

**GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN**  
**PAKISTAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
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The Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) has drafted the National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS) for Ambient Air. In pursuance of the statutory requirement under clause (e) of Sub-section (1) of section (6) of the Pakistan Environmental Protection Act, 1997, the draft standards are being published before seeking approval of the Pakistan Environmental Protection Council. Any views / suggestions on the following draft NEQS for Ambient Air may please be forwarded to the undersigned within 30 days from the date of this publication.

**National Environmental Quality Standards for Ambient Air**

Pollutants	Time-weighted average	Concentration in Ambient Air		Method of measurement
		Effective from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2009	Effective from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012	
Sulphur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual Average*	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	-Ultraviolet Fluorescence method
	24 hours**	120 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	120 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Oxides of Nitrogen as (NO)	Annual Average*	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	- Gas Phase Chemiluminescence
	24 hours**	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Oxides of Nitrogen as (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual Average*	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	40 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	- Gas Phase Chemiluminescence
	24 hours**	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
O <sub>3</sub>	1 hour	180 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	130µg/m <sup>3</sup>	-Non dispersive UV absorption method
Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM)	Annual Average*	400µg/m <sup>3</sup>	360µg/m <sup>3</sup>	- High Volume Sampling, (Average flow rate not less than 1.1 m <sup>3</sup> /minute).
	24 hours**	550µg/m <sup>3</sup>	500µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Respirable Particulate Matter. PM <sub>10</sub>	Annual Average*	200µg/m <sup>3</sup>	120µg/m <sup>3</sup>	-β Ray absorption method
	24 hours**	250µg/m <sup>3</sup>	150µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Respirable Particulate Matter. PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual Average*	25µg/m <sup>3</sup>	15µg/m <sup>3</sup>	-β Ray absorption method
	24 hours**	40µg/m <sup>3</sup>	35µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
	1 hour	25µg/m <sup>3</sup>	15µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Lead (Pb)	Annual Average*	1.5µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	- ASS Method after sampling using EPM 2000 or equivalent Filter paper
	24 hours**	2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	1.5µg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	8 hours**	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	- Non Dispersive Infra Red (NDIR) method
	1 hour	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
*Annual arithmetic mean of minimum 104 measurements in a year taken twice a week 24 hourly at uniform interval.				
** 24 hourly /8 hourly values should be met 98% of the in a year. 2% of the time, it may exceed but not on two consecutive days.				

**(Asif S. Khan)**  
**Director General**