

Protocol Gas Verification Program and Minimum Competency Requirements for Air Emission Testing

EPA's final rule on "Protocol Gas Verification Program and Minimum Competency Requirements for Air Emission Testing" was published in the Federal Register on March 28, 2011. This rule will better ensure the accuracy of calibration gases and the competency of stack testers. In addition, EPA removed the mercury monitoring and reporting provisions from the Acid Rain Program continuous emission monitoring regulation (Part 75). EPA also removed the 90 unit operating day deadline for monitor certification for new or newly affected units under Part 75. The certification deadline for these units is now 180 calendar days from commencement of commercial operation.

<http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/emissions/index.html>

and then clicking on the link for "Protocol Gas Verification Program" or the link for "Air Emission Testing Bodies."

EPA has also posted the results of its 2010 audit of EPA Protocol gases. The audit had four main objectives: (1) to ensure that EPA Protocol gases meet the accuracy requirements of 40 CFR Part 75; (2) to provide an incentive for gas vendors that performed well in the audit to continue to use good practices; (3) to encourage gas vendors that performed poorly in the audit to make improvements; and (4) to assist calibration gas consumers in their purchasing decisions.