Board Proposes Drycleaning Facility Rules for First Notice and Opens Sub-Docket on Drycleaner Continuing Education

On March 3, 2022, the Board issued an order proposing first-notice rules on licensing drycleaning facilities, overseeing their environmental insurance coverage, and administering State fund reimbursement for the costs of cleaning up drycleaning solvent releases. This rulemaking was initiated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to address amendments to the Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust (DERT) Fund Act. These statutory amendments transferred oversight and implementation of the DERT Fund from the DERT Fund Council to IEPA. After receiving IEPA's rulemaking proposal, the Board held public hearings and received public comment.

For first notice, the Board proposed adopting new Board rules at 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1501 and repealing DERT Fund Council rules at both 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1500 and 2 Ill. Adm. Code Part 3100. These rule changes are designed to protect the environment and smoothly transition drycleaners to a new regulatory program. When the Board's proposal is published in the *Illinois Register*, a period of at least 45 days will begin during which anyone may file a public comment with the Board concerning the first-notice rules.

This rulemaking is captioned <u>Drycleaner Environmental Response Trust Fund Act Proposal to Add 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1501, Repeal 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1500, and Repeal 2 Ill. Adm. Code Part 3100, docket R21-19. Here is a link to the Board's <u>order</u>, which includes the rule changes proposed for first notice. That order also opened a sub-docket to consider minimum continuing education and compliance program requirements. For more information, please contact Mark Kaminski at 312-814-3886 or <u>mark.kaminski@illinois.gov</u>.</u>