QUALITY ASSURANCE BULLETIN-011 **Gas QAPP and 2023 Ozone TAD Alignment**

November 2025

Introduction

This bulletin is to provide clarity to ambient air monitoring organizations (MO) within the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Primary Quality Assurance Organization (PQAO) on whether ozone calibrations and quality control (QC) checks can be performed using the same standard.

Issue

The September 2018 Quality Assurance Program Plan for Gaseous Pollutant Air Monitoring Program (Gas QAPP) states that "calibrations must be performed using equipment and standards separate from those used by site operators for performing routine QC checks."

The January 2023 Transfer Standards for Calibration of Air Monitoring Analyzers for Ozone Technical Assistance Document (2023 Ozone TAD) does not require standards used for calibrations and QC checks to be separate, and the example traceability schemes within the 2023 Ozone TAD illustrate that calibrations and QC checks can be performed using the same standard.

Policy

CARB is in the process of updating the Gas QAPP. While it is still best practice for MOs to "maintain calibration standards that are separate from those standards used for routine quality control checks" (U.S. EPA Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems Volume II, Section 12.0), the updated Gas QAPP will not require ozone standards used for calibrations to be separate from standards used for QC checks.

From the time of the MO's implementation of the 2023 Ozone TAD until the updated Gas QAPP is finalized, the 2023 Ozone TAD supersedes the 2018 Gas QAPP in regard to performing calibrations and ozone QC checks using the same standard. No data actions are warranted if ozone calibrations are performed using equipment and standards that are the same as those used for performing routine ozone QC checks.

If you have any questions or need further information, contact Melissa Niederreiter, Quality Management Section Manager, at *melissa.niederreiter@arb.ca.gov* or at (916) 277-0526, or your CARB PQAO Liaison.