

Revisions to NTN Site Operation Manual

July 2004

Enclosed are three newly corrected pages of the *National Trends Network Site Operation Manual*. Please take a moment to turn to page 2-5/2-6 in your manual, remove and discard it, replace it with the corrected page 2-5/2-6, then follow the same steps in replacing pages 3-3/3-4 and 3-7/3-8.

If you have questions, can't locate your manual, or just don't have one, call 800-952-7353.

These pages are being updated so that the text correctly reflects current practices. NADP committees decided to use short-duration samples in calculating annual and seasonal averages and other statistics. Previously, sampling periods shorter than 6 days or longer than 8 days and 2 hours (194 hours) were considered invalid for use in these calculations. The decision was to eliminate the 6-day limit but leave the 8-day and 2 hour limit unchanged. The text on these pages has been changed to reflect this decision.

What's important for operators is that this doesn't directly affect site operations; it affects data handling. The *standard sampling period* for the NTN remains 6 to 8 days, ideally Tuesday at 0900 local time to the next Tuesday at 0900 local time. What's changed is that there's no longer a disincentive to change samples early when heavy snow or rain threatens to fill the field bucket before the end of a sampling period. What's **not intended** is for a site operator to take actions that may be unsafe or out of compliance with local safety manuals, rules of operation, or employment guidelines.

We especially thank you for your diligence and continued commitment to the NADP.