

Rule Implementation Plan

Chapter 173-98 WAC, Uses and Limitations of the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund

Chapter 173-95A WAC, Uses and Limitations of the Centennial Clean Water Program

Summary of rulemaking and response to comments

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Publication and Contact Information

This report is available on the Department of Ecology's Web site at https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1710017.html.

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Purpose

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) provides the information in this implementation plan to meet agency and Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.328) requirements related to rule adoptions.

Introduction

On August 9, 2017, Ecology adopted amendments to Chapter 173-98 Washington Administrative Code (WAC), Uses and Limitations of the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and Chapter 173-95A WAC, Uses and Limitations of the Centennial Clean Water Program (AO # 16-04). The purpose of this rule implementation plan is to inform those who must comply with WAC 173-98 and WAC 173-95A about how Ecology intends to:

- Implement and enforce the rules.
- Inform and educate persons affected by the rules.
- Promote and assist voluntary compliance for the rules.
- Evaluate the rules.
- Train and inform Ecology staff about the new or amended rules.

This plan also includes information about:

- Supporting documents that may need to be written or revised because of the amended rules.
- Other resources where more information about the rules is available.
- Contact information for Ecology employees who can answer questions about the rules implementation.

Implementation and Enforcement

Ecology will begin implementing most of the provisions in the amended rules with the State Fiscal Year 2019 Funding Cycle that begins on August 14, 2017.

Ecology will work with stakeholders to develop processes for the following:

- Emergency funding.
- A program to further encourage CWSRF funding of water pollution control activities projects.

The rules do not contain means for enforcement. Enforcement does not apply to this rulemaking.

Informing and Educating Persons Affected by the Rule

Ecology will inform and educate persons affected by the amended rules during its scheduled August 2017 applicant trainings and at future conferences and workshops.

Promoting and Assisting Voluntary Compliance

The rules do not contain means for enforcement. Promoting and assisting voluntary compliance does not apply to this rulemaking.

Evaluating the Rule

Ecology constantly evaluates the effectiveness of the rules by accepting comments on the rules at any time and maintaining an ongoing list of issues that are raised. Ecology will explore those issues during the next rulemaking.

Training and Informing Ecology Staff

Ecology will train and inform Ecology staff about the amended rules through existing workgroups and during regularly scheduled meetings.

List of Supporting Documents that May Need to be Written or Revised

The amended rules will require Ecology to revise the following documents and processes:

- Funding Guidelines Water Quality Financial Assistance.
- Environmental Review Guidance Combined Funding Program.
- Ecology Administration of Grants and Loans (EAGL) Funding Application.

More Information

The following links provide more information about the rules and funding programs they affect.

- http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/ruledev/wac17398/1604ov.html
- http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/funding.html

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