

requirements of 40 CFR part 58, appendix A; and, for urban areas with populations greater than 200,000, at least two monitoring sites must be designated as National Air Monitoring Stations (NAMS). The ozone network in the Bay Area meets or exceeds these requirements and is therefore adequate

for use in determining the ozone attainment status of the area.<sup>6</sup>

## 2. The Bay Area's Ozone Design Value for the 2001–2003 Period

We have listed in Table 1 the design values and the average number of exceedance days per year for the 2001

to 2003 period for each monitoring site in the Bay Area. We calculated the design values following the procedures in the Laxton memo.<sup>7</sup> We have used the established rounding conventions set forth in our guidance documents and regulations.<sup>8</sup>

TABLE 1.—AVERAGE NUMBER OF 1-HOUR OZONE EXCEEDANCE DAYS PER YEAR AND DESIGN VALUES BY MONITOR IN THE BAY AREA, 2001–2003

Site	Average number of exceedance days per year	Site design value (ppm)
Bethel Island (SLAMS) .....	0.3	0.102
Concord (NAMS) .....	0.3	0.106
Crockett (SPM) .....	0	0.081
Fairfield (SLAMS) .....	0	0.101
Fremont (NAMS) .....	0	0.106
Gilroy (SLAMS) .....	0	0.116
Hayward (SLAMS) .....	0	0.097
Livermore (NAMS) .....	1.0	0.123
Los Gatos (NAMS) .....	0	0.113
Napa (SLAMS) .....	0	0.099
Oakland (SLAMS) .....	0	0.069
Oakland—Fruitvale (SPM) .....	0	0.068
Pittsburg (SLAMS) .....	0	0.103
Redwood City (SLAMS) .....	0	0.090
San Francisco (SLAMS) .....	0	0.061
San Jose Central (SLAMS) .....	0	0.099
San Jose East (SLAMS) .....	0	0.091
San Leandro (SLAMS) .....	0	0.093
San Martin (SLAMS) .....	0	0.115
San Pablo (SLAMS) .....	0	0.071
San Rafael (SLAMS) .....	0	0.077
Santa Rosa (SLAMS) .....	0	0.086
Sunnyvale (SLAMS) .....	0	0.096
Vallejo (SLAMS) .....	0	0.091

Note: Each of these sites is operated by BAAQMD. All data are reported to EPA's AIRS-AQS database.

From Table 1, it is apparent that the highest design value at any monitor, and thus the design value for the Bay Area, is 0.123 ppm at the Livermore site. No monitor in the Bay Area recorded an average of more than 1 exceedance of the 1-hour ozone standard per year during the 2001 to 2003 period.

Because the area's design value is below the 0.12 ppm 1-hour ozone standard for the 2001 to 2003 period, we

propose to find that the Bay Area has attained the 1-hour ozone standard.

### D. Attainment Findings and Redesignations to Attainment

A finding that an area has attained the 1-hour ozone standard does not redesignate the area to attainment for the 1-hour standard nor does it guarantee a future redesignation to attainment.

The redesignation of an area to attainment under CAA section 107(d)(3)(E) is a separate process from a finding of attainment. Unlike an attainment finding where we need only determine that the area has had the prerequisite number of clean years, a redesignation requires multiple determinations. Under section 107(d)(3)(E), these determinations are:

<sup>6</sup> These requirements are addressed in "System Audit of the Ambient Monitoring Program of Bay Area Air Quality Management District, November 26–30, 2001." The system audit report is included in the docket for this rulemaking.

<sup>7</sup> See memorandum, William G. Laxton, Director, Technical Support Division, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards to Regional Air Directors, "Ozone and Carbon Monoxide Design Value Calculations," June 18, 1990 (<http://www.epa.gov/oar/oaqps/greenbk/laxton.html>).

<sup>8</sup> Although the 1-hour ozone NAAQS itself includes no discussion of specific data handling conventions, our publicly articulated position and the approach long since universally adopted by the air quality management community is that the interpretation of the 1-hour ozone standard requires rounding ambient air quality data consistent with the stated level of the standard, which is 0.12 parts per million (ppm). 40 CFR 50.9(a) states that: "The

level of the national 1-hour primary and secondary ambient air quality standards for ozone \* \* \* is 0.12 parts per million. \* \* \* The standard is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year with maximum hourly average concentrations above 0.12 parts per million \* \* \* is equal to or less than 1, as determined by appendix H to this part." ([http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/08aug20031600/edocket.access.gpo.gov/cfr\\_2003/julqtr/pdf/40cfr50.9.pdf](http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/08aug20031600/edocket.access.gpo.gov/cfr_2003/julqtr/pdf/40cfr50.9.pdf)) We have clearly communicated the data handling conventions for the 1-hour ozone NAAQS in regulation and guidance documents, as discussed below. In the 1990 CAA Amendments, Congress expressly recognized the continuing validity of EPA guidance.

As early as 1977, EPA issued guidance that the level of our NAAQS dictates the number of significant figures to be used in determining whether the standard was exceeded. Guidelines for the Interpretation of Air Quality Standards, OAQPS

No. 1.2–008, February 1977 (<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/files/ambient/criteria/reldocs/12008-77.pdf>). In addition, the regulations governing the reporting of annual summary statistics from ambient monitoring stations for use by EPA in determining national air quality status clearly indicate the rounding convention to be used for 1-hour ozone data. "The air quality concentration should be rounded to the number of significant digits used in specifying the concentration intervals. The digit to the right of the last significant digit determines the rounding process. If this digit is greater than or equal to 5, the last significant digit is rounded up. The insignificant digits are truncated. For example, 100.5 ug/m3 rounds to 101 ug/m3 and 0.1245 ppm rounds to 0.12 ppm." 40 CFR part 58, appendix F, 2 Required Information ([http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfrhtml\\_00/Title\\_40/40cfr58\\_00.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfrhtml_00/Title_40/40cfr58_00.html)).