

**Board's *Digital Initiative* Moves Ahead—  
Amendments to Procedural Rules Adopted--R16-17**

On May 19, 2016, the Board took the next steps in its Digital Initiative, adopting final amendments to its procedural rules. The amended rules will increase the use of digital technology, including electronic filing, e-mail service, and videoconference hearings. The amendments will reduce travel, printing, copying, and paper mailings, while making it easier to review filings on-line and attend Board hearings. The amended rules took effect on May 20, 2016.

In connection with these amendments, the Board has substantially improved the capability of COOL, its electronic docketing system. Software has been upgraded; storage capacity has been significantly increased; and other enhancements have been implemented. Currently, the Board's IT team is creating a new website. Once the new website is launched this summer, COOL will be more easily accessible to the public and will have expanded search functions.

In addition, several clarifying rule amendments were adopted, including specifying how to calculate the timeframe for appealing final Board actions.

The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules issued certifications of no objection to the second-notice amendments at its May 10, 2016 meeting. The final amendments are substantively unchanged from second notice. The rulemaking is captioned Procedural Rule Amendments: Proposed Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 101 through 125, docket R16-17.

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's website ([www.ipcb.state.il.us](http://www.ipcb.state.il.us)) and may be downloaded without charge. Hard copies may be obtained from the Clerk's Office (Pollution Control Board, James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500, Chicago, IL 60601) upon paying reproduction fees as prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

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