REGION 8 QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN ADDENDUM

APPROVALS

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REGION 8 QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN ADDENDUM

Addendum to US EPA Region 8 Quality Management Plan (July 30, 2020)

Date of Addendum: June 1, 2023

Addendum Purpose: Adds clarity to the Region 8 QMP regarding the RQAM's authority to implement a graded approach to quality documentation required by grant recipients.

Section 12.2 Addendum, inserted after the second paragraph:

Quality assurance requirements for grant recipients can be described in two categories. For larger organizations or organizations with multiple projects funded through grant awards, it is expected that the organization will have a quality program that is described within a Quality Management Plan (QMP) and will also have program and/or project-specific QAPPs as appropriate and in alignment with the organizational QMP. For smaller organizations or organizations with grants awarded for smaller projects, the EPA quality assurance requirements may be limited to the individual project and described within the project-specific QAPP.

The RQAM, in discussion with the Designated Project Manager (DPM), will evaluate on a case-by-case basis when to apply the graded approach in determining which grantee organizations will be required to submit QMPs. Exceptions or modifications to the requirement for a QMP from an organization receiving financial assistance from the Region may be made. In general, organizations receiving financial assistance may be granted an exception or modification to the QMP requirement if they meet criteria which may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- One-time, short-term, and special projects or projects of limited scope;
- Smaller organizations that are resource-limited;
- Organizations using or generating environmental information solely for public education purposes; and
- Other organizations, as determined by the RQAM.

QA documentation must always consist of a QAPP at minimum. An exception to the requirement for a QAPP cannot be made when the project or program involves environmental information operations (EIO).