



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Office of Air Monitoring

Air Monitoring: What's Next?

March 24, 2016





Overview

- EPA Under Scrutiny?
- Looking Ahead
 - Immediate Future
 - Long-term Plan

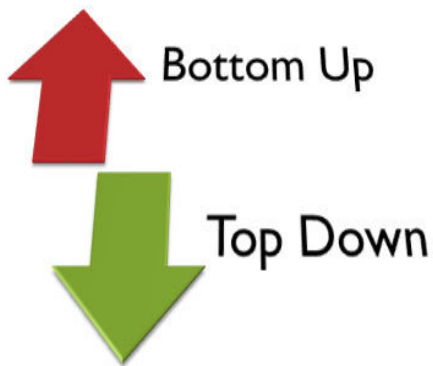




EPA Under Scrutiny?

EPA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) plans to begin preliminary research for an evaluation of the ambient air monitoring program within the EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR). Specifically, they will be looking at data in AQS:

- Do data revisions comply with EPA criteria?
- Do data exclusions or gaps comply with EPA criteria?



-Memo dated January 8, 2016 to OAR



Florida: A Single PQAO

- Received acknowledgement letter from EPA dated March 20, 2015
 - Phase I : Complete by July 1, 2016
 - Phase II: Complete by December 31, 2016



Note: "Phase" is an internal phrase used by Florida DEP and not in the regulatory language.



Looking Ahead...

- Field operator proficiency
- Standardize remaining SOPs
- Florida DEP data validation spot-checking local agency records
- Lab audits and local TSAs
- Monthly data validation
- Digital communication





Field Operator Proficiency

- Florida DEP
- Local Program Agencies
- New employees





SOP Standardization

- Data Handling and Data Validation
- Ozone
- PM_{2.5}
- PM₁₀ Laboratory
- SO₂
- All others





Data Validation

- Spot-checking of records
 - Adhering to SOP
 - Utilizing correct forms
 - Transparency





Laboratory Audits & Local TSAs

Florida DEP is required by federal regulations to provide quality assurance oversight to local air monitoring organizations within Florida's PQAO to ensure that consistent procedures are followed to produce data of similar quality.

- Every 3 years or annually depending on findings in the last TSA.





Monthly Data Validation

- Current quarterly requirement will be replaced by a monthly requirement
- Other deadlines will be adjusted accordingly





Digital Communication

- Automated zero/span/precision checks
- Remote desktop access





Long-Term Plan

- Maintain communication
- Maintain our efforts and make improvements, where needed
- Continue to improve data quality and defensibility





Questions?



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