

Rule Proposal Notice

Air Quality Program

October 2012

Chapter 173-423 WAC (Low Emission Vehicles)

The Department of Ecology proposes to adopt amendments to Chapter 173-423 WAC, Low Emission Vehicles. The rule proposal will be published in the *Washington State Register* on October 17, 2012.

The purpose of this rule proposal is to incorporate by reference recent changes to California clean car regulations. Incorporating these changes will maintain consistency with the California motor vehicle emission standards and compliance with federal law.

The following documents are now available for review and comment:

- Proposed rule language.
- Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act.

To download these documents visit

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/laws-rules/wac173423/1101.html>.

Public hearing schedule

November 7, 2012, 6:00 PM
Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Dr
Lacey, WA 98503

Submit your comments

Comment period ends 5:00 PM on November 14, 2012.

You can give us your official comments in the following ways:

1. Testify or submit written comments at public hearings.
2. Email your comments to: aqcomments@ecy.wa.gov

WHY IT MATTERS

The Clean Car Program establishes strict clean air standards for 2009 and newer models of passenger vehicles. New vehicles that do not meet the clean car standards cannot be registered, leased, rented, or sold for use in Washington. The program reduces emissions from cars and trucks, which cause most of the air pollution in Washington.

State and federal law require Ecology to update Washington's Clean Car rules to maintain consistency with California's rules. Adopting California's rules allows us to protect the environment while minimizing the burden to the automotive industry and car buyers.

More information:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/program/air/cleancars.htm>

Contact information:

Neil Caudill
360-407-6811
neil.caudill@ecy.wa.gov

Special accommodations:

If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Air Quality Program at 360-407-6800.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

4. Mail comments to:
Department of Ecology
Neil Caudill
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
5. FAX: (360) 407-7534

Ecology's response to your comments

All of the comments we receive will become part of the official record. We will publish responses to comments in a document called a Concise Explanatory Statement (CES). The CES is required by the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05) and is available after the rule is adopted. You will find your name listed in the document with a reference to where, in the document, Ecology responded your comments.

Expected adoption date

Ecology expects to adopt this rule no earlier than November 28, 2012.

