

Question 14.10

Topic: Valid Hours

Question: Suppose that in the first two 15-minute quadrants of a full, 60-minute operating hour (Hour # 1), sufficient valid CEMS data is captured to meet the requirement of § 75.10(d)(1) and then I perform preventative maintenance on the CEMS for the remainder of that hour, extending into the next clock hour (Hour # 2), which is also a full operating hour. If the monitor passes a post-maintenance calibration error test in Hour # 2 and collects sufficient valid data in the last two 15-minute quadrants of Hour # 2 to satisfy § 75.10(d)(1), are both Hours # 1 and 2 valid, or is only Hour # 2 valid?

Answer: The emission data for both Hours # 1 and # 2 may be reported as quality assured. The principal data capture requirement for Part 75 sources in § 75.10(d)(1) states that in order to validate data for an hour, you must obtain at least one valid data point in each quadrant of the hour in which fuel is combusted. However, § 75.10(d)(1) provides an exception to this requirement for hours in which quality assurance testing and preventive maintenance activities are performed. For such hours, a minimum of two data points, separated by at least 15 minutes, are required to validate the hour.

In the present case, the emission data collected in Hour # 1 are considered valid, because the data were recorded prior to the maintenance event (i.e., prior to commencement of the out-of-control period). The data in Hour # 2 are valid because they were collected after a successful post maintenance calibration error test (i.e., after the end of the out-of-control period).

References: § 75.10(d)(1)

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