

Board Proceeds to First Notice with IEPA's Proposed NO_x Emission Amendments

On July 8, 2024, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) filed a proposal to amend the Board's Part 217 air pollution rules (35 Ill. Adm. Code 217). The proposed amendments concern major stationary sources of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions in areas designated as nonattainment for the 2015 eight-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).

On July 11, 2024, the Board issued an order accepting IEPA's proposal for hearing and granting IEPA's motion for expedited review. IEPA sought expedited review so it would have enough time to submit a complete State Implementation Plan (SIP) to the United States Environmental Protection Agency before mandatory Clean Air Act sanctions are triggered against the State of Illinois. Accordingly, the Board proceeded with first-notice publication of IEPA's proposal, without commenting on its substantive merits. The Board also directed its hearing officer to proceed expeditiously to hearing. Here is the link to the Board's [first-notice order](#), which includes the text of the proposed amendments.

In turn, the Board's hearing officer scheduled two public hearings. The first hearing was held by videoconference on September 26, 2024, between Edwardsville and Springfield. The second hearing will be held by videoconference on November 21, 2024, between Chicago and Springfield. For more specific hearing information, including the second hearing's deadlines for prefiling testimony and questions, here is a link to the hearing officer's July 30, 2024 [notice and order](#).

The rulemaking is captioned Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 217, Nitrogen Oxides Emissions, docket R25-17. For more information, please contact Daniel Pauley at 312-814-6931 or daniel.pauley@illinois.gov.