

Board Sends to First Notice a Proposal to Control Nitrogen Oxide Emissions From Various Source Categories

The Illinois Pollution Control Board, on May 7, 2009 sent to first notice a proposal to amend Parts 211 and 217 of the Board's air pollution regulations. The proposal, which was filed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) on May 9, 2008, is docketed as In the Matter of: Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 217, Nitrogen Oxides Emissions, and 35 Ill. Adm. Code 211 (R08-19). On both January 30, 2009 and March 23, 2009, the IEPA filed motions to amend the proposal based on negotiations with interested parties.

Generally, the IEPA proposes amendments to control nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions from major stationary sources in nonattainment areas, and from emission units including industrial boilers, process heaters, glass melting furnaces, cement kilns, lime kilns, furnaces used in steelmaking and aluminum melting, and fossil fuel-fired stationary boilers at such sources.

The IEPA states that it intends its proposal to satisfy Illinois' obligation to submit a State Implementation Plan to address the requirements under the federal Clean Air Act for major stationary sources of NO_x in areas designated as nonattainment with respect to National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The IEPA indicates that NO_x is a primary precursor to the formation of ozone and is also a precursor to the formation of particulate matter that is 2.5 micrometers or smaller in size (PM_{2.5}).

Three public hearings were held in this matter; one in Springfield, one in Chicago and one in Edwardsville. Publication of these proposed amendments in the *Illinois Register* will begin a 45-day public comment 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.