

Board Proposes Second-Notice Amendments to Cut Pollutant Emissions, R15-21

On October 1, 2015, the Board proposed rule amendments for second notice that will significantly reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and other pollutants. The emissions reductions are designed primarily to ensure that all areas of the State comply with federal standards for concentrations of SO₂ in the ambient air. The proposed amendments will, among other things, prohibit burning coal at four electric-generating units in the Joliet and Lockport areas. The Board's order sends the amendments to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) for review. The rulemaking is captioned Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 214, Sulfur Limitations, Part 217, Nitrogen Oxides Emissions, and Part 225, Control of Emissions from Large Combustion Sources, docket R15-21.

In its second-notice order, the Board adopted, with modifications, the rule amendments proposed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to meet Illinois' obligations under the federal Clean Air Act. The most significant emissions reductions will take place in the two areas of the State found to be out of compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for SO₂: the Lemont nonattainment area (townships in Cook and Will Counties); and the Pekin nonattainment area (townships in Tazewell and Peoria Counties). IEPA's detailed modeling indicates that the proposed rules will result in attainment of the SO₂ NAAQS. In addition, the rule changes will aid the State's efforts to address regional haze, greenhouse gases, and the interstate transport of airborne pollution.

Under the proposed amendments, four of Midwest Generation's coal-fired units (Joliet 6, 7, & 8; Will County 3) must convert to a fuel other than coal, such as natural gas. This step will reduce SO₂ emissions by 6,000 tons more in 2017—and by over 4,500 tons more annually beginning in 2019—than would occur under the current rules, *i.e.*, the Combined Pollutant Standard (CPS) absent these amendments. Further, each year, emissions of CO₂, identified as a primary contributor to global climate change, will fall by 7.5 million tons; nitrogen oxides (NO_x) by 3,000 tons; particulate matter by 1,900 tons; and mercury by 400 pounds. Additionally, SO₂ emission limits will be imposed upon eight stationary sources; they may comply by installing pollution control equipment, switching fuels, or making operational changes. The proposed rules will also reduce pollutant emissions from commercial and industrial facilities burning diesel fuel by establishing strict limits on the sulfur content of the liquid fuels that they use. Once the Board adopts final rules, IEPA will submit the amendments to the United States Environmental Protection Agency as revisions to Illinois' State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's website (www.ipcb.state.il.us) and may be downloaded without charge. Hard copies may be obtained from the Clerk's Office (Pollution Control Board, James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500, Chicago, IL 60601) upon payment of reproduction fees as prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

For more information, please contact Daniel Robertson at 312-814-6931 or daniel.robertson@illinois.gov.

Board Proposes Second-Notice Amendments to Site-Specific Noise Rule for Forging Operation in Champaign County, R14-22

The Board, on October 15, 2015, proposed amendments to a site-specific noise rule for second-notice review by JCAR. The amendments will extend the allowable operational levels for Clifford-Jacobs Forging Company's impact forging facility, which is located in unincorporated Champaign County. The rulemaking is captioned Proposal of Clifford-Jacobs Forging Co. for an Amendment to the Site-Specific Rule at 35 Ill. Adm. Code 901.119, docket R14-22.

The facility is currently allowed to operate up to all 14 of its forging hammers at any one time from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The proposed amendments will allow the facility to operate up to 14 hammers at any one time 24 hours a day, Monday through Saturday. However, Clifford-Jacobs must limit its forging operations as necessary so as not to emit sound exceeding 65 decibels (db) (A-weighted Leq) from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. The Board further proposed that Clifford-Jacobs be required to investigate new technologies, sound abatement measures, and operational changes that would mitigate sound emissions from its forging operations, and to submit a report on the company's findings to the Board every ten years.

The Board accepted public comments on the first-notice proposal through June 30, 2015. The Board received a handful of comments, including one signed by 26 area residents. At the Board's direction, Clifford-Jacobs filed a comment responding to both the residents' comments and the Board's questions based upon them. At second notice, the Board did not substantively modify the first-notice amendments.

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's website (www.ipcb.state.il.us) and may be downloaded without charge. Hard copies may be obtained from the Clerk's Office (Pollution Control Board, James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500, Chicago, IL 60601) upon payment of reproduction fees as prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

For more information, please contact Mark Powell at 312-814-6887 or mark.powell@illinois.gov.

Board Proposes First-Notice Amendments to Public Water Supply Rules, R15-22

On October 15, 2015, the Board proposed amendments to its public water supply rules for first-notice publication in the *Illinois Register*. The amendments will (1) update Parts 601 through 603; (2) consolidate permitting requirements into Part 602; and (3) amend Part 603 to be consistent with recent amendments to the Public Water Supply Operations (PWSO) Act, 415 ILCS 45. IEPA proposed the amendments to streamline the permitting rules and add terminology from the amended PWSO Act, as well as to incorporate various national water standards by reference. The Board's first-notice proposal largely adopted IEPA's proposed amendments. The rulemaking is captioned Public Water Supplies: Proposed Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 601, 602, and 603, docket R15-22.

Publication of the first-notice amendments in the *Illinois Register* will begin a public comment period of at least 45 days, during which anyone may file a public comment with the Board. Public comments should identify this docket number, R15-22, and 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

Alternatively, public comments may be filed electronically through the Clerk's Office On-Line (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.

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's website (www.ipcb.state.il.us) and may be downloaded without charge. Hard copies may be obtained from the Clerk's Office (Pollution Control Board, James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 11-500, Chicago, IL 60601) upon payment of reproduction fees as prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act.

For more information, please contact Mark Powell at 312-814-6887 or mark.powell@illinois.gov.