PFAS Air Emissions Measurements by OTM-45

Many industrial air emissions sources will require stack tests.

PFAS compounds have been detected throughout the United States, resulting in regulatory attention at both the federal and state levels. While there are numerous sources of PFAS, air emissions from industrial sources have been conclusively identified, resulting in significant fines and penalties and requirements for air pollution control equipment and PFAS emissions testing.

The issue of PFAS air emissions has only been identified in recent years, and states and the EPA are moving to set emissions limits and mandate emissions testing. In 2021, EPA published OTM-45 ("Measurement of Selected Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances from Stationary Sources"), their first PFAS air emissions test method. EPA is working toward developing similar methods for non-polar and volatile PFAS compounds, as well as refining OTM-45, as the testing industry gains experience with the methodology.

Prior to test method availability, industry had limited options to evaluate potential PFAS emissions from their sources and regulators were limited in their ability to address PFAS emissions in operating permits. A number of industries have potential PFAS air emissions based on the materials used in various manufacturing processes. Several states are moving toward identifying potentially emitting industries and requiring testing, as evidenced by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency document "Draft PFAS Monitoring Plan," published in 2021 and expected to be finalized in the spring of 2022. Industrial facilities need to be ready to conduct this testing, and also need qualified emissions testing providers with experience in this complex testing methodology to provide reliable and accurate test results.

Why TRC for PFAS Air Emissions Testing?

TRC is experienced with OTM-45 emissions testing, having conducted testing on behalf of the EPA.

- The method is more complex than other manual test methods, with specialized procedures for equipment preparation (to minimize contamination), testing and sample recovery.
- Because OTM-45 measures over 40 analytes, the resulting analytical data are far more extensive than typical emission measurements, requiring determination of multiple blanks, breakthrough and in-stack detection limits on an analyte-by-analyte basis to calculate emission concentrations and rates.

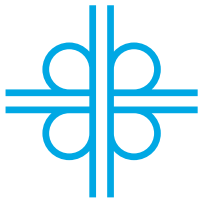
With more than 250 air quality management professionals operating from a network of over 30 offices, TRC is able to support your PFAS emissions measurements and reporting needs.

About TRC

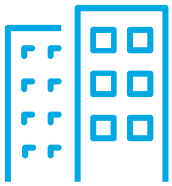
Groundbreaker. Game changer. Innovator. TRC is a global firm providing environmentally focused and digitally powered solutions that address local needs. For more than 50 years, we have set the bar for clients who require consulting, construction, engineering and management services, combining science with the latest technology to devise solutions that stand the test of time.

TRC's nearly 6,000 professionals serve a broad range of public and private clients, guiding complex projects from conception to completion to help solve the toughest challenges. We break through barriers for our clients and help them follow through for sustainable results.

Power & Utilities

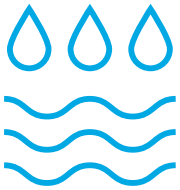


Transportation



Real Estate

Government



Water

Environment & Sustainability

Digital Solutions