Board Seeks Responses to and Comments on Emergency Rulemaking to Regulate Coke/Coal Bulk Terminals

The Board is seeking responses to and comments on an emergency proposal filed on January 16, 2014 by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The proposal would create regulations to control emissions from coke and coal bulk terminals that process, transport, and handle large quantities of coke and/or coal. The emergency rulemaking is docketed as Ill. Adm. Code 213 (R14-20).

Specifically, the proposed emergency amendments require immediate measures, including road paving, use of dust suppression systems, setback requirements for storage piles from facilities' property lines and nearby water bodies, containment of contaminated stormwater and/or wastewater, and disposal of coke and coal that has been on-site for more than a year.

The IEPA asked that the Board grant the motion for emergency rulemaking "immediately," without waiting the 14 day response time under the Board's rules. IEPA argues that several bulk terminals located in Cook county process, transport, and handle large quantities of coke or coal and store the materials in large outdoor storage areas. The IEPA argues that the emission of fugitive particulate matter and the discharge into waters of the State of runoff from the materials constitute a threat to the public interest, safety or welfare, necessitating the adoption of emergency rules.

The Board's next regularly scheduled Board meeting is January 23, 2014 at 11:00 A.M., and the emergency rule and motion will be on the Board's agenda. Any responses to IEPA's motion must be filed with the Board by Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at noon. IEPA's reply to responses must be filed with the Board by Wednesday, January 22, 2014, at 1:00 P.M.

The Board encourages persons to file responses and public comments on these proposed amendments. The docket number for this rulemaking, R14-20, should be indicated on the public comment. Responses and public comments must be filed with the Clerk of the Board. Public comments may be filed at the following address:

Pollution Control Board James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500 Chicago, IL 60601

In addition, public comments may be filed electronically through COOL at www.ipcb.state.il.us. Any questions about electronic filing through COOL should be directed to the Clerk's Office at (312) 814-3629.

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 of the Freedom of Information Act.

For more information contact Marie Tipsord at 312-814-4925 or email at marie.tipsord@illinois.gov.