

INTRODUCTION

In order to reduce acid rain in the United States and Canada, Title IV of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 established the Acid Rain Program. The program has substantially reduced sulfur dioxide emissions and nitrogen oxide emissions from electric utility plants. These emissions reductions have been achieved at low cost to society, by employing both traditional regulatory techniques and innovative, market-based approaches. The centerpiece of the program is the allowance trading system, under which affected utility units are allocated "allowances" (each "allowance" permits a utility to emit one ton of SO₂) based on historical fuel consumption and specified emission rates. The allowances can be traded as commodities.

To ensure that allowances are consistently valued and to ensure that all of the projected emission reductions are in fact achieved, it is necessary that actual emissions from each affected utility unit be accurately determined. To fulfill this function, Title IV requires that affected units continuously measure and record their SO₂ mass emissions. Most plants will fulfill these requirements by using continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS). The EPA initially promulgated regulations for Acid Rain Program continuous emission monitoring (CEM) requirements at 40 CFR Part 75 on January 11, 1993 (58 FR 3590) and has published numerous revisions to Part 75 since then. The most recent revisions were published on January 24, 2008 (73 FR 4312).

In the past, this manual addressed only policy questions involving the implementation of the Acid Rain CEM, and was entitled the "Acid Rain Program Policy Manual." However, since the Manual was first published, Part 75 monitoring has been adopted by other emissions trading programs, including the NO_x Budget Program, and, most recently, the Clean Air Interstate Regulation (CAIR). As a result, we changed the title of the manual to "Part 75 Emissions Monitoring Policy Manual."

This manual provides a series of Questions and Answers that can be used on a nationwide basis to ensure that Part 75 emissions monitoring and reporting requirements are applied consistently for all affected sources. The manual is organized into sections by subject matter. Each section has its own table of contents, which provides page references for the applicable Questions and Answers. The manual is intended to be a living document. The EPA will issue new Questions and Answers and will revise previously issued Questions and Answers as necessary.

Note that the purpose of this manual is to clarify the regulations and to facilitate program implementation. This document is not intended, nor can it be relied upon, to create any rights enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States. EPA may decide to follow the guidance provided in this document, or to act at variance with this guidance, based on its analysis of the specific facts presented. This guidance may be revised without public notice to reflect changes in EPA's approach to implementation, or to clarify and update rule text.

The contents of this manual are available to the general public through the Internet on the Clean Air Markets homepage. The electronic version is provided in an Adobe Acrobat file (PDF

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format). Updates to the manual will be issued as separate Adobe Acrobat files. Periodically, EPA will reissue a complete manual that incorporates the updates.

If after reviewing the Part 75 regulation and the supplementary guidance provided in this manual, you still have an unresolved issue, contact EPA Headquarters or the EPA Regional Office. You can find a list of contact persons on the Clean Air Markets Division website (www.epa.gov/airmarkets).