

Board Proceeds to Second Notice on Amendments to Clifford-Jacobs Forging Co. Site-Specific Noise Rule

The Board, on October 15, 2015, proposed for second-notice review by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules proposed amendments to a site-specific noise rule. (Proposal of Clifford-Jacobs Forging Co. for an Amendment to the Site-Specific Rule at 35 Ill. Adm. Code 901.119, R14-22.) The proposed amendments would extend the allowable operational levels for Clifford-Jacobs Forging Company's (Clifford-Jacobs) impact forging facility located in unincorporated Champaign County. The facility currently is 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. Clifford-Jacobs' proposed amendments would allow the facility to operate up to 14 hammers at any one time 24 hours a day, Monday through Saturday. At first notice, the Board adopted this proposal, but added a requirement that Clifford-Jacobs limit its forging operations as necessary to not exceed 65 decibels (db) (A-weighted Leq) from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. The Board further proposed that Clifford-Jacobs be required to investigate new technologies, sound abatement measures and operational changes to mitigate sound emissions from its forging operations, and to submit to the Board every ten years a report on the company's findings.

The Board accepted public comments on the first-notice proposal through June 30, 2015. The Board received a handful of comments including one by two affected residents that was also signed by 24 other residents. At the Board's direction, Clifford-Jacobs filed a comment responding to the residents' comments and Board questions based on them. At second notice, the Board reviewed the first-notice comments and determined to proceed with the first-notice proposal amendments without substantive modification.

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].