

Board Sends Amendments to Illinois' Mercury Rule To Final Notice

The Illinois Pollution Control Board, on June 4, 2009, adopted for final notice a rulemaking proposal to amend Part 225 of the Board's air pollution regulations. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) on October 3, 2008, proposed the rule which was docketed as In the Matter of: Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 225: Control of Emissions from Large Combustion Sources (Mercury Monitoring) (R09-10).

Generally, the amendments recreate certain monitoring provisions of the federal Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR), which was recently vacated by a federal court. In addition, the Board's proposal includes provisions offered by Ameren to amend the Multi-Pollutant Standard or MPS at Section 225.233 of Part 225. The Board found Ameren's proposed language to be economically reasonable and technically feasible, noting that it projects an environmental benefit by reducing total emissions and that it is not opposed by IEPA, either procedurally or substantively.

The Board has held two hearings on the proposal: one in Springfield; and the second in Chicago.

The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules considered the Board's second-notice proposal and issued its "Certificate of No Objection to Proposed Rulemaking" at its meeting on May 19, 2009.

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

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