e-DMR Data Substitution Codes (A Codes)

Data Substitution Codes (a.k.a. "A Codes") are used to explain data values that deviate from data that would normally occur. The Data Substitution Codes are as follows:

AA - Below Detectable Limit: Use this code when the quantitative analysis for a substance is done according to an approved analytical method and either does not detect the substance or detects it at a level below the Method Detection Limit (MDL). Enter the MDL value after the AA code separated by a single space (ex. AA 5.0). No comment is required.

AB - Analytical Data Lost: Use this code when the analytical data for a sample has been lost. This applies only to recorded data (e.g. paper records, data disks, etc.). This code is not to be used when a sample is lost. In such a case, the sample would be considered not to have been taken. The circumstances causing the use of this code should be explained in a Specific Comment on the first date of occurrence for each parameter.

AC - Plant Not Discharging (or No Sludge Hauled): Use this code when no wastewater was discharged (or no sludge was hauled) on that date thereby precluding the collection of samples. Enter this code for all parameters which were required on that date. No comment is required.

AD - Automatic Analyzer Out of Service: Use this code when an automatic analyzer, which is normally used to analyze samples at the treatment works, is inoperative. The circumstances causing the use of this code should be explained in a Specific Comment on the first date of occurrence for each parameter.

AE - Analytical Data Not Valid: Use this code if the analytical data for a given sample is for some reason not valid. The reason that the data is not valid should be explained in a Specific Comment on the first date of occurrence for each parameter.

AF - Sample Site Inaccessible Due to Flooding or Freezing: Use this code if a sample could not be collected because the designated sampling site was flooded or frozen-over. This code should be used for all parameters required to be sampled at the site on the day that it was inaccessible.

AH - Sample Not Taken, Explanation Included: Use this code when a required sample is not taken for a reason other than one covered by another "A" code. An explanation as to why the sample was not taken must be entered as a Specific Comment for that parameter and date.

AJ - Above Range of Automatic Analyzer: Use this code when the concentration of a substance is above the level that an automatic analyzer is capable of measuring. This code should only be used for parameters that are normally analyzed by an automatic analyzer. The upper limit of the automatic analyzer should be reported in a Specific Comment on the first date of occurrence for each parameter.

AK - Biological Sample Too Numerous to Count: Use this code when the number of bacterial colonies for each dilution tested exceeds the acceptable number of colonies given by the analytical method used. (Appropriate dilutions should be used to obtain an acceptable count of bacterial colonies.)

AL - No Discharge During Monitoring Period: No longer used. DO NOT USE THIS CODE in e-DMR. If no discharge occurred for the full monitoring period, select the No Discharge check box at the top of the e-DMR form.

AN - Sample Not Taken, Plant Not Normally Staffed (Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays): Use this code to indicate when samples are not collected on days that the treatment plant is not normally staffed. The use of this code is limited to Saturdays, Sundays, and officially recognized municipal holidays if the treatment plant is not normally staffed on those days. This code is only acceptable for parameters that are sampled daily. For parameters sampled at a lesser frequency, the sampling date should be moved to a date when the plant is staffed.