

## **Board Adopts NAAQS Amendments**

On February 14, 2019, the Board adopted rule amendments to keep Illinois' ambient air quality standards "identical in substance" to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The amendments reflect actions taken by the United States Environmental Protection Agency during the first half of 2018. Those actions include designating new reference methods for monitoring nitrogen dioxide in ambient air, as well as redesignating the Chicago and Granite City areas as attainment for the 2008 lead NAAQS. The Board removed the 1978 NAAQS for lead from the Illinois rules because they no longer apply to any area in Illinois. The Board also added a note stating that the 1971 NAAQS for sulfur dioxide no longer apply in specified areas of Illinois.

The Board rulemaking is captioned National Ambient Air Quality Standards, USEPA Amendments (January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018), docket R19-6. Here is a link to the Board's [opinion and order](#), which includes the adopted rule text. And, here is a link to the Board's [addendum](#), which provides tables of information concerning the rulemaking. For more information, please contact Michael McCambridge at 312-814-6924 or [Michael.McCambridge@Illinois.Gov](mailto:Michael.McCambridge@Illinois.Gov).