

Issues raised during the audit:

1) We suggest replacing the PSAP at Birkenes with a commercially available instrument such as a MAAP or an Aethalometer.

A commercial PSAP (Radiance Research) was installed in addition to the old, custom-built PSAP. The instruments are still operated side-by-side to allow for a sufficient overlap period to avoid ruptures in the time series.

2) The Nephelometer at Birkenes needs to be repaired by the manufacturer.

The nephelometer at Birkenes belongs to a series where the internal motors (reference chopper, backscatter shutter) fail rather regularly. The problem occurred for the first time during the audit after the instrument was purchased. Since then, the internal motors are shifted annually as a precaution to avoid these problems.

Other than that, no issues were found during the audit. The instruments participate regularly in European intercomparison workshops.