

R16-2, NAAQS Update, USEPA Amendments (January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, August 26, 2015, October 26, 2015, November 19, 2015, and December 18, 2015)

On March 3, 2016, in docket R16-2, the Board adopted final amendments to Illinois' ambient air quality standards that are "identical in substance" to revisions to the federal NAAQS adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The update includes three USEPA actions that occurred during the first half of 2015, as well as three subsequent USEPA actions. The amendments, among other things, remove the 1997 eight-hour NAAQS for ozone in response to USEPA's adoption of the implementation rule for the 2008 eight-hour NAAQS for ozone. In addition, the amendments incorporate by reference various methods USEPA designated for monitoring ambient air quality for several priority pollutants: fine particulates (PM_{2.5}), carbon monoxide, coarse particulates (PM_{10-2.5}), and ozone. The Board's action follows a federally required public hearing on the proposal via videoconference between the Board's Chicago and Springfield offices held February 18, 2016.

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].