

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 60.482-8

§ 60.482-7 Standards: Valves in gas/vapor service and in light liquid service.

(a) Each valve shall be monitored monthly to detect leaks by the methods specified in §60.485(b) and shall comply with paragraphs (b) through (e), except as provided in paragraphs (f), (g), and (h), §60.483-1, 2, and §60.482-1(c).

(b) If an instrument reading of 10,000 ppm or greater is measured, a leak is detected.

(c)(1) Any valve for which a leak is not detected for 2 successive months may be monitored the first month of every quarter, beginning with the next quarter, until a leak is detected.

(2) If a leak is detected, the valve shall be monitored monthly until a leak is not detected for 2 successive months.

(d)(1) When a leak is detected, it shall be repaired as soon as practicable, but no later than 15 calendar days after the leak is detected, except as provided in §60.482-9.

(2) A first attempt at repair shall be made no later than 5 calendar days after each leak is detected.

(e) First attempts at repair include, but are not limited to, the following best practices where practicable:

- (1) Tightening of bonnet bolts;
- (2) Replacement of bonnet bolts;
- (3) Tightening of packing gland nuts;
- (4) Injection of lubricant into lubricated packing.

(f) Any valve that is designated, as described in §60.486(e)(2), for no detectable emissions, as indicated by an instrument reading of less than 500 ppm above background, is exempt from the requirements of paragraph (a) if the valve:

- (1) Has no external actuating mechanism in contact with the process fluid,
- (2) Is operated with emissions less than 500 ppm above background as determined by the method specified in §60.485(c), and
- (3) Is tested for compliance with paragraph (f)(2) initially upon designation, annually, and at other times requested by the Administrator.

(g) Any valve that is designated, as described in §60.486(f)(1), as an unsafe-to-monitor valve is exempt from the requirements of paragraph (a) if:

(1) The owner or operator of the valve demonstrates that the valve is unsafe to monitor because monitoring personnel would be exposed to an immediate danger as a consequence of complying with paragraph (a), and

(2) The owner or operator of the valve adheres to a written plan that requires monitoring of the valve as frequently as practicable during safe-to-monitor times.

(h) Any valve that is designated, as described in §60.486(f)(2), as a difficult-to-monitor valve is exempt from the requirements of paragraph (a) if:

(1) The owner or operator of the valve demonstrates that the valve cannot be monitored without elevating the monitoring personnel more than 2 meters above a support surface.

(2) The process unit within which the valve is located either becomes an affected facility through §60.14 or §60.15 or the owner or operator designates less than 3.0 percent of the total number of valves as difficult-to-monitor, and

(3) The owner or operator of the valve follows a written plan that requires monitoring of the valve at least once per calendar year.

[48 FR 48335, Oct. 18, 1983, as amended at 49 FR 22608, May 30, 1984]

§ 60.482-8 Standards: Pumps and valves in heavy liquid service, pressure relief devices in light liquid or heavy liquid service, and flanges and other connectors.

(a) Pumps and valves in heavy liquid service, pressure relief devices in light liquid or heavy liquid service, and flanges and other connectors shall be monitored within 5 days by the method specified in §60.485(b) if evidence of a potential leak is found by visual, audible, olfactory, or any other detection method.

(b) If an instrument reading of 10,000 ppm or greater is measured, a leak is detected.

(c)(1) When a leak is detected, it shall be repaired as soon as practicable, but not later than 15 calendar days after it is detected, except as provided in §60.482-9.

(2) The first attempt at repair shall be made no later than 5 calendar days after each leak is detected.