# Question 9.18

**Topic:** Flow-to-load Test Failure -- Data Invalidation Period

**Question:** If we fail a quarterly stack flow-to-load ratio test, what data are invalidated?

**Answer:** It depends. According to Section 2.2.5(c)(8) of Appendix B, when you fail a flow-to-load ratio or GHR test, you may either declare the flow monitoring system out-of-control, beginning with the first hour of unit operation in the quarter *following* the quarter for which the quarterly stack flow-to-load ratio test failed, or you may perform a probationary calibration error test and declare the flow rate data conditionally valid, pending the results of an investigation and follow-up diagnostic testing. Whichever alternative you choose, Section 2.2.5(c)(8) requires you to implement Option 1 in Section 2.2.5.1 or Option 2 in Section 2.2.5.2, to re-establish a "valid" status for data from the flow monitor. Sections 2.2.5.1 and 2.2.5.2 provide detailed data validation instructions to achieve this.

**References:** Appendix B, Sections 2.2.5(c)(8), 2.2.5.1, 2.2.5.2, and 2.2.5.3

**History:** First published in October 1999 Revised Manual; revised in October 2003 Revised Manual