

Method 203B--Visual Determination of Opacity of Emissions From Stationary Sources for Time-Exception Regulations

Method 203B is virtually identical to EPA's Method 9, except for the data-reduction procedures, which have been modified for application to time-exception regulations. Additionally, Method 203B provides procedures for fugitive dust applications which were unavailable when Method 9 was promulgated. The certification procedures in section 3 are identical to those in Method 9 and are provided in Method 203A as well. Therefore, the certification procedures have not been repeated within this method. As an additional aid for observers, a sample visible emission observation form has been appended to Method 203A.

1. APPLICABILITY AND PRINCIPLE

1.1 **Applicability.** This method is applicable for the determination of the opacity of emissions from sources of visible emissions for time-exception regulations. A time-exception regulation means any regulation that allows predefined periods of opacity above the otherwise applicable opacity limit.

1.2 **Principle.** The opacity of emissions from sources of visible emissions is determined visually by a qualified observer.

2. Procedures

The observer qualified in accordance with section 3 of this method shall use the following procedures for visually determining the opacity of emissions.

2.1 Procedures for Emissions From Stationary Sources. Same

as in 2.1, Method 203A.

2.2 Procedures For Fugitive Process Dust Emissions. Same as 2.2, Method 203A.

2.3 Recording Observations. Record opacity observations to the nearest 5 percent at 15-second intervals on an observational record sheet. Each momentary observation recorded represents the average opacity of emissions for a 15-second period. The overall length of time for which observations are recorded shall be appropriate to the applicable regulation for which opacity is being measured.

2.4 Data Reduction for Time-Exception Regulations. For a time-exception regulation, reduce opacity observations as follows: count the number of observations above the applicable standard and multiply that number by 0.25 to determine the minutes of emissions above the target opacity. 3. **Qualification and Testing.** Same as section 3, Method 203A.

4. **References.** Same as Section 4, Method 203A.