

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
October 24, 1991

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
AMENDMENTS TO 35 ILL. ADM. CODE) R91-25
SUBTITLE H: NOISE - PERTAINING TO) (Rulemaking)
DEFINITIONS, MEASUREMENT)
PROCEDURES, AND SOUND EMISSION)
STANDARDS RELATING TO CERTAIN)
NOISE SOURCES.)

INQUIRY HEARINGS

ORDER OF THE BOARD (by B. Forcade):

This matter arises on the Board's own motion. The Board today opens an inquiry docket to consider proposed changes to the Board's noise regulations.

Since their adoption in 1985, the only amendment to the Board's noise regulations was the specification of one hour as the basic period of measurement for property line noise sources. Changes in instrumentation capabilities and developments in the field have taken place which prompt the Board to review the noise regulations. In 1990, a research study was sponsored jointly by the Board and the Department of Energy and Natural Resources ("Department") to examine the adequacy of existing noise regulations to appropriately encompass the various types of discontinuous noise, and specifically impulse noise. This resulted in a report authored by Dr. Paul D. Schomer entitled, "Impulse Noise Study, ILENR/RE-EA-90/16, December 1990." As a follow up to this study, Dr. Schomer did additional work sponsored by the Department to describe and develop a systematic set of procedures for noise measurements with particular focus on the 1-hour sound equivalent level (1-hr L_{eq}) measurement that is specified in the Board's regulation for property line noise sources. This second report by Dr. Schomer is entitled, "Proposed Revisions to Property-Line-Noise-Source Measurement Procedures, ILENR/RE-EA-91-16, June 1991."

As a consequence of the inquiry docket opened today, the Board intends to hold two days of inquiry hearings. The primary focus of the inquiry hearings are the proposed changes to the Board's noise regulations under Subpart H and amendments to the measurement procedures included in the reports by Dr. Schomer. Dr. Schomer and Greg Zak from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) are scheduled to present testimony dealing with the proposed changes. The Board anticipates that proposed language containing the amendments will be available for review prior to the inquiry hearing. Further, the Board

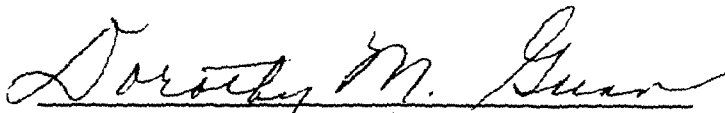
anticipates that the amendments will be proposed by the Agency for adoption by the Board as a First Notice proposal very soon after the inquiry hearing. The Board also welcomes testimony, studies, reports and comments on any of these matters as well as on any related matters from all interested parties and participants at this hearing. In particular, the Board is interested in receiving information on: (i) under what circumstances and noise characteristics, the 1-hr L_{eq} is or is not an appropriate measurement descriptor of noise levels from a source and (ii) whether a measurement period other than 1-hr can be specified if certain criteria are met and what those criteria are. The Board specifically requests information and comments on the need for and advisability of setting noise standards and measurement procedures for recreational marine boats, sometimes termed "cigarette boats."

The Board will set November 25 and 26, 1991 for hearing.

Diane O'Neill will act as hearing officer at the hearings. Any questions or comments concerning this matter should be directed to her.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

I, Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, hereby certify that the above Order was adopted on the 24th day of October, 1991, by a vote of 7-0.


Dorothy M. Gunn, Clerk
Illinois Pollution Control Board