



Rule Adoption Notice

Underground Injection Control Program, Chapter 173-218 WAC and State Waste Discharge Permit Program, 173-216 WAC

As a result of legislation passed in 2003 (ESSB 5766,) Ecology is required to send out notification to businesses affected by rule adoptions. To comply with this law and to keep the regulated community better informed of Ecology rule adoptions, you are receiving this notification of a rule adoption.

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Requirements of the rules

The goal of the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program is to protect ground water quality by regulating the disposal of fluids into the ground by way of a UIC well. The two requirements of the rule are:

- UIC wells must be registered.
- The UIC wells must meet the non-endangerment standard; which means, the UIC well must be constructed, operated, maintained, and decommissioned in a manner that protects ground water quality.

The section of Chapter 173-216 WAC impacted by this rule adoption addresses what activities are covered under a state waste discharge permit.

Summary of the rule changes adopted on 01-03-06

- The changes made to WAC 173-218 are:
 - Added the federal UIC program modifications to the state UIC rule, changes include definitions (*i.e.*, “UIC well”) and well types.
 - Allow fluids from municipal, commercial, industrial and residential sources, and storm water into UIC wells if the requirements of the UIC rule are met.
 - Require owners of existing UIC wells to review the current use of their UIC wells and determine if they are protective of ground water quality. For owners of stormwater wells, this includes identifying high risk wells and retrofitting them if necessary.
 - Explain the requirements for closing a UIC well and list what types of UIC wells will automatically meet the groundwater protection requirement of the rule.
- The changes made to WAC 173-216-010 allow UIC wells to be covered under the state waste discharge permit



Effective 02-03-06

This amendment to Chapters 173-218 WAC Underground Injection Control Program and chapter 173-216 WAC State Waste Discharge Program becomes effective on 02-03-06.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For additional information about appealing this adoption please contact Jerry Thielen, Ecology's Regulatory Affairs Manager at (360) 407-7551 or by email jthi461@ecy.wa.gov.

If you require special accommodation or need this information in an alternate format, please call us at [section secretary number]. For persons with a speech or hearing impairment, call 711 for relay service or 800-833-6388 for TTY.