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§ 58.20 Special purpose monitors (SPM).

(a) An SPM is defined as any monitor included in an agency's monitoring network that the agency has designated as a special purpose monitor in its annual monitoring network plan and in AQS, and which the agency does not count when showing compliance with the minimum requirements of this subpart for the number and siting of monitors of various types. Any SPM operated by an air monitoring agency must be included in the periodic assessments and annual monitoring network plan required by § 58.10. The plan shall include a statement of purposes for each SPM monitor and evidence that operation of each monitor meets the requirements of appendix A or an approved alternative as provided by § 58.11(a)(2) where applicable. The monitoring agency may designate a monitor as an SPM after January 1, 2007 only if it is a new monitor, i.e., a SLAMS monitor that is not included in the currently applicable monitoring plan or, for a monitor included in the monitoring plan prior to January 1, 2007, if the Regional Administrator has approved the discontinuation of the monitor as a SLAMS site.

(b) Any SPM data collected by an air monitoring agency using a Federal reference method (FRM), Federal equivalent method (FEM), or approved regional method (ARM) must meet the requirements of § 58.11, § 58.12, and appendix A to this part or an approved alternative to appendix A to this part. Compliance with appendix E to this part is optional but encouraged except when the monitoring agency's data objectives are inconsistent with those requirements. Data collected at an SPM using a FRM, FEM, or ARM meeting the requirements of appendix A must be submitted to AQS according to the requirements of § 58.16. Data collected by other SPMs may be submitted. The monitoring agency must also submit to AQS an indication of whether each SPM reporting data to AQS monitor meets the requirements of appendices A and E to this part.

(c) All data from an SPM using an FRM, FEM, or ARM which has operated for more than 24 months are eligible for comparison to the relevant NAAQS, subject to the conditions of §§ 58.11(e) and 58.30, unless the air monitoring agency demonstrates that the data came from a particular period during which the requirements of appendix A, appendix C, or appendix E to this part were not met, subject to review and EPA Regional Office approval as part of t, App. he annual monitoring network plan described in § 58.10.

(d) If an SPM using an FRM, FEM, or ARM is discontinued within 24 months of start-up, the Administrator will not base a NAAQS violation determination for the $PM_{2.5}$ or ozone NAAQS solely on data from the SPM.

(e) If an SPM using an FRM, FEM, or ARM is discontinued within 24 months of start-up, the Administrator will not designate an area as nonattainment for the CO, SO_2, NO_2, or 24-hour PM_{10} NAAQS solely on the basis of data from the SPM. Such data are eligible for use in determinations of whether a nonattainment area has attained one of these NAAQS.

(f) Prior approval from EPA is not required for discontinuance of an SPM.

[71 FR 61298, Oct. 17, 2006, as amended at 72 FR 32210, June 12, 2007; 73 FR 67060, Nov. 12, 2008; 78 FR 3283, Jan. 15, 2013]

Subpart D—Comparability of Ambient Data to the NAAQS

SOURCE: 71 FR 61302, Oct. 17, 2006, unless otherwise noted.

§ 58.30 Special considerations for data comparisons to the NAAQS.

(a) *Comparability of* $PM_{2.5}$ *data.* The primary and secondary annual and 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS are described in part 50 of this chapter. Monitors that follow the network technical requirements specified in § 58.11 are eligible for comparison to the NAAQS subject to the additional requirements of this section. $PM_{2.5}$ measurement data from all eligible monitors are comparable to the 24-hour $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS. $PM_{2.5}$ measurement data from all eligible monitors that are representative of area-wide air quality are comparable to the annual $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS. Consistent with appendix D to this part, section 4.7.1, when micro- or middle-scale $PM_{2.5}$ monitoring sites collectively identify a larger region of localized high ambient