

Board to Consider Standards and Requirements for Potable Water Well Surveys

On February 2, 2006, the Illinois Pollution Control Board accepted for hearing a proposal to add a new Part 1505 to the Board's regulations setting standards and requirements for potable water well surveys and for community relations activities, where appropriate, in response to impacts or threats from contamination. The rulemaking, docketed as In the Matter of: Standards and Requirements for Potable Water Well Surveys and for Community Relations Activities Performed in Conjunction with Agency Notices of Threats from Contamination (35 Ill. Adm. Code 1505) (R06-23), was filed on January 20, 2006 by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

Proposed Subpart B sets forth well survey procedures, as well as minimum standards for the performance and documentation of surveys during site investigations. The well survey rules apply to response actions taken pursuant to Board rules requiring that a release of contaminants be addressed. The IEPA emphasizes that Subpart B does not contain independent requirements to perform well surveys. Rather, when well surveys are required the applicable Board rules, Subpart B requires compliance with the Subpart B minimum standards and requirements for those well surveys.

Subpart C of the rules sets forth two alternative levels of community relations activities depending on the severity of the offsite impacts. Subpart C also establishes requirements for document repositories if applicable, fact sheets and community relations plans, and implementing community relations activities, compliance, and compliance monitoring. Public Act 94-314 mandates the proposed changes and directs the Board to adopt amendments within 240 days from the effective date of PA 94-314. In order to comply with the 240-day statutory adoption deadline, the Board must file adopted rules with the Secretary of State no later than September 17, 2006.

Opinions and orders of the Board, hearing transcripts, and other documents in rulemaking records are posted on the Board's Website and may be downloaded from the Web without charge. Hard copies may be obtained for \$.75 per page from the Clerk's office at 312-814-3629, or by writing to the Clerk's office:

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