

Board Accepts for Hearing a Proposal to Amend the Enhanced Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Regulations

On October 6, 2011, the Board accepted for hearing a proposal that would sunset the steady-state idle and evaporative system integrity test standards used in the Illinois enhanced vehicle inspection and maintenance program for the Chicago and Metro-East St. Louis nonattainment areas. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), on October 3, 2011, filed the proposed rulemaking which was docketed as In the Matter of: Revision of Enhanced Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Regulations: Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 240 (R12-12).

This rulemaking proposal would implement P.A. 97-0106 which repeals the steady-state idle and evaporative system integrity emissions tests, exempts pre-2007 heavy-duty vehicles with gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) between 8,501 and 14,000 pounds and any heavy-duty vehicles with a GVWR greater than 14,000 pounds, and adds a new visual inspection test. The amendments would be effective February 1, 2012. The IEPA states that, as a result of sunsetting the steady-state idle and evaporative integrity test standards used in the Illinois program as of February 1, 2012, the Illinois program “will continue to be an [on-board diagnostic (OBD)] program – testing subject vehicles using the OBD test, with the exception of a minuscule subset of vehicles that cannot receive the OBD test. These vehicles would receive the new visual inspection test.”

Under Section 13C-20 of the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005, the Board is required to adopt rules within 120 days of receiving the proposal. The Board will conduct at least two public hearings on the proposal. The Board directed the Clerk of the Board to publish the proposal in the *Illinois Register* for 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. Any questions about electronic filing through COOL should be directed to the Clerk's Office at (312) 814-3629. The docket number for this rulemaking, R12-12, should be indicated on the public comment.

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 Section 6 of the Freedom of Information Act [5 ILCS 140/6].

For more information contact Daniel Robertson at 312-814-6931 or email at robertsd@ipcb.state.il.us.