



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

October 17, 2005

Michael Garibay
Supervising Air Quality Engineer
Source Testing Engineering
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 E. Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

Subject: Approval of South Coast Air Quality Management District Methods 5.3 and 9B

Dear Mr. Garibay:

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) submitted the following test methods to US EPA Region 9 for approval for use in California State Implementation Plan (SIP) rules.

Test Method 5.3 Determination of Particulate Matter Emissions from Stationary Sources Using an In-Stack Filter, October 2005

Test Method 9B Opacity Methods No. 9B, October 13, 2005

South Coast Method 25.3 employs an in-stack filter to minimize the potential for hygroscopic particulate matter collected on the filter to come into contact with moisture or water vapor. The method is similar to EPA Method 17 and to SCAQMD Methods 5.1 and 5.2, which are approved for use in California SIP rules.

South Coast Method 9B contains three opacity test methods based on EPA Method 9. The first method is a time averaging method and is intended for determining the opacity from continuous operations such as conveyor transfer points. The second method is also a time averaging method and is intended for determining the opacity from intermittent operations such as loading and unloading operations. The third method is used for determining the opacity caused by vehicles travelling on unpaved roads and unpaved parking lots.

EPA Region 9 has reviewed the above test methods and find them technically acceptable and approves their use in SIP rules in California. These methods have not been reviewed for use to determine compliance with Federal New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) or with National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate contact Stanley Tong at (415) 947-4122.

Sincerely,



Andrew Steckel
Chief, Rulemaking Office

cc: Laki Tisopulos, SCAQMD
Lee Lockie, SCAQMD
Rudy Eden, SCAQMD
Tracy Goss, SCAQMD
Minh Pham, SCAQMD
Robert Rogen, CARB
Robin Segall, EPA-OAQPS