

Board to Hold Hearing on Proposed Updates to Air Rules

On December 18, 2008, the Board accepted for hearing a proposal to amend Part 243 of the Board's air regulations to incorporate new federal air quality standards. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) filed the proposal on December 1, 2008.

The IEPA states that the proposed amendments to Section 243 update existing regulations and are the result of new National Ambient Air Quality Standards adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The IEPA proposes amending Section 243.15 by incorporating the new federal eight-hour ozone standard and revoking the previous one-hour standard. The IEPA is proposing a measurement method for determining compliance with the updated ozone standard.

Additionally, the IEPA proposes amending the existing Section 243.120, which addresses particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to a nominal 10 micrometers (PM10). Specifically, the IEPA proposes revoking the "annual PM 10 standard which had been calculated as the annual arithmetic mean concentration of 50 micrograms per cubic meter."

The IEPA is proposing to add a Section 243.120a to address particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to a nominal 2.5 micrometers (PM2.5). The IEPA also proposing to amend Section 243.107, which addresses reference conditions, "to reflect that PM 2.5 measurements should be based upon the actual ambient air volume measured at the actual temperature and pressure at the monitoring site during the measurement period."

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 for \$.75 per page from the Clerk's office at 312-814-3629, or by writing to the Clerk's office:

Clerk of the Board
Illinois Pollution Control Board
James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph Street
Suite 11-500
Chicago, Illinois 60601

For more information contact Tim Fox at 312-814-6085 or email at foxt@ipcb.state.il.us.