

Alternative Test Methods/Clean Air Act: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Identifies New Approvals



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02/07/2023

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) published in a January 19th Federal Register Notice an announcement regarding applicable alternative test methods that the federal agency recently approved under the Clean Air Act addressing:

- ASTM E2779–10—Standard Test Method for Determining Particulate Matter Emissions from Pellet Heaters
- GRI–GLYCalc software for modeling glycol dehydration unit emissions
- Flow test methods specified in 40 CFR 63.565(d)(3)(iii) SW–846 Method 8270D and SW–846 Method 8015C
- Surface Emission Monitoring (SEM) procedures required under the cited sections of the following subparts: 40 CFR 60, Subpart WWW, §§ 60.753(d) and 60.755(c)–(e); 40 CFR 60, Subpart XXX, §§ 60.763(d) and 60.765(c)–(d); 40 CFR 60, Subpart Cf, §§ 60.34f(d) and 60.36f(c)–(e); 40 CFR 62, Subpart OOO, §§ 62.16716(d) and 62.16720; 40 CFR 63, Subpart AAAA, §§ 63.1958(d) and 63.1960(c)–(d)

See 88 Fed. Reg. 3408.

EPA also provides the New Source Performance Standard or National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants that correspond to each of these approved alternative test methods.

Source owners and operators are allowed to use what are described as “broadly applicable alternative test methods” instead of test methods or related testing procedures required by the applicable New Source Performance Standard or National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants.

EPA is provided the regulatory authority to approve alternative test methods if they meet certain criteria. The agency will typically announce approval of an alternative test method at some point after it is issued.

Note that utilization of an alternative test method is not mandatory (i.e., it is permissive).

A copy of the Federal Register Notice can be found [here](#).