The Board Will Hold Hearings on Proposed Amendments to the Enhanced Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Regulations

On December 16, 2010, the Illinois Pollution Control Board accepted for hearing a proposal to amend the vehicle emission inspection and maintenance regulations by repealing various emissions test standards and updating definitions and incorporations. On December 8, 2010, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) filed the rulemaking, which is docketed as In the Matter of: Revision of Enhanced Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Regulations: Amendments to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 240 (R11-19).

The IEPA states that the purpose of the proposal is to repeal the IM240 test emission standards, including corresponding definitions and references, because the OBD I/M pass/fail test is now required for all subject vehicles of model year 1996 and newer. The vehicle inspection and maintenance program operates in the Chicago metropolitan area and the Metro-East St. Louis area, which are the two nonattainment areas in Illinois.

Under Section 13C-20 of the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Law of 2005, the Board is required to adopt rules with 120 days of receiving the proposal. The Board will conduct at least two public hearings on the proposal. The Board directed the Clerk of the Board to publish the proposal in the *Illinois Register* for public comment.

Public comments 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

In addition, public comments may be filed electronically through 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 Web site and may be downloaded from the Web without charge. Hard copies may be obtained for \$.75 per page from the Clerk's office

For more information contact Tim Fox at (312) 814-6085 or email foxt@ipcb.state.il.us.