

# PAMSGRAM

February 20, 1996

**INTRODUCTION** -The **PAMSGRAM** is a FAXED notice for State and Local air pollution control agencies which highlights issues meriting attention by the PAMS monitoring staff.

**ALERT #1** - Recently, it was noted that a number of agencies are reporting only values for compounds which exceed the minimum detectable (mdl) instead of reporting a zero or a quantified value less than the mdl; this anomaly is especially noticeable in the PAMS VOC data. This issue was clarified previously in EPA guidance to the Regional offices dated January 9, 1995, which noted:

*"Quantifiable VOC data which are below the detection limits should be entered (into AIRS) as the quantified value. The raw data values will be retained within AIRS, but when any summary statistics are generated, the system will automatically replace values below the detection limits with a value that is one-half the detection limit prior to performing calculations. Raw data listings will maintain the actual values. If the compound response is below the detection limit and the data are not quantifiable, a sample value of zero is entered into AIRS. This will indicate to AIRS that the compound of interest was analyzed for, but not present at any quantifiable level. If a sample is missed or invalidated for any reason, appropriate null values or validity flags are used."*

Reporting no value would result in summary statistics being biased high, for example:

If in a 30-day period, 4 values were quantified above the mdl and only those 4 values reported (26 blank values were reported), AIRS would compute the 30-day average to be 4 values divided by 4. In actuality, the average should be calculated as the sum of one-half the mdl times 26, plus the 4 values, all divided by 30.

Please ensure that future data entry conforms to the aforesaid convention and that appropriate corrections are made to data previously submitted. If the software used by your agency to translate VOC data into AIRS format changes "zeros" to "blank values", please inform your PAMS Monitoring Contact at the Regional Office.

**ISSUE #1** - Attached is a copy of the 1996 "Six-day" monitoring schedule which corresponds to the schedule for PM. This schedule should also be used for PAMS "one-in-six-day" monitoring; "one-in-three-day" monitoring should also correspond to this schedule where every other monitoring day will fall on a scheduled day.

Questions regarding this document should be referred to the PAMS Contact in the appropriate EPA Regional Office.

# 1996 Monitoring Schedule

6-day Monitoring Schedule for TSP, Pb, PM-10, and VOC

## January

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## February

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	
						30

## March

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## April

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## May

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## June

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## July

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## August

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## September

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## October

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## November

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## December

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				