§ 80.584 What are the precision and accuracy criteria for approval of test methods for determining the sulfur content of motor vehicle diesel fuel, NRLM diesel fuel, and ECA marine fuel?

(a) Precision. (1) For motor vehicle diesel fuel and diesel fuel additives subject to the 15 ppm sulfur standard of §80.520(a)(1) and NRLM diesel fuel and diesel fuel additives subject to the 15 ppm sulfur standard of §80.510(b) and (c), a standard deviation less than 0.72 ppm, computed from the results of a minimum of 20 repeat tests made over 20 days on samples taken from a single homogeneous commercially available diesel fuel with a sulfur content in the range of 5–15 ppm. The 20 results must be a series of tests with a sequential record of the analyses and no omissions. A laboratory facility may exclude a given sample or test result only if the exclusion is for a valid reason under good laboratory practices and it maintains records regarding the sample and test results and the reason for excluding them.

(2) For motor vehicle diesel fuel subject to the 500 ppm sulfur standard of §80.520(c), and for NRLM diesel fuel subject to the 500 ppm sulfur standard of §80.510(a), of a standard deviation less than 9.68 ppm, computed from the results of a minimum of 20 repeat tests made over 20 days on samples taken from a single homogeneous commercially available diesel fuel with a sulfur content in the range of 200–500 ppm. The 20 results must be a series of tests with a sequential record of the analyses and no omissions. A laboratory facility may exclude a given sample or test result only if the exclusion is for a valid reason under good laboratory practices and it maintains records regarding the sample and test results and the reason for excluding them.

(b) Accuracy. (1) For motor vehicle diesel fuel and diesel fuel additives subject to the 15 ppm sulfur standard of §80.520(a)(1) and NRLM diesel fuel and diesel fuel additives subject to the 15 ppm sulfur standard of §80.510(b) and (c):

(i) The arithmetic average of a continuous series of at least 10 tests performed on a commercially available gravimetric sulfur standard in the range of 1–10 ppm sulfur shall not differ from the accepted reference value (ARV) of that standard by more than 0.54 ppm sulfur;

(ii) The arithmetic average of a continuous series of at least 10 tests performed on a commercially available gravimetric sulfur standard in the range of 10–20 ppm sulfur shall not differ from the ARV of that standard by more than 0.54 ppm sulfur; and

(iii) In applying the tests of paragraphs (b)(1)(i) and (ii) of this section, individual test results shall be compensated for any known chemical interferences.

(2) For motor vehicle diesel fuel subject to the 500 ppm sulfur standard of §80.520(c), and for NRLM diesel fuel subject to the 500 ppm sulfur standard of §80.510(a):
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(i) The arithmetic average of a continuous series of at least 10 tests performed on a commercially available gravimetric sulfur standard in the range of 100–200 ppm sulfur shall not differ from the ARV of that standard by more than 7.26 ppm sulfur;

(ii) The arithmetic average of a continuous series of at least 10 tests performed on a commercially available gravimetric sulfur standard in the range of 400–500 ppm sulfur shall not differ from the ARV of that standard by more than 7.26 ppm sulfur; and

(iii) In applying the tests of paragraphs (b)(2)(i) and (ii) of this section, individual test results shall be compensated for any known chemical interferences.

§ 80.585 What is the process for approval of a test method for determining the sulfur content of diesel or ECA marine fuel?

(a) Approval of test methods approved by voluntary consensus-based standards bodies. For such a method to be approved, the following information must be submitted to the Administrator by each test facility for each test method that it wishes to have approved: Any test method approved by a voluntary consensus-based standards body, such as the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) or International Standards Organization (ISO), shall be approved as a test method for determining the sulfur content of diesel fuel if it meets the applicable accuracy and precision criteria under §80.584. The approval of a test method is limited to the single test facility that performed the testing for accuracy and precision. The individual facility must submit the accuracy and precision results for each method, including information on the date and time of each test measurement used to demonstrate precision, following procedures established by the Administrator.

(b) Approval of test methods not approved by a voluntary consensus-based standards body. For such a method to be approved, the following information must be submitted to the Administrator by each test facility for each test method that it wishes to have approved:

1. Full test method documentation, including a description of the technology and/or instrumentation that makes the method functional.
2. Information demonstrating that the test method meets the applicable accuracy and precision criteria of §80.584, including information on the date and time of each test measurement used to demonstrate precision.
3. If requested by the Administrator, test results from use of the method to analyze samples of commercially available fuel provided by EPA.
4. Any additional information requested by the Administrator and necessary to render a decision as to approval of the test method.

(c) Sample retention. Samples used for precision and accuracy determination must be retained for 90 days.

(d) EPA approval. (1) Within 90 days of receipt of all materials required to be submitted under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, the Administrator shall determine whether the test method is approved under this section.

(2) If the Administrator denies approval of the test method, within 90 days of receipt of all materials required to be submitted under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, the Administrator will notify the applicant of the reasons for not approving the method. If the Administrator does not notify the applicant within 90 days of