9.2 How are emissions data reported when a monitoring system is not working ?

In real-life situations, quality-assured emissions data may not be available for some hours, because monitoring equipment occasionally malfunctions or needs to undergo routine maintenance. Also, routine QA tests are sometimes not performed on schedule or are failed. When a required QA test is not performed by its due date, data recorded by the monitoring system after the test deadline are considered to be invalid.

When a monitoring system malfunctions or fails a required QA test, the system is considered to be "out-of-control" (OOC). Data recorded by an out-of-control monitoring system are unsuitable for Part 75 reporting and may not be used in the emission calculations.

For any unit operating hour in which a primary monitoring system is unable to provide quality-assured data, emissions data must be reported in one of the following ways:

- Using data from an approved Part 75 backup monitoring system that is up-to-date on its required QA tests and is not out-of-control; or
- Using an EPA reference test method; or
- Using an appropriate substitute data value.

Many facilities do not have backup monitoring systems, and even if they do, there is no guarantee that the backup monitor will be in-control during an outage of the primary monitor. Using EPA reference methods to collect data can be expensive and time-consuming. In view of this, there needs to be a standard set of procedures for determining appropriate substitute data values during missing data periods (see Figure 4). The necessary missing data procedures are found in the following sections of Part 75:

- §§75.31 through 75.37, for units that use CEMS and report emissions data on a year-round basis;
- §75.74 (c)(7), for NO_x Budget Program units that use CEMS and report emissions data on an ozone season-only basis;
- Section 2.4 of Appendix D;
- Section 2.5 of Appendix E; and
- Section 5 of Appendix G

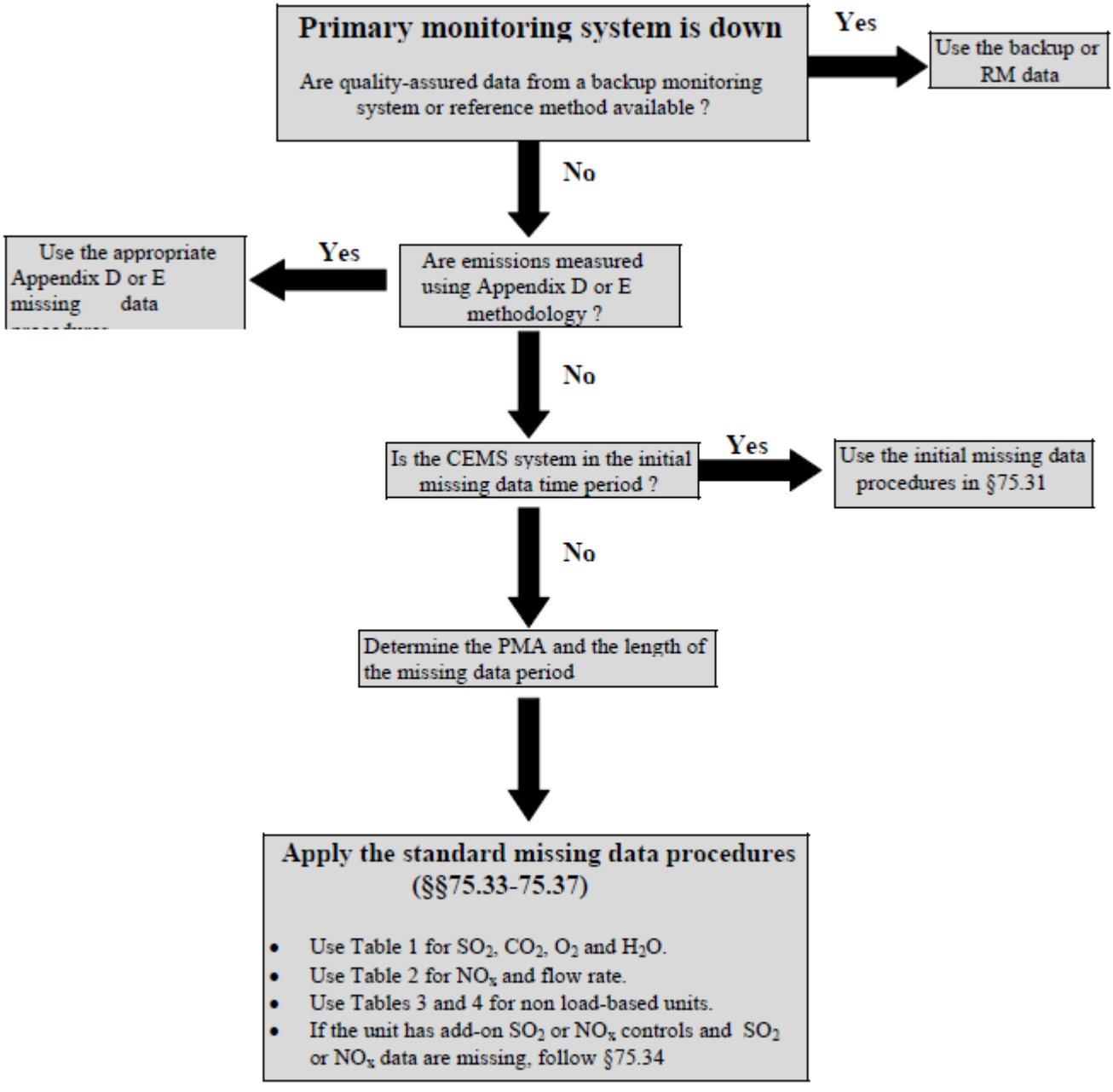

Figure 4. Part 75 missing data substitution process