Board Adopts Non-Substantive Amendments to Agriculture-Related Water Pollution Rules

On February 15, 2024, the Board adopted non-substantive amendments to its agriculture-related water pollution rules. These final amendments are part of a larger undertaking by the Board to update its rules across multiple media and subject areas. The amendments include removing unnecessary language, replacing outdated text, updating statutory references, and reorganizing provisions for clarity. All four Parts of the Board's Subtitle E rules are affected, *i.e.*, Parts 501, 502, 503, and 506 of Title 35 of the Illinois Administrative Code.

During this rulemaking, the Board held two public hearings, receiving testimony from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The Board also received three public comments from IEPA, as well as a collective public comment from the Illinois Beef Association, Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Milk Producers Association, and the Illinois Pork Producers Association. At its February 6, 2024 meeting, the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules issued a "Certification of No Objection" to the Board's proposed second-notice amendments, subject to a handful of non-substantive changes, all of which the Board included in the final amendments. Upon filing by the Board with the Secretary of State, the final amendments take effect.

The rulemaking is captioned <u>Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Subtitle E</u>, docket R18-25. Here is a link to the Board's <u>final opinion and order</u>, which includes the text of the adopted amendments. For more information, please contact Carlie Leoni at 312-814-3886 or <u>carlie.leoni@illinois.gov</u>.