

Question 8.9

Topic: RATA Procedure

Question: Suppose that during the RATA we determine that there is a problem after three or four runs. May we continue the test without counting the three or four runs in the total runs for certification?

Answer: It depends on the nature of the problem. If the reason for discontinuing a RATA is unrelated to the performance of the CEMS being tested (e.g., problems with the reference method or with the affected unit(s)), any valid test runs that were completed prior to the occurrence of the problem may either be used as part of the official RATA or the runs may be disregarded and the RATA re-started. However, if a RATA is aborted due to a problem with the CEMS, the test is considered invalid and must be repeated. In such cases, none of the runs in the aborted test may be used as part of the official RATA and the aborted test may *not* be disregarded (since it affects data validation), but must be reported in the electronic quarterly report.

References: § 75.20(b)(3); Appendix A, Section 6.5.9; Appendix B, Section 2.3.2

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