

ICS 75.060
CCS E 24



**NATIONAL STANDARD OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

GB/T 48161-2026

**Natural gas - Determination of trace metallic elements -
Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry**

天然气 微量金属元素含量的测定 电感耦合等离子体质谱法

(English Translation)

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Table of Contents

Foreword
1 Scope
2 Normative references
3 Terms and definitions

Foreword

GB/T 48161-2026 is a recommended national standard (GB/T) of the People's Republic of China, issued on 28 August 2026 by the State Administration for Market Regulation and the Standardization Administration of China, with effect from 1 March 2027.

It is under the responsibility of the Standardization Administration of China.

Classification: ICS 75.060; CCS E 24.

1 Scope

Trace metals in natural gas can damage catalysts, corrode equipment and cause problems in downstream processing, so their measurement matters to producers and users. This document sets out a method for determining trace metallic elements in natural gas by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry, a highly sensitive elemental analysis technique.

Analytical laboratories, gas producers and processors, pipeline operators, and quality departments at large consumers are the main users. Instrument operators who carry out ICP-MS work on gas samples will need an agreed procedure so that results from different sites can be compared. The standard is a recommended national standard, so it is voluntary unless referenced by a contract or specification. It was issued on 28 August 2026 and takes effect on 1 March 2027. It is an original Chinese document and does not adopt an international standard. Its subject sits within the natural gas analysis field, where methods are widely cited in supply contracts.