

energy project interconnection requests in the UGP Region.²

This decision is based on the information contained in the Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Final PEIS. This ROD was prepared pursuant to the requirements of the CEQ Regulations for Implementing NEPA § 1505.2 and DOE's NEPA implementing procedures, 10 CFR 1021 *et seq.*

Dated: August 17, 2015.

Mark A. Gabriel,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2015-21131 Filed 8-25-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9933-10-ORD]

Office of Research and Development; Ambient Air Monitoring Reference and Equivalent Methods: Designation of a Two New Equivalent Methods

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of designation of two new equivalent methods for monitoring ambient air quality.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated, in accordance with 40 CFR part 53, two new equivalent methods: one for measuring concentrations of PM_{2.5} and one for measuring concentrations of ozone (O₃) in the ambient air.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Vanderpool, Human Exposure and Atmospheric Sciences Division (MD-D205-03), National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711. Email: Vanderpool.Robert@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with regulations at 40 CFR part 53, the EPA evaluates various methods for monitoring the concentrations of those ambient air pollutants for which EPA has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQSs), as set forth in 40 CFR part 50. Monitoring methods that are determined to meet specific requirements for adequacy are designated by the EPA as either reference methods or equivalent methods (as applicable), thereby

permitting their use under 40 CFR part 58 by States and other agencies for determining compliance with the NAAQSs.

The EPA hereby announces the designation of two new equivalent methods for measuring pollutant concentrations in the ambient air: One for PM_{2.5} and one for ozone. These designations are made under the provisions of 40 CFR part 53, as amended on August 31, 2011 (76 FR 54326-54341).

The new PM_{2.5} Class III equivalent method is nearly identical to a corresponding Met One sampler (EQPM-1013-209) that had been previously designated by EPA as an equivalent method sampler for PM_{2.5}. The significant difference is that the newly designated PM_{2.5} equivalent method sampler is configured to use an URG-2000-30EGN PM_{2.5} as the principle size separator (fractionator) for the sampler rather than the WINS impactor or the BGI VSCC™ used in the corresponding PM_{2.5} equivalent method sampler. The newly designated Class III equivalent method is identified as follows:

EQPM-0715-266, Met One Instruments, Inc. BAM-1020 Beta Attenuation Mass Monitor—PM_{2.5} FEM Configuration,” configured for 24 1-hour average measurements of PM_{2.5} by beta attenuation, using a glass fiber filter tape roll (460130 or 460180) and a sample flow rate of 16.67 liters/min and with the standard (BX-802) EPA PM₁₀ inlet (meeting 40 CFR 50 Appendix L specifications) and with an URG-2000-30EGN PM_{2.5} (BX-809) cyclonic separator, BX-596 combo T/RH sensor, BX-827(110V) or BX-830(230V). Instrument must be operated in accordance with the BAM 1020 Particulate Monitor operation manual, revision k or later. This PM_{2.5} equivalent method designation only applies to the BAM-1020 configured with the URG-2000-30EGN cyclone.

In the particular case of the new Met One Class III PM_{2.5} equivalent method, a corresponding Met One PM_{2.5} equivalent method sampler (RFPS-1013-209) may be converted to the equivalent method configuration by replacement of the WINS impactor or the VSCC™ cyclone with the URG-2000-30EGN cyclone specified in the equivalent method description. The URG-2000-30EGN cyclone should be purchased from the sampler manufacturer, who will also furnish installation, conversion, operation, and maintenance instructions for the URG-2000-30EGN cyclone, as well as a new equivalent method identification label to be placed on the sampler. If the

conversion is to be permanent, the original designation equivalent method label should be removed from the sampler and replaced with the new designated equivalent method label.

The application for equivalent method determination for the PM_{2.5} method was received by the Office of Research and Development on June 18, 2015. This monitor is commercially available from the applicant, Met One Instruments, Inc., 1600 Washington Blvd., Grants Pass, OR 97526.

The new Ozone equivalent method is an automated monitoring method (analyzer) utilizing a measurement principle based on based on non-dispersive ultraviolet absorption photometry. The newly designated equivalent method is identified as follows:

EQOA-0815-227, “2B Technologies Model Personal Ozone Monitor (POM),” operated in a range of 0–0.5 ppm in an environment of 20–30 °C, temperature and pressure compensation, using a 10 second averaging time, with a 12V DC source supplied by a 100–240V AC power adapter, operated according to the POM Operation Manual and with or without the following: Cigarette lighter adapter or a 12V DC battery or a 7–24 V battery for portable operation, USB data port with computer cable.

The application for equivalent method determination for the ozone method was received by the Office of Research and Development on September 18, 2013. This analyzer is commercially available from the applicant, 2B Technology, Inc., 2100 Central Ave., Suite 105, Boulder, CO 80303.

Test monitors representative of these methods have been tested in accordance with the applicable test procedures specified in 40 CFR part 53, as amended on August 31, 2011. After reviewing the results of those tests and other information submitted in the application, EPA has determined, in accordance with part 53, that these methods should be designated as equivalent methods.

