

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Notice of Public Hearing for State Implementation Plan (SIP) Submittals For the Chicago, Illinois Ozone Nonattainment Area

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) will hold a public hearing on December 16, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 9-031 at the James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The public hearing will be held by the Illinois EPA Bureau of Air for the purpose of gathering public comments on two draft SIPs related to the 1997 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The Illinois EPA is seeking comments on the draft Attainment Demonstration, the draft Maintenance Plan, and associated draft motor vehicle emissions budgets, all of which the Illinois EPA proposes to submit to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) as SIP revisions to meet the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act (CAA). The Attainment Demonstration contains the State's plan for attaining the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS in the Chicago, Illinois nonattainment area. The Illinois EPA intends to request that U.S. EPA redesignate the Chicago area to attainment of the 1997 8-hour ozone NAAQS based on ambient monitoring data from 2006 through 2008. The draft Maintenance Plan contains the State's plan for maintaining the 8-hour ozone NAAQS for at least 10 years after U.S. EPA redesignates the area to attainment. The SIP revisions will also establish new motor vehicle emissions budgets for the years 2009 and 2020 for the nonattainment area. The hearing will satisfy the requirements of Section 110(l) of the CAA (42 U.S.C. 7401(l) (public notice for SIP submittals)). The Illinois EPA will also be taking comments on establishing boundaries for the nonattainment area to be established pursuant to the 2008 ozone NAAQS revision.

Copies of these draft SIP submittals for the Chicago, Illinois nonattainment area may be viewed by the public prior to the hearing during regular business hours (Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., except for State holidays) at the Illinois EPA's offices at 9511 West Harrison Street in Des Plaines, Illinois, as well as on Illinois EPA's website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us>. No walk-in requests for copies of this material will be accommodated. Requests and public inquiries should be directed to Rachel Doctors at the address below.

The hearing will be held under the provisions of the Illinois EPA's "Procedures for Information and Quasi-Legislative Public Hearings" (35 Ill. Adm. Code 164). Any questions about the hearing procedures, requests for copies of the hearing rules, or requests for special need interpreters should be directed to the address below. Requests for special needs interpreters must be made by December 1, 2008.

Closure of the Hearing Record. The Hearing Record will close on January 15, 2009. Comments need not be notarized, but must be postmarked by midnight January 15, 2009, and mailed to Rachel Doctors, Illinois EPA, 1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, telephone number 217/782-5544 or TDD 217.782-9143.