

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY****40 CFR Part 60**

[FRL-6337-2]

RIN 2060-AH97

**Test Methods: Three New Methods for
Velocity and Volumetric Flow Rate
Determination in Stacks or Ducts****AGENCY:** Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing three new optional test methods for measuring velocity and volumetric flow rate of flue gas from fossil fuel-fired boilers and turbines. These new methods can account for velocity drop-off near the stack or duct wall and the yaw and pitch angles of flow. Owners and operators of utility units subject to the Acid Rain Program under title IV of the Clean Air Act and certain large electric generating units and large non-electric generating units that may become subject to the nitrogen oxides (NO_x) state implementation plan (SIP) call under Title I of the Clean Air Act must use an approved test method to periodically calibrate the flow rate monitors at these units. Flow rate data is used to determine the units' sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and NO_x mass emissions and heat inputs. The purpose of the Acid Rain Program and the NO_x SIP call is to significantly reduce emissions from electric generating plants and other

affected units in order to reduce the adverse health and environmental effects of acid deposition or ground level ozone resulting from these emissions.

DATES: Written comments must be received by June 14, 1999 unless a hearing is held, in which case written comments must be received by July 1, 1999.

Public Hearing: Anyone requesting a public hearing must submit a written request, which must be received by EPA by no later than May 21, 1999. If a hearing is timely requested, it will be held on June 1, 1999, starting at 10:00 a.m.

ADDRESSES: Any written comments must be identified as comments on the direct final rule and companion proposed rule, identified with Docket No. A-99-14, and must be submitted in duplicate to: EPA Air Docket (6102), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460. The docket is available for public inspection and copying between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the address given above. EPA may charge a reasonable fee for copying.

Public Hearing: If a hearing is held, it will take place at the 4th floor conference room at 501 3rd Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Schakenbach, Acid Rain Division (6204J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, (202) 564-9158; or Elliot Lieberman, Acid Rain Division (6204J),

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460, (202) 564-9136.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We are proposing to add three new optional test methods for determination of velocity and volumetric flow rate in stacks or ducts that account for yaw and pitch angles of stack or duct gas flow and velocity drop-off near the stack or duct wall. We are promulgating the new test methods as a direct final rule without prior proposal because we view the rule as noncontroversial and anticipate no adverse comment. We have explained our reasons for this action in the preamble to the direct final rule. If we receive no timely adverse comment, we will not take further action on this proposed rule. If we receive timely adverse comment, we will withdraw the direct final rule and it will not take effect.

We will address all public comments in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. We will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting must do so at this time. For further information, please see the information provided in the direct final action that is located in the "Rules and Regulations" section of this **Federal Register** publication.

Dated: May 5, 1999.

Carol M. Browner,
Administrator.

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