

Board Proposes VOM Emissions Rules for Metro East Aerospace Operations

On October 15, 2020, the Board accepted for hearing a rulemaking proposal to regulate volatile organic material (VOM) emissions from aerospace manufacturing and rework operations in the Metro East counties of Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair. The proposal was filed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

According to IEPA, an emission source in the Metro East area intends to expand its aerospace facility. The expansion would subject the facility to general VOM emission limitations for miscellaneous metal parts and products coating. Guidance from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, however, recognizes that general limitations are not appropriate for aerospace applications. IEPA therefore proposed these rules to ensure that limits specific to aerospace operations apply to the expanded facility.

When it accepted the proposal for hearing, the Board also granted IEPA's motion for expedited review. Consistent with that grant, the Board—without commenting on the proposal's substantive merits—directed its Clerk to submit the proposed rules for first-notice publication in the *Illinois Register*.

The Board will hold two public hearings on the proposed rules. The hearings will include the additional platform of WebEx to encourage safe public participation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The rulemaking is captioned Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code 219, Organic Material Emission Standards for the Metro East Area, and 35 Ill. Adm. Code 211, Definitions and General Provisions, docket R21-18. Here is a link to the Board's [first-notice opinion and order](#), which includes the text of the proposed rules. For more information, please contact Tim Fox at 312-814-6085 or tim.fox@illinois.gov.