

Board Adopts Procedural Rules for Time-Limited Water Quality Standards

On April 26, 2018, the Board adopted final rules on proceedings for time-limited water quality standards (TLWQS), a new type of regulatory relief. A TLWQS is a “water quality standard variance” that the Board may issue for a single discharger, multiple dischargers, a watershed, a water body, or a waterbody segment. TLWQS are consistent with the federal Clean Water Act and the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s rules and therefore are federally-approvable. The Board’s rulemaking ([Regulatory Relief Mechanisms: Proposed New 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 104, Subpart E](#), docket R18-18) resulted from the Environmental Protection Act’s new Section 38.5 (P.A. 99-937, eff. Feb. 24, 2017), which required the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to propose, and the Board to adopt, TLWQS rules. The new rules took effect on April 27, 2018. Here are links to the Board’s [opinion and order](#) and [rule text](#). For more information, please contact Tetyana Rabczak at 312-814-5053 or Tetyana.Rabczak@Illinois.Gov.