April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Alternative Testing Procedure for Application of Method 9 to Multiple Emission Points under 40 CFR 60, Subparts LL and OOO

FROM: J. David Mobley, Acting Director /s/ J. David Mobley
Emissions, Monitoring, and Analysis Division (MD-14)

TO: Addressees

In conjunction with the General Provisions of 40 CFR 60, the Standards of Performance for Nonmetallic Mineral Processing Plants (subpart OOO) as well as the Standards of Performance for Metallic Mineral Processing Plants (subpart LL) require a three-hour performance test, using method 9 (40 CFR 60, appendix A) for fugitive emission points at each affected facility. The June 9, 1997 revision of subpart OOO allows crushers without emission capture systems to reduce the duration of method 9 observations of fugitive emissions for compliance from three hours to one hour if no readings are greater than 15 percent opacity. Even with this shorter duration, this requirement is still quite labor intensive as a result of the large number of emission points at the crushing and screening operations typical of sources affected by subpart OOO as well as subpart LL.

With this memorandum, we are approving an alternative procedure where a single visible emission observer may conduct visible emission observations for up to three subpart LL or subpart OOO fugitive, stack, or vent emission points within a 15-second interval. Use of this alternative procedure is subject to the following limitations:

1. No more than three emission points are read concurrently.
2. All three emission points must be within a 70°E viewing
sector or angle in front of the observer such that the proper sun position can be maintained for all three points.

3. If an opacity reading for any one of the three emission points is within 5 percent opacity of the applicable standard, then the observer must stop taking readings for the other two points and continue reading just that single point.

The requirements of section 60.386 or 60.675, 60.11, and method 9 also apply. Although this alternative to method 9 opacity observation procedures may have utility for source categories other than subparts LL and OOO, the acceptability of using this alternative procedure must be reviewed and approved on a case by case basis for application to other than subpart LL and OOO facilities.

If you have any questions or require further information regarding this alternative, please contact Robin Segall at 919-541-0893.

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