

Board Amends Administrative Rules to Add Emergency Filing Procedures and Copying Fees

The Board, on March 3, 2011, adopted amendments to the administrative rules at 2 Ill. Adm. Code 2175 to provide for responses to emergency shut-downs of Board offices, or facilities housing Board activities. The rules also update copying fees to insure consistency with the Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140/6 (2008)). The rulemaking is docketed as In the Matter of: Amendments to the Board's Administrative Rules 2 Ill. Adm. Code 2175 (R11-21).

Under the emergency procedures for filings, all non-statutory filing deadlines will be automatically extended until the next business day while statutory filing deadlines must be met by following the rules at 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101.Subpart C. Under the emergency procedures for hearings, hearings scheduled for the day of the emergency closure, will be held on the next business day and may be continued on the record to a date certain. The Board, when possible, will place notices on the Board's website of the emergency closures and the date of the continued hearing.

The Board also amended fees charged for copies provided to the public to reflect a fee structure consistent with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). When reasonably practicable, materials may be provided electronically in the form of a compact disk, or other appropriate portable electronic storage device.

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's Web site and may be downloaded from the Web without charge. Hard copies may be obtained from the Clerk's office upon payment of reproduction fees as prescribed by Section 6 of the Freedom of Information Act [5 ILCS 140/6].

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