

Question 9.29

Topic: Effects of BAF on Full-scale Exceedance Reporting

Question: When full-scale exceedances of a high-scale monitoring range occur, Part 75 requires a value of 200% of the range to be reported. If the full-scale range is exceeded for only part of the hour, Question 9.19 allows the hourly average to be calculated using a combination of real monitored data and the default value of 200% of the range.

What happens if an hourly average SO₂ concentration calculated in this manner is multiplied by the bias adjustment factor (BAF), and gives a result greater than 200% of the range (e.g., if data are off-scale for 59 minutes of the hour and on-scale for one minute)?

Will EPA's checking software give an error message?

Answer: If the calculated hourly average SO₂ concentration times the BAF gives a result less than or equal to 200% of the range, report this result as the bias-adjusted SO₂ concentration. If the calculated SO₂ concentration times the BAF gives a result higher than 200% of the range, report 200% of the range as the bias-adjusted concentration. This will ensure that no error message is generated.

Note that when a "default high range" SO₂ value of 200% of the MPC is used for exceedances of a low-scale monitor range (as allowed under Section 2.1.1.4 (f) of Appendix A to Part 75), similar considerations apply.

If the calculated hourly average SO₂ concentration times the BAF gives a result less than or equal to 200% of the MPC, report this result as the bias-adjusted SO₂ concentration. If the calculated SO₂ concentration times the BAF gives a result higher than 200% of the MPC, report 200% of the MPC as the bias-adjusted concentration (see Question 9.21).

References: Appendix A, Sections 2.1.1.4(f), 2.1.1.5(b)

History: First published in March 2000, Update #12