

Question 8.29

Topic: Range of Operation

Question: The range of operation as defined in Section 6.5.2.1 of Appendix A to Part 75 extends from the "minimum safe, stable load" to the "maximum sustainable load." What is meant by the "minimum safe, stable load"?

Answer: The minimum safe, stable load is not precisely defined in either Part 72 or Part 75 of the Acid Rain rules. In the absence of such a definition, use the following guidelines: the minimum safe, stable load is the lowest load at which a unit is capable of being held for an extended period of time, without creating an unsafe or unstable operating condition. If the boiler manufacturer recommends that the unit not be operated below a certain load level, this may be used as the minimum safe, stable load.

If such a recommendation is unavailable, you may use sound engineering judgment, based on knowledge of the historical operation of the unit, to estimate the minimum safe, stable load. In making this determination, you may exclude low unit loads recorded during startup or shutdown while the unit is "ramping up" or "ramping down," unless these loads are able to be sustained and safely held for several hours at a time.

References: Appendix A, Section 6.5.2.1(b)

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