered by the proposed rule are those that are used to measure and record temperature, pressure, liquid flow rate, gas flow rate, mass flow rate, pH, or conductivity on a continuous basis.
- The proposed rule would apply to CPMS that are required under existing rules. Therefore, this rulemaking would not require the installation or operation of additional CPMS.
- The proposed rule includes two requirements:
  - Performance Standard-17 would establish procedures and other requirements related to initial CPMS selection, installation, and operation.
  - Procedure 4 would specify procedures that will help to ensure that CPMS provide quality data on an ongoing basis.
- The proposed rule would also clarify certain calibration drift, out-of-control, data storage, and audit requirements for gas chromatographic and extractive Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy continuous emissions monitoring systems (CEMS).
- The EPA will take public comment on the proposed rule for 60 days following publication in the *Federal Register*.

#### HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND COST

- There are approximately 60,000 facilities that will be affected by the proposed rule. Compliance costs amount to about \$870 dollars per source, per year, or \$52.3 million total in the fifth year after promulgation.

## **BACKGROUND**

- Monitoring of emissions, control device operating parameters, and process operations has been a requirement of many of the emission standards promulgated under the Clean Air Act. The EPA initially developed performance specifications for CEMS to ensure initial data quality. To address the ongoing performance of CEMS, the EPA developed quality assurance (QA) procedures.
- By proposing a new performance specification and QA procedure specifically for CPMS, the EPA establishes standards for the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of CPMS that will help to ensure the generation of good quality data on a consistent basis.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- To download the proposed standards from EPA's website go to <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/new.html>.
- Today's proposed rule and other background information are also available either electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, or in hardcopy at the EPA Docket Center's Public Reading Room.
  - The Public Reading Room is located in the EPA Headquarters , Room Number 3334 in the EPA West Building, located at 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.
  - Visitors are required to show photographic identification, pass through a metal detector, and sign the EPA visitor log. All visitor materials will be processed through an X-ray machine as well. Visitors will be provided a badge that must be visible at all times.
  - Materials for this proposed action can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0640.
  - Please also send a separate copy to Mr. Barrett Parker, electronic mail address [parker.barrett@epa.gov](mailto:parker.barrett@epa.gov).
- For general information about the proposed standards, contact Mr. Barrett Parker of EPA's Measurement Policy Group at (919) 541-5635, or by email at [parker.barrett@epa.gov](mailto:parker.barrett@epa.gov).