

Attachment A Update on Measurements at NCore Stations

The majority of required measurements at NCore stations are either well established or recently improved methods for particles, gases, and meteorology. With minor exceptions, monitoring agencies have identified all of the PM_{2.5}, gas, and meteorological measurements necessary for successful operation of their NCore station. However, PM_{10-2.5} mass methods have only recently become available and PM_{10-2.5} speciation methods are not fully developed. This attachment summarizes our current position on available methods for operation of PM_{10-2.5} mass and deployment of methods for PM_{10-2.5} speciation.

Measurement of PM_{10-2.5} Mass

Measurement of PM_{10-2.5} mass is **required** and can now be accomplished with one of several recently approved Federal Reference Methods (FRM) or Federal Equivalent Methods (FEM) described in the table¹ below. Monitoring agencies should include one of these methods in their next annual monitoring network plan and have the method operational by January 1, 2011. An annual monitoring network plan submitted to a Regional Office next summer does not need to seek EPA Administrator approval of a newly identified PM_{10-2.5} mass FRM or FEM, so long as the NCore station has already been approved.

| Manufacturer | Model | Method |
|---------------------|---|--|
| BGI, Inc | PQ200 Sampler Pair | Manual Reference Method: RFPS-1208-173 |
| Thermo-Fisher, Inc. | Model 2000 PM10-2.5 Sampler Pair | Manual Reference Method: RFPS-0509-175 |
| Thermo-Fisher, Inc. | Model 2025 PM10-2.5 Sequential Air Sampler Pair | Manual Reference Method: RFPS-0509-177 |
| Thermo-Fisher, Inc. | 2000-D Dichotomous Air Sampler | Manual Equivalent Method: EQPS-0509-178 |
| Thermo-Fisher, Inc. | 2025-D Dichotomous Air Sampler | Manual Equivalent Method: EQPS-0509-180 |
| Met One, Inc. | BAM-1020 PM10-2.5 Measurement System | Automated Equivalent Method: EQPM-0709-185 |

Measurement of PM_{10-2.5} Speciation

Per the advice of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee's (CASAC), Ambient Air Monitoring & Methods Subcommittee (AAMMS)², PM_{10-2.5} speciation is **not** to be implemented at NCore at this time. Our office is working with 2 monitoring agencies to evaluate options for PM_{10-2.5} speciation methods during a pilot study over the coming year. Also, consistent with the CASAC AAMMS advice, we will be considering what the optimum network design should be once a specified PM_{10-2.5} speciation method is available for routine use. A letter and detailed comments from the subcommittee members is available on the web at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabpeople.nsf/WebCommittees/CASAC> See: Advisory Reports for fiscal year 2009.

¹ Table of PM_{10-2.5} mass methods is current as of October 2009. For a list of the latest available designated reference and equivalent methods, see the AMTIC web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/criteria.html>

² [2/11/09 Consultation on Ambient Air Monitoring Issues Related to the Coarse Particle Speciation by the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee \(CASAC\) Ambient Air Monitoring & Methods Subcommittee \(AAMMS\)](http://www.epa.gov/sab/sabpeople.nsf/WebCommittees/CASAC).