

not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act

Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-113; 15 U.S.C. 272) directs the EPA to use voluntary consensus standards in regulatory and procurement activities unless to do so would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. Voluntary consensus standards are technical standards (*e.g.*, materials specifications, test methods, sampling procedures, business practices) developed or adopted by one or more voluntary consensus bodies. The NTTAA directs the EPA to provide Congress, through annual reports to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), with explanations when an agency does not use available and applicable voluntary consensus standards.

This Federal plan involves technical standards. The EPA includes in this plan EPA Methods 1, 3A, 3B, 5, 6, 6C, 7, 7A, 7C, 7D, 7E, 9, 10, 10A, 10B, 23, 26A, and 29. Consistent with the NTTAA, the EPA conducted searches to identify voluntary consensus standards in addition to these EPA methods. No applicable voluntary consensus standards were identified for EPA Methods 7A, 7D, 9, and 10B. The search and review results have been documented and are placed in the Docket No. A-2000-52 for this Federal plan.

This search for emission measurement procedures identified 24 voluntary consensus standards. The EPA determined that 20 of these 24 standards were impractical alternatives to EPA test methods for the purposes of this Federal plan. Therefore, the EPA is not adopting these standards today. The reasons for this determination for the 20 methods are discussed below.

The standard, ASTM D3162 (1994) "Standard Test Method for Carbon Monoxide in the Atmosphere (Continuous Measurement by Nondispersive Infrared Spectrometry)," is impractical as an alternative to EPA Method 10 in the Federal plan because this ASTM standard, which is stated to be applicable in the range of 0.5–100 ppm CO, does not cover the potential range in the plan (up to 157 ppm). Whereas EPA Method 10 has a range from 20–1000 ppm CO. Also, ASTM D3162 does not provide a procedure to remove carbon dioxide interference. Therefore, this ASTM standard is not appropriate for combustion source conditions. In terms of NDIR instrument

performance specifications, ASTM D3162 has much higher maximum allowable rise and fall times (5 minutes) than EPA Method 10 (which has 30 second). However, it should be noted that ASTM D3162 has more quality control requirements than EPA Method 10 in terms of instrument calibration procedures, span gas cylinder validation procedures, and operational checks.

The standard ASTM E1979–98 (1998), "Standard Practice for Ultrasonic Extraction of Paint, Dust, Soil, and Air Samples for Subsequent Determination of Lead," is impractical as an alternative to EPA Method 29 in this Federal plan. This ASTM standard does not require the use of hydrogen fluoride (HF) as in EPA Method 29 and, therefore, it cannot be used for the preparation, digestion, and analysis of Method 29 samples. Additionally, Method 29 requires the use of a glass fiber filter, whereas this ASTM standard requires cellulose filters and other probable nonglass fiber media, which cannot be considered equivalent to EPA Method 29.

The European standard EN 1911–1,2,3 (1998), "Stationary Source Emissions—Manual Method of Determination of HCl—Part 1: Sampling of Gases Ratified European Text—Part 2: Gaseous Compounds Absorption Ratified European Text—Part 3: Adsorption Solutions Analysis and Calculation Ratified European Text," is impractical as an alternative to EPA Method 26A. Part 3 of this standard cannot be considered equivalent to EPA Method 26A because the sample absorbing solution (water) would be expected to capture both HCl and chlorine gas, if present, without the ability to distinguish between the two. The EPA Method 26A uses an acidified absorbing solution to first separate HCl and chlorine gas so that they can be selectively absorbed, analyzed, and reported separately. In addition, in EN 1911 the absorption efficiency for chlorine gas would be expected to vary as the pH of the water changed during sampling.

The following ten methods are impractical alternatives to EPA test methods for the purposes of this plan because they are too general, too broad, or not sufficiently detailed to assure compliance with EPA regulatory requirements: ASTM D3154–91 (1995), "Standard Method for Average Velocity in a Duct (Pitot Tube Method)," for EPA Methods 1 and 3B; ASTM D5835–95, "Standard Practice for Sampling Stationary Source Emissions, for Automated Determination of Gas Concentration," for EPA Method 3A; ISO 10396:1993, "Stationary Source Emissions: Sampling for the Automated

Determination of Gas Concentrations," for EPA Method 3A; CAN/CSA Z223.2–M86(1986), "Method for the Continuous Measurement of Oxygen, Carbon Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Sulphur Dioxide, and Oxides of Nitrogen in Enclosed Combustion Flue Gas Streams," for EPA Method 3A; ASME C00031 or PTC 19–10–1981—Part 10, "Flue and Exhaust Gas Analyses," for EPA Methods 6 and 7; ASTM D1608–98, "Test Method for Oxides of Nitrogen in Gaseous Combustion Products (Pheno-Disulfonic Acid Procedures)," for EPA Method 7; ISO 7934:1998, "Stationary Source Emissions—Determination of the Mass Concentration of Sulfur Dioxide—Hydrogen Peroxide/Barium Perchlorate/Thorin Method," for EPA Method 6; ISO 11564:1998, "Stationary Source Emissions—Determination of the Mass Concentration of Nitrogen Oxides—NEDA (naphthylethylenediamine)/Photometric Method," for EPA Methods 7 and 7C; CAN/CSA Z223.21–M1978, "Method for the Measurement of Carbon Monoxide: 3—Method of Analysis by Non-Dispersive Infrared Spectrometry," for EPA Methods 10 and 10A; and European Committee for Standardization (CEN) EN 1948–3 (1997), "Determination of the Mass Concentration of PCDD'S/PCDF'S—Part 3: Identification and Quantification," for EPA Method 23.

The following seven methods are impractical alternatives to EPA test methods for the purposes of this Federal plan because they lacked sufficient quality assurance and quality control requirements necessary for EPA compliance assurance requirements: ASME PTC–38–80 R85 or C00049, "Determination of the Concentration of Particulate Matter in Gas Streams," for EPA Method 5; ASTM D3685/D3685M–98, "Test Methods for Sampling and Determination of Particulate Matter in Stack Gases," for EPA Method 5; ISO 9096:1992, "Determination of Concentration and Mass Flow Rate of Particulate Matter in Gas Carrying Ducts—Manual Gravimetric Method," for EPA Method 5; CAN/CSA Z223.1–M1977, "Method for the Determination of Particulate Mass Flows in Enclosed Gas Streams," for EPA Method 5; ISO 11632:1998, "Stationary Source Emissions—Determination of the Mass Concentration of Sulfur Dioxide—Ion Chromatography," for EPA Method 6; CAN/CSA Z223.24–M1983, "Method for the Measurement of Nitric Oxide and Nitrogen Dioxide in Air," for EPA Method 7; and CAN/CSA Z223.26–M1987, "Measurement of Total Mercury in Air Cold Vapour Atomic Absorption