than 50 percent of the NAAQS and therefore required monitoring will be waived. We are also requiring urban areas with populations over 1 million to site non-source oriented monitors, thus another 52 monitors are required. Together the required source oriented (after waivers are granted) and non-source oriented monitors are expected to total 312 monitors. Some of the existing monitors will be useful to support the required network, but other sites may need to move. Since some of the existing stations are in locations that are of benefit to other monitoring objectives, even when well below the NAAQS (e.g., long-term trends or for use in a health study), plus a small number of other new stations may be installed by monitoring agencies to support other monitoring objectives, we are estimating a total of 400 lead monitoring stations to adequately support characterization of lead across the country once the network is fully operational.

We believe it would be unrealistic to require monitoring agencies to site and install the required 312 new monitoring stations within one year. However, we do believe it is reasonable to require monitoring agencies to site and install half of these stations in one year with the remaining stations deployed in the following year. Accordingly, and as discussed further below, we are finalizing a two-year monitor deployment schedule for required monitoring.

3. Decisions on Network Design Requirements

We are finalizing new network design requirements for the Pb NAAQS monitoring network that differ from those proposed in the following aspects. The differences from the proposal reflect our consideration of the comments on the proposed network design requirements and consideration of the level, form, and averaging time for the final NAAQS being promulgated today.

The Pb emission threshold for source-oriented monitoring is finalized at 0.5 tons per year. The final emission threshold reflects the re-analysis of emission thresholds based on the final level, averaging period, and form of the revised NAAQS. In addition, we are adding a clause to the source-oriented monitoring requirement to clarify that a single monitor may be used to monitor multiple Pb sources when the sources contribute to a single maximum Pb concentration.

In addition, monitoring agencies may consider the potential for population exposure when siting source-oriented monitors. While this change does not restrict monitoring agencies from monitoring at any location meeting the definition of ambient air, this provision allows monitoring agencies to consider the potential for population exposure when siting the required source-oriented monitors at the maximum Pb concentration.

We are removing the restriction that waivers may only be granted for sites near sources emitting less than 1000 kg/yr. The EPA Regional Administrator may approve waivers for the source-oriented monitoring requirement for any site where the monitoring agency demonstrates either that actual emissions of the source is less than the emission threshold or that the emissions from the source will not contribute to a Pb-TSP concentration greater than 50 percent of the final NAAQS (based on historic data, monitoring data, or other means).

We still believe additional Pb monitoring data near roadways will provide a more complete characterization of Pb levels near roadways in the future and that it is appropriate for monitoring agencies to consider siting some of the roughly 50 required nonsource-oriented monitors near roadways. However, we believe that this can best be

accomplished through EPA working with monitoring agencies to identify a limited number of locations where monitoring near roadways would be most useful, rather than requesting all monitoring agencies to consider monitoring near roadways when siting nonsource-oriented monitors. Therefore, we have removed the statement that monitoring agencies should consider monitoring near roadways when siting these monitors.

Monitoring agencies may use Pb-PM_{10} monitors to meet the nonsource-oriented monitoring requirements tied to CBSA population provided that historical monitoring does not indicate Pb-TSP concentrations greater than 50 percent of the NAAQS, and to meet the source-oriented monitoring requirements where Pb concentrations are expected (based on historic data, monitoring data, or other means) to be less than 50 percent of the NAAQS, and ultra-coarse Pb is expected to be low. However, monitoring agencies are required to begin monitoring for Pb-TSP within six months of a measured Pb-PM_{10} 3-month average concentration exceeding 50 percent of the final NAAQS. For example, if a Pb-PM_{10} monitoring site measures a 3-month average exceeding 0.075 $\mu g/m^3$ (i.e., 50 percent of the final NAAQS) for the period March – May 2011, the responsible monitoring agency would be required to install and begin operation of a Pb-TSP monitor at the site by the beginning of December 2011.

We are allowing monitoring agencies to stagger installation of any newly required monitors over a two-year period. Each monitoring agency is required to install and operate the required source-oriented monitors for the highest one half of Pb emitters by January 1, 2010. The remainder of the required source-oriented monitors and the nonsource-oriented monitors are required to be installed and operated by January 1, 2011.

The annual monitoring plan due July 1, 2009 must describe the planned monitoring that will begin by January 1, 2010, and the plan due July 1, 2010 must describe the planned monitoring that will begin by January 1, 2011.

C. Sampling Frequency

We proposed to maintain the 1-in-6 day sampling frequency if the final averaging time for the NAAQS standard was based on a quarterly average. We did not receive any comments on our proposed sampling frequency for a NAAQS based on a quarterly average. While the final NAAQS is based on a moving 3-month average rather than a quarterly average, the statistical and practical monitoring considerations are the same. As such, we are maintaining the current 1-in-6 day minimum sampling frequency as proposed (i.e., monitoring agencies will be required to collect at least one 24-hour Pb sample every six days.)

D. Monitoring for the Secondary Standard

We did not propose any specific additional monitoring requirements for the secondary standard because based on the available data, we do not expect exceedences of either the primary or the secondary NAAQS away from the point sources that will be addressed by the monitoring requirements already described. We also noted that the Pb-$PM_{2.5}$ data collected as part of the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) program provides useful information on Pb concentrations in rural areas that can be used to track trends in ambient air Pb concentrations in rural areas including important ecosystems. We received one comment supporting our proposed reliance on the IMPROVE network Pb-$PM_{2.5}$ data. We did not receive any other comments on additional monitoring needs to support the secondary Pb NAAQS. Thus,