As designated equivalent methods, these methods are acceptable for use by states and other air monitoring agencies under the requirements of 40 CFR part 58, Ambient Air Quality Surveillance. For such purposes, the method must be used in strict accordance with the operation or instruction manual associated with the method and subject to any specifications and limitations (e.g., configuration or operational settings) specified in the applicable designated method descriptions (see the identification of the methods above).

² On November 16, 2011, DOE's Acting General Counsel restated the delegation to Western's Administrator of all the authorities of the General Counsel with respect to environmental impact statements.

Use of the methods also should be in general accordance with the guidance and recommendations of applicable sections of the "Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems, Volume I," EPA/600/R-94/038a and "Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems, Volume II, Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program" EPA-454/B-08-003, December, 2008. Provisions concerning modification of such methods by users are specified under Section 2.8 (Modifications of Methods by Users) of Appendix C to 40 CFR part 58.

Consistent or repeated noncompliance should be reported to: Director, Human Exposure and Atmospheric Sciences Division (MD-E205-01), National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711.

Designation of this new equivalent method is intended to assist the States in establishing and operating their air quality surveillance systems under 40 CFR part 58. Questions concerning the commercial availability or technical aspects of the method should be directed to the applicant.

Dated: August 18, 2015.

Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta,

Director, National Exposure Research Laboratory.

[FR Doc. 2015-21203 Filed 8-25-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[9933-12-Region 1]

Proposed CERCLA Administrative Cost Recovery Settlement; Town Of Bennington, Vermont, Former Kocher Drive Dump Site, Bennington, Vermont

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed settlement; request for public comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 122(i) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. Section 9622(i), notice is hereby given of a proposed administrative settlement for recovery of response costs under CERCLA Section 122(h) and 104(e), concerning the Former Kocher Drive Dump Superfund Site in Bennington, Vermont with the following settling party: Town of Bennington, Vermont. The settlement requires the Town of Bennington,

Vermont to pay \$175,000 to the Hazardous Substance Superfund, consisting of principal and interest, on the following payment schedule: (1) \$50,000 within 10 days of the Effective Date of the settlement; (2) \$75,000 on or before December 31, 2015; and (3) the balance of \$50,000 on or before December 31, 2016. The settlement also requires the Town to comply with any request or order from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources relating to the Site.

For 30 days following the date of publication of this notice, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the settlement. The United States will consider all comments received and may modify or withdraw its consent to the settlement if comments received disclose facts or considerations which indicate that the settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. The Agency's response to any comments received will be available for public inspection at 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109-3912.

DATES: Comments must be submitted by September 25, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to David Peterson, Senior Enforcement Counsel, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OES04-1), Boston, MA 02109-3912 (Telephone No. 617-918-1891) and should refer to: In re: Former Kocher Drive Dump Superfund Site, U.S. EPA Docket No. 01-2014-0007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A copy of the proposed settlement may be obtained from Cindy Catri, Senior Enforcement Counsel, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OES04-2), Boston, MA 02109-3912; (617) 918-1888; *Catri.Cynthia@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposed administrative settlement for recovery of response costs under CERCLA Section 122(h)(1) and 104(e)(6), concerning the Former Kocher Drive Dump Superfund Site in Bennington, Vermont, requires the settling party, the Town of Bennington, Vermont to pay \$175,000 to the Hazardous Substance Superfund, consisting of principal and interest, on the following payment schedule: (1) \$50,000 within 10 days of the Effective Date of the settlement; (2) \$75,000 on or before December 31, 2015; and (3) the balance of \$50,000 on or before December 31, 2016. The settlement also requires the Town to comply with any request or order from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources relating to the Site.

The settlement includes a covenant not to sue pursuant to Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9606 and 9607, relating to the Site, and protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Sections 113(f)(2) and 122(h)(4) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9613(f)(2) and 9622(h)(4). The settlement has been approved by the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the United States Department of Justice.

Dated: August 13, 2015.

Nancy Barmakian,

Acting Director, Office of Site Remediation and Restoration.

[FR Doc. 2015-21211 Filed 8-25-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9933-08-OECA]

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council; Notification of Public Meeting and Public Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), Public Law 92-463, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby provides notice that the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) will meet on the dates and times described below. All meetings are open to the public. Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments relevant to the specific issues being considered by the NEJAC. For additional information about registering for public comment, please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Due to limited space, seating at the NEJAC meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

DATES: The NEJAC meeting will convene Thursday, September 10, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

One public comment period relevant to the specific issues being considered by the NEJAC (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**) is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9, 2015, starting at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Members of the public who wish to participate during the public comment period are highly encouraged to pre-register by Midnight, Eastern Standard Time, on Monday, August 31, 2015.

ADDRESSES: The NEJAC meeting will be held at the EPA Potomac Yard offices