

## FACT SHEET

### Revisions to Method 301: Field Validation of Pollutant Measurement Methods from Various Waste Media

#### ACTION

- On November 8, 2016, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed editorial and technical revisions to EPA's Method 301 (Field Validation of Pollutant Measurement Methods from Various Waste Media) necessary to correct and update the method. In addition, the EPA is clarifying the applicability of Method 301 as well as its utility to other regulatory provisions.
- Method 301 is used to propose an alternative test method to meet a regulatory testing requirement or to meet a regulatory requirement in the absence of a validated method.
- This action would not change any national emissions standards, reporting, or recordkeeping requirements.
- EPA will accept comment on this proposal for 60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*.

#### BACKGROUND

- The EPA originally published Method 301 (Appendix A to 40 CFR part 63, Test Methods) on December 29, 1992 (57 FR 61970), as a field validation protocol used to validate new test methods for measuring emissions of hazardous air pollutants.
- On March 16, 1994, the EPA adopted Method 301 as a means to validate an alternative to a test method specified in a standard or for use where no test method is provided in the standard.
- EPA recognized that there were a number of ways Method 301 could be clarified while reviewing submitted data and answering questions from facilities, environmental labs, and technology vendors on the application and requirements of the method. The proposed changes are intended to improve the readability of the method and ensure that required calculations and acceptance criteria for each of Method 301's three validation approaches are clear.

## HOW TO COMMENT

- EPA will accept comment on the proposal for 60 days after publication in the *Federal Register*. Comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0069, 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-2016-0069 in the subject line of the message.
  - Fax: Fax your comments to: (202) 566-9744. Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0069.
  - Mail: Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mail Code 28221T, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0069, 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 rule from EPA's website 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-2016-0069):
  - **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. 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 Kristen Benedict at EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-1394 or [benedict.kristen@epa.gov](mailto:benedict.kristen@epa.gov).