

Transportation Conformity Guidance for Quantitative Hot-spot Analyses in PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀
Nonattainment and Maintenance Areas
Guidance Change Bulletin: November 2015

Part of Guidance	Change from 2013 Guidance to 2015 Guidance	Reason for Change
Section 1.2: Requirement for Quantitative PM Hot-spot Analyses	Revised to describe past events instead of occurring events	Section brought up to date
Section 2.6: NAAQS Considered in PM Hot-spot Analyses	Clarified section and added new footnote to reflect new PM NAAQS	In December 2012, EPA promulgated a revised annual primary PM _{2.5} NAAQS of 12.0 µg/m ³ (80 Federal Register 2206). Conformity will apply for this NAAQS on April 15, 2016
Section 2.8: Appropriate Time Frame and Analysis Years	Added sentence to clarify analysis years must be within the timeframe of the transportation plan/regional emissions analysis, per the regulations	Reflect guidance implementation and experience in the field
Section 4: Estimating Project-Level PM Emissions Using MOVES	Revised in its entirety to reflect MOVES2014/MOVES2014a	EPA released MOVES2014 (79 Federal Register 60343); revised guidance is also applicable to minor revisions to MOVES2014 model, such as MOVES2014a
Section 7: Selecting an Air Quality Model, Data Inputs, and Receptors	Described area sources before volume sources and noted that area sources may be easier to characterize correctly compared to volume sources	Reflect guidance implementation and experience in the field
Section 7.5: Incorporating Meteorological Data	Added new sentence emphasizing representativeness of meteorological data; added new sentence about processing five years of meteorological data in one AERMOD run	Reflect guidance implementation and experience in the field
Section 7.6.2: General Guidance for Receptors for all PM NAAQS	Clarified receptors should be placed in areas considered ambient air, i.e., where the public generally has access. Deleted text that said to exclude areas where public present only for a short period of time, or behind fenced property	Updated to be consistent with Appendix W and EPA guidance for receptor placement when modeling air quality for stationary sources

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Section 7.7: Running the Model and Obtaining Results	Added new sentence regarding AERMOD results	Reflect guidance implementation
Section 8.3.2: Adjusting Air Quality Monitoring Data to Account for Future Changes in Air Quality: Using Chemical Transport Models	Added new sentences regarding photochemical modeling	Reflect guidance implementation
Section 9.3.3: 24-hour PM _{2.5} NAAQS	Revised Tier 1 and Tier 2 design value calculations for this NAAQS	Changed to be more consistent with the way the 24-hour PM _{2.5} NAAQS design value is calculated with other EPA Programs, including EPA's "Guidance for PM _{2.5} Permit Modeling," issued May 20, 2014
Section 9.3.4: 24-hour PM ₁₀ NAAQS	Revised design value calculation for this NAAQS. Also ensured calculation now takes into account the number of background concentrations available	Changed to be more consistent with the way the PM ₁₀ NAAQS design value is calculated for other EPA programs
Section 10: Mitigation and Control Measures	Updated web links	Ensure document is current
Appendix A: Clearinghouse of Websites, Guidance, and Other Technical Resources for PM Hot-spot Analyses	Updated web links and documents	Ensure document is current
Appendix E: Example Quantitative PM Hot-spot Analysis of a Highway Project Using MOVES and CAL3QHCR	Removed content but appendix retained	The example in this appendix has been superseded by the example analysis found in EPA's quantitative PM hot-spot analysis course, found on the web at www.epa.gov/otag/stateresources/transconf/training3day.htm
Appendix F: Example Quantitative PM Hot-spot Analysis of a Transit Project Using MOVES and AERMOD	Removed content but appendix retained	The example in this appendix has been superseded by the example analysis found in EPA's quantitative PM hot-spot analysis course, found on the web at www.epa.gov/otag/stateresources/transconf/training3day.htm
Appendix J.3: Characterizing Emission Sources	Described area sources before volume sources and noted area sources may be easier to characterize correctly compared	Reflect guidance implementation and experience in the field

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	to volume sources; included additional information	
Appendix J.6.: Running the Model and Obtaining Results	Included additional information for running air quality models that reflects new design value calculations specified above in Section 9.3.3	Design value change necessitated revising instructions
Appendix K.4: Example: 24-hour PM _{2.5} NAAQS	Revised to reflect new Tier 1 design value calculation specified above in Section 9.3.3	Revised appendix is consistent with design value used for other EPA programs
Appendix K.5: Example: 24-hour PM ₁₀ NAAQS	Revised to reflect new design value calculation specified above in Section 9.3.4	Revised appendix is consistent with design value used for other EPA programs
Appendix L: Calculating 24-hour PM _{2.5} Design Value Using a Tier 2 Approach	Added new appendix to describe how to calculate the Tier 2 design value approach	New appendix is consistent with design value used for other EPA programs, including EPA's "Guidance for PM _{2.5} Permit Modeling," issued May 20, 2014