

Reasonable Potential Analyzer

Determining "Reasonable Potential" for Excursions Above Ambient Criteria Using Effluent Data Only

EPA recommends finding that a permittee has "reasonable potential" to exceed a receiving water quality standard if it cannot be demonstrated with a high confidence level that the upper bound of the lognormal distribution of effluent concentrations is below the receiving water criteria at specified low-flow conditions.

Step 1 Determine the number of total observations ("n") for a particular set of effluent data (concentration or toxic units [TUs]), and determine the highest value from that data set.

Step 2 Determine the coefficient of variation for the data set. For a data set where $n < 10$, the coefficient of variation (CV) is estimated to equal 0.6, or the CV is calculated from data obtained from a discharger. For a data set where $n > 10$, the CV is calculated as standard deviation/mean. For less than 10 items of data, the uncertainty in the CV is too large to calculate a standard deviation or mean with sufficient confidence.

Step 3 Determine the appropriate ratio from the table below.

Step 4 Multiply the highest value from a data set by the value from the table below. Use this value with the appropriate dilution to project a maximum receiving water concentration (RWC).

Step 5 Compare the projected maximum RWC to the applicable standard (criteria maximum concentration, criteria continuous concentration [CCC], or reference ambient concentration). EPA recommends that permitting authorities find reasonable potential when the projected RWC is greater than an ambient criterion.

T limit.
but no WET limit.

but no WET limit.
T limit.
but no WET limit.

but no WET limit.

Reasonable Potential Analyzer

Determining "Reasonable Potential" for Excursions Above Ambient Criteria Using Effluent Data Only

EPA recommends finding that a permittee has "reasonable potential" to exceed a receiving water quality standard if it cannot be demonstrated with a high confidence level that the upper bound of

Reasonable Potential Analyzer

Reasonable Potential Analyzer

Determining "Reasonable Potential" for Excursions Above Ambient Criteria Using Effluent Data Only

EPA recommends finding that a permittee has "reasonable potential" to exceed a receiving water quality standard if it cannot be demonstrated with a high confidence level that the upper bound of the lognormal distribution of effluent concentrations is below the receiving water criteria at specified low-flow conditions.

Step 1 Determine the number of total observations ("n") for a particular set of effluent data (concentration or toxic units [TUs]), and determine the highest value from that data set.

Step 2 Determine the coefficient of variation for the data set. For a data set where $n < 10$, the coefficient of variation (CV) is estimated to equal 0.6, or the CV is calculated from data obtained from a discharger. For a data set where $n > 10$, the CV is calculated as standard deviation/mean. For less than 10 items of data, the uncertainty in the CV is too large to calculate a standard deviation or mean with sufficient confidence.

Step 3 Determine the appropriate ratio from the table below.

Step 4 Multiply the highest value from a data set by the value from the table below. Use this value with the appropriate dilution to project a maximum receiving water concentration (RWC).

Step 5 Compare the projected maximum RWC to the applicable standard (criteria maximum concentration, criteria continuous concentration [CCC], or reference ambient concentration). EPA recommends that permitting authorities find reasonable potential when the projected RWC is greater than an ambient criterion.

T limit.

T limit.

T limit.

T limit.

Instructions for Reasonable Potential Analysis

DO NOT Enter data fields that are WHITE. Generally they contain equations that are required in order for the form to operate correctly.

Enter data in fields shaded YELLOW. Percentages are entered as numbers used when typing the percent sign. Enter "10" for 10%.

DO NOT Delete rows from this sheet. Forms that have small data sets, can hide rows to print on a single page. Select the rows with no data that you do not want to print. On the FORMAT menu, ROW selection, select HIDE.

To make the rows visible again, select the visible row above the hidden area down to the row below the hidden area. On the FORMAT menu, ROW selection, select UNHIDE.

The sheet will perform counts, calculate statistics and make decisions based on the data. The resulting decisions will be recorded on the last eight rows of the report.

key1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
0.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
0.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
0.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
0.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2
0.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
0.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
0.7	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
0.8	2	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5
0.9	2.2	2.1	2	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5
1	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6
1.1	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7
1.2	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7
1.3	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8
1.4	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	1.9	1.9	1.8
1.5	3	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	2	1.9	1.8
1.6	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	2	1.9
1.7	3.2	3	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	1.9
1.8	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2	2
1.9	3.4	3.2	3	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2
2	3.6	3.3	3	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2