

Question 14.9

Topic: Missed QA/QC Tests -- Linearity Checks and RATAs

Question: If a linearity check or RATA for routine quality-assurance is not completed by the end of the quarter in which it is due, is the use of substitute data required in the first unit operating hour following the test deadline?

Answer: No. EPA recognizes that there are times when a scheduled linearity check or RATA deadline may be missed due to circumstances beyond the control of the owner or operator. Therefore, Part 75 provides a grace period in which a missed QA test may be completed without loss of data.

Section 2.2.4 of Appendix B provides a 168 unit (or stack) operating hour grace period for a missed quarterly linearity check and Section 2.3.3 of Appendix B provides a 720 unit (or stack) operating hour grace period for a missed semiannual or annual RATA. If the required QA test has not been successfully completed within the grace period, data from the monitoring system become invalid beginning with the first operating hour after the grace period expires.

References: Appendix B, Sections 2.2.4 and 2.3.3

History: First published in March 1997, Update #11; revised in October 1999 Revised Manual; revised in 2013 Manual