



# **Quality Assurance Project Plans**

# QAPPs - Why oh why?!

- Required for data collection per 40 CFR Part 58, Appendix A, Section 2.1
- Grant commitment
  - Maintain an approved QAPP for the criteria pollutant network, as appropriate.
  - QAPPs will be reviewed annually and revised if necessary. If revised, the QAPP will be submitted to EPA for approval.
  - QAPPs expire every five (5) years and thus will be reviewed, revised and submitted to EPA for approval 180 (?) days prior to expiration of the current QAPP.

# QAPPs - Why oh why?! (cont)

- Defines the activities of the agency
  - Project specific
  - Sufficient detail to ensure the results of work performed will satisfy stated objectives
  - Ensure data will be adequate to meet the performance criteria (i.e., data quality objectives)
  - TSA – evaluated using CFR, EPA guidance, QAPPs, and SOPs

# QAPPs – Updates are needed

- July 11, 2017 memorandum from OAQPS
  - Emailed to directors August 24, 2017
- Result of OIG alert regarding O<sub>3</sub>
- Prompted EPA to review monitoring organizations adherence to critical criteria
- Asked regions to review QAPPs for adherence to critical criteria
- Revise QAPPs that do not comply
- Goal – approved QAPPs by end of calendar year 2018

# QAPPs - Flagging

- AMP600 currently lists warning for QAPPs btw 5-10 years old
- 2018 data certification (May 1, 2019) will change to red non-conforming flag
  - Any data certified with QAPP > 5 years will receive an AQS “N” flag
  - “N” = indicates issues have been identified with the quality of the data that cannot be resolved

# QAPPs – Region 4 Status

- 14% Approved
- 48% In-process (Approved but expired)
- 19% Unapproved (Approved but expired or not approved)

# QAPPs – What's next?

- QAPP review & approval priority for FY18
- QAPP Template & Guide
- Workshop – training
- Webinars
- EPA will contact each agency to create submittal schedule
- Technical assistance available as needed/requested