

Board Adopts “Identical-in-Substance” Amendments to Drinking Water Rules

On April 16, 2020, the Board adopted amendments to Illinois’ primary drinking water regulations in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 611. The amendments are “identical in substance” to rule amendments adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) during the second half of 2018. Specifically, USEPA adopted approximately 100 new methods for demonstrating compliance with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. Most were updated methods appearing in the recent 23rd edition of *Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Wastewater*.

In addition, the Board reorganized Part 611’s incorporations by reference to simplify them, make them easier to use, and facilitate future amendments. The Board also updated sources for USEPA methods, corrected some methods’ listings, and deleted two methods: one was a national standard that is no longer required; the other was not available from its former federal source or any source the Board could find.

The Board’s rulemaking is captioned SDWA Update, USEPA Amendments (July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018), docket R19-16. Here are links to (1) the Board’s [opinion and order](#), which includes the text of the adopted rules, and (2) 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.