



Requirement to provide compliant monitoring locations and facilities for stack emissions monitoring

Many industrial sites have emissions to air from chimney stacks. The Operator is often required to monitor these emissions to ensure they are kept below emission limit values specified in their Permit to operate.

The Operator's Permit may require them to use continuous emissions monitoring systems (CEMs) and / or manual (periodic) monitoring. For both approaches it is essential to have the right monitoring location and facilities. To ensure this happens it is necessary to include the specifications for the monitoring location and facilities at the planning / design stage of the plant. It is very difficult and expensive, if not impossible, to retrofit suitable sampling locations and facilities once the plant has been built.

Part of a **Permit application** (or Variation for a newly extended plant) will require an assessment of the monitoring location and facilities. Those involved in the design and construction of the plant should seek advice and provisional approval about the monitoring arrangements, as early as possible during the design stage of the plant.

For advice on CEMs, the equipment installers and system designers should be consulted. For advice on manual (periodic) monitoring, an experienced stack emissions monitoring person, preferably someone who is MCERTS certified to Level 2, should be consulted. It is also strongly advised that provisional approval is obtained from the Environment Agency.

Key references

The monitoring location and facilities required are specified in:

EN 15259 – Air Quality – Measurement of stationary source emissions – Requirements for measurement sector and sites and for the measurement objective, plan and report.

Environment Agency Technical Guidance Note M1 Sampling requirements for stack-emission monitoring. Available from www.mcerts.net

Feedback

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding this bulletin please contact Rupert Standring at rupert.standring@environment-agency.gov.uk