

## **Board Proposes Amendments to Procedural Rules to Allow Electronic Filing**

On June 5, 2014, the Board adopted proposed procedural rule amendments for first notice publication that will permit electronic filing in all Board proceedings and service by e-mail of most types of filing, and will codify procedural standards for public remarks at the Board's open meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Additionally, the Board proposes changes to filing requirements for rulemaking proposals that include material proposed for incorporation by reference and amending procedural rules for tax certification proceedings to more closely conform with statutory requirements.

The proposed electronic filing amendments will codify the practices the Clerk's Office has developed to accommodate electronic filing through the Board's Clerk's Office On-Line (COOL). The proposed amendments will also allow for e-mail service of documents among adjudicatory or rulemaking participants under specified circumstances. The proposed rule changes are expected to dramatically decrease the amount of paper generated during Board and adjudicatory proceedings.

The Board is proposing to add a new subsection (d) to Section 101.110 of the procedural rules to provide ground rules for addressing the Board at open meetings. The proposed amendments include a provision to require a member of the public interested in speaking at an open Board meeting to provide basic information on a sign-in sheet, and a provision stating that the Board will arrange to have public remarks transcribed and will make the transcripts part of the record of the proceeding to which the remarks relate.

Additionally, the Board proposes various changes to other sections of the procedural rules. By way of example, the Board proposes to prohibit electronic filing of copyright protected material proposed to be incorporated by reference in a rulemaking and to substantially reduce, from an original and nine copies to four originals, the number of paper copies of copyrighted material that must be filed with the Board. This should provide sufficient copies of such material for the Board to meet its legal obligations without imposing unnecessary costs on rulemaking proponents. Also included are proposed amendments to provide for hearings in tax certification proceedings upon a timely request of a certificate holder or applicant where the Board is considering denial, revocation, or modification of tax certification.

Publication of these proposed amendments in the *Illinois Register* will begin a 45-day public comment period, during which anyone may file a public comment with the Board. The Board encourages persons to file public comments on these proposed amendments. The docket number for this rulemaking, **R14-21**, should be indicated on the public comment.

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](http://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 the Freedom of Information Act.

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