

Question 8.27

Topic: RATA Frequency (Grace Period Test)

Question: If I usually do RATA testing in the second quarter but one year I use the grace period and do the RATA in the third quarter, should I do the next RATA in the second or third quarter the following year?

Answer: For a RATA completed during a grace period that meets the relative accuracy requirement for an "annual" RATA frequency the deadline for the next test is three QA operating quarters after the quarter in which the grace period test was completed. If the grace period RATA qualifies for the standard "semi-annual" RATA frequency, the deadline for the next test is two QA operating quarters after the quarter in which the grace period test was completed.

Also, note that RATAs are required at least once every eight calendar quarters.

Therefore, in the case where a grace period RATA is done in the third quarter, if the unit operates more than 168 operating hours in each subsequent quarter, and if the RATA results allow an "annual" frequency, the next RATA would be due in three QA operating quarters, i.e., in the second quarter of the following year.

References: Appendix B, Section 2.3.3(d)

History: First published in March 2000, Update #12; revised in 2013 Manual