

Scope of Duties for Project QAO

General

- Ensure all individuals included on the signature page of the QAPP receive any revisions to the QAPP
- Verify that field and lab procedures are performed in compliance with QAPP objectives (See below for specific areas)

Field – *QAO must be on-site during the entire course of the test burn.*

- Audit train setups, stack sampling, and train recovery procedures
- Audit sample preparation, storage and shipment
 - Appropriate chain of custody documentation?
 - Appropriate sample labeling?
 - Are samples labeled?
 - Is the labeling system in accordance with QAPP?
 - Appropriate sample preservation?
 - Appropriate holding times prior to shipment?
- Audit waste feed sampling procedures
- Audit field QA/QC activities
 - Collection of field blanks, trip blanks, etc.
 - Are all planned test samples taken?
- Verify calibration of spiking system and certification of materials used for spiking if applicable
- Verify calibration of any on-site sampling or analytical equipment including CEMS etc.
- Make recommendations to the test project manager regarding any problems detected
- Verify that the appropriate corrective actions are taken if problems are detected
- Document observances during the test burn to be incorporated into the test burn report

Lab/Data

- Review package for completeness:
 - The appropriate samples taken and analyzed
 - For each lab report:
 - Case narrative
 - Chain of custody documentation
 - Summary of results for samples
 - Summary of QA/QC results
 - Raw data
 - Most recent calculation/verification of MDL/RDL's
- Assess the results of all QC checks and procedures:
 - Review for all samples
 - Holding times
 - Sample integrity
 - Sample preservation techniques
 - Analysis run logs
 - QC sample results
 - Laboratory/instrument performance
 - Calibrations

- Were the appropriate analytes included in the calibration standard?
 - Where the calibration standard analytes at appropriate levels to bracket the anticipated sample results?
 - Do the calibration curves have a good fit?
 - Is there continuing calibration verification?
 - Are calibrations performed at appropriate intervals?
 - Method blanks
 - Tuning
 - Retention times and acceptance windows
 - Standards certifications
 - LCS/LCSD
 - *Other items required by specific method*
- Sample preparation/matrix effects
 - Surrogate recoveries
 - Matrix spike recoveries
 - Method blanks
 - Sample extraction and clean-up logs
 - Etc.
- Field QA/QC performance
 - Field blanks
 - Trip blanks
 - Etc.
- Examine the raw data to verify the accuracy of all information presented:
 - Review the raw data for all samples in detail via lab instrument print-outs to ensure identification and quantitation of analytes
 - Retention times
 - Peak resolution
 - Etc.
 - Assessment of qualified data
 - Appropriateness of qualifier?
 - Effect on sample results

Generate QA/QC Data Report – Should Include the Following:

- **Field Assessment**
 - Summary of field observations and required corrective actions
 - Results of field audits
 - Impact of deviations in sampling, recovery, etc. on data quality/emissions results
- **Lab Assessment/Data Validation**
 - Results of completeness review
 - Include discussion on appropriateness of lab MDL/RDL with respect to level of desired analysis
 - Results of any laboratory audits performed by the QAO
 - Results of data verification/validation
 - Evaluation of Precision, Accuracy, and Completeness
 - Performance Evaluation (Audit) Sample Results
 - Appropriateness of qualifiers assigned to data

- Impact of issues noted by lab (i.e. matrix interferences, blank contamination, etc.)
 - This should not merely be a restatement of the labs case narrative. The validator should include a discussion on whether or not the issue will impact analyte results and why or why not.
- Impact of qualified data on emission results. **This is crucial to the data validation.** Again, this should not be a mere restatement of the labs' generic qualifier information.
- Any other items of concern which may impact emission results