

Equivalent Test Methods/Clean Air Act: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Designates a New Method for Monitoring Ambient Air Quality (Ozone)



Walter Wright, Jr.
wwright@mwlaw.com
(501) 688.8839

06/13/2024

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) published a June 12th Federal Register Notice announcing that it has designated a new equivalent method for measuring concentrations of Ozone (O₃) in ambient air. See 89 Fed. Reg. 49874.

The equivalent methods are utilized for measuring concentrations in ambient air.

Sampling ambient air conditions is an important part of the process for determining whether an area is and/or will remain in compliance with the Clean Air Act National Ambient Air Quality Standard (“NAAQS”).

Pursuant to the authority of the Clean Air Act and in accordance with Regulations 40 C.F.R. Part 53, EPA evaluates methods for monitoring the concentrations the NAAQS as set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 50. Such monitoring methods must meet certain specific requirements for adequacy as either reference or equivalent for utilization by states to determine compliance with applicable NAAQS.

EPA typically announces approval of an equivalent test or monitoring method as it is approved.

EPA describes this new equivalent method for O₃ as:

...automated method (analyzer) utilizing the measurement principle based on UV photometry.

The designated equivalent method is identified as:

EQOA-0424-263, (Vasthi Instruments Model Vair-9004 O₃ Analyzer).

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