



## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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ALEXI GIANNOULIAS • Secretary of State

January 29, 2026

POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
DON BROWN  
100 W RANDOLPH ST  
STE 11-500  
CHICAGO, IL 60601

Dear DON BROWN

Your rules Listed below met our codification standards and have been published in Volume 50, Issue 5 of the Illinois Register, dated 1/30/2026.

**PROPOSED RULES**

Air Quality Standards

35 Ill. Adm. Code 243

Point of Contact: Shannon Bilbruck

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If you have any questions, you may contact the Administrative Code Division at  
(217) 782 - 7017.

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POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

- 1) Heading of the Part: Air Quality Standards
- 2) Code Citation: 35 Ill. Adm. Code 243
- 3) 

<u>Section Numbers:</u>	<u>Proposed Actions:</u>
243.108	Amendment
243.122	Amendment
- 4) Statutory Authority: Implementing Sections 7.2 and 10 and authorized by Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/7.2, 10, and 27].
- 5) A Complete Description of the Subjects and Issues Involved: The following briefly describes the subjects and issues involved in this rulemaking. A comprehensive description is contained in the Board's opinion and order of January 8, 2025, proposing amendments in consolidated docket R25-15 for public comment, which opinion and order is available from the address below. As is explained in that opinion, the Board will receive public comment on the proposed amendment for 45 days from the date it appears in the Illinois Register before proceeding to adopt amendment based on this proposal.

The consolidated docket in the R25-15 proceeding relates to the Illinois ambient air quality requirements in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 243 of the Illinois air pollution control rules. This amendment would update the Illinois ambient air quality requirements to correspond with amendments to the federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQSs) that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) adopted between July 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025. The Federal NAAQS are codified at 40 C.F.R. 50. During this period, USEPA amended implementation of its NAAQSs as follows:

December 27, 2024 (89 Fed. Reg. 105692)

USEPA revised the existing secondary sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) standard to an annual average, averaged over three consecutive years, with a level of 10 parts per billion (ppb). Additionally, USEPA finalized revisions to data handling for secondary SO<sub>2</sub>. The Board's rules incorporate the secondary sulfur dioxide standard and revised data handling requirements for secondary SO<sub>2</sub> by reference.

April 7, 2025 (90 Fed. Reg. 15001)

USEPA designated two new *FEMs* on April 7, 2025, one for measuring concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and the other for measuring concentrations of PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> in ambient air. On June 15, 2025 USEPA modified its *List of Designated Reference and Equivalent Methods*.

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September 5, 2025(90 Fed Reg. 42965)

USEPA designated one new equivalent method for measuring SO<sub>2</sub>, one new reference method for measuring NO<sub>2</sub>, one new equivalent method for measuring concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and one new equivalent method for measuring PM<sub>10-2.5</sub> in ambient air.

Section 10(H) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/10(H)] provides that Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act [5 ILCS 100/5-35] does not apply to this rulemaking. Because this rulemaking is not subject to Section 5-35 of the APA, it is not subject to First Notice or to Second Notice review by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR).

- 6) Published studies or reports, and sources of underlying data, used to compose this rulemaking: None
- 7) Does this proposed rulemaking replace an emergency rule currently in effect? No
- 8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
- 9) Does this proposed amendment contain incorporations by reference? Yes
- 10) Are there any proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
- 11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: These proposed amendments do not create or enlarge a state mandate, as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act. [30 ILCS 805/3(b)].
- 12) Time, Place and manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: The Board will accept written public comment on this proposal for a period of 45 days after the date of this publication. Comments should reference consolidated docket R25-15 and be addressed to:

Don A. Brown, Clerk  
Pollution Control Board  
60 East Van Buren Street, Suite 630  
Chicago, Illinois 60605

312-814-3461  
[don.brown@illinois.gov](mailto:don.brown@illinois.gov)

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The Board will conduct one public hearing on the proposed amendment because it will ultimately result in submission to the United States Environmental Protection Agency of an amendment to the state implementation plan (SIP). Section 110(a)(2) of the Federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §7410(a)(2) (2023)) requires reasonable notice and hearing before a state undertakes an amendment to the SIP. The public hearing will occur by videoconference at the following time and between the following locations:

11:15 a.m., Thursday, March 5, 2026

555 W Monroe  
Chicago, IL  
Illinois Room, first floor

and

2520 West Iles Avenue  
Springfield, IL  
Conf. Room 1.508

Comments should reference consolidated docket R25-15 and be addressed to:

Don A. Brown, Clerk  
Pollution Control Board  
60 East Van Buren Street, Suite 630  
Chicago, Illinois 60605

312-814-3461  
[don.brown@illinois.gov](mailto:don.brown@illinois.gov)

Request copies of the Board's opinion and order at 312-814-3620 or download a copy from the Board's Website at <https://pcb.illinois.gov>

13) Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis:

- A) Description of the type of small businesses, not-for-profit corporations or small municipalities subject to the proposed amendment: This rulemaking may affect those small businesses, small municipalities, and not-for-profit corporations that emit pollutants that could potentially affect ambient air quality in any area of Illinois. These proposed amendments do not create or enlarge a state mandate, as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act. [30 ILCS 805/3(b)].

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- B) Description of the proposed reporting, bookkeeping or other procedures required for compliance with the rule amendment: The existing rules and proposed amendments require extensive reporting, bookkeeping and other procedures, including emissions monitoring, annual reports, and maintenance of operating records. These proposed amendments do not create or enlarge a state mandate, as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act. [30 ILCS 805/3(b)].
- C) Description of the types of professional skills necessary for compliance: Compliance with the existing rules and proposed amendments may require the services of an attorney, certified public accountant, chemist, and registered professional engineer. These proposed amendments do not create or enlarge a state mandate, as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act. [30 ILCS 805/3(b)].
- 14) Small Business Impact Analysis: Sections 1-5(c) and 5-30 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act [5 ILCS 100/1-5(c) and 5-30] provide that small business impact analysis and related requirements under Section 5-30 do not apply to this type of identical-in-substance rulemaking.
- 15) Regulatory agenda on which this rulemaking was summarized: January 2025
- 16) Any other information or justification for the proposed amendment that the agency believes would be helpful to the public regarding the proposed amendment. For example, a discussion or analysis of the benefits the proposed amendment is projected to have on the Illinois public, consumers, investors or other similar groups. See (5).

The full text of the proposed amendments begins on the next page: