

Climate Rulemaking Overview

Climate Commitment Act (CCA) rules at Ecology



CCA Funds Reporting (WAC 173-446B)

This rule will establish reporting requirements for direct recipients of cap-and-invest auction revenue (usually state agencies), so Ecology can complete annual reports to the legislature.

Current phase: Formal comment period,
Public hearings



Electricity Markets (WAC 173-441 & 446)

These rules will identify and establish compliance obligations for entities who import electricity into Washington from centralized electricity markets.

Current phase: Developing rule language



Cap-and-Invest Offsets (WAC 173-446 Offsets)

This rule will update previously adopted cap-and-invest program offset protocols and may consider adopting new ones.

Current phase: Public input,
Developing rule language



Cap-and-Invest Linkage (WAC 173-441 & 446)

This rule will facilitate the possibility of linking Washington's carbon market with the California-Québec carbon market by aligning carbon market policies across jurisdictions, and implementing [Senate Bill 6058](#).

Current phase: Public input,
Developing rule language



Nikki Harris

Nikki.Harris@ecy.wa.gov

(360) 784-6018



To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 564-669-1531 or email at Nikki.Harris@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341

What is a rule?

Rules are government statements that either:

- Carry out or explain law or policy, or
- Describe an agency's organization or procedures.¹

When rules are adopted, they become part of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Ecology has authority granted by the Washington State Legislature to create rules; the legislature can also pass laws that require us to do rulemaking.

Rulemaking milestones

Announcement: A rulemaking begins when the agency files an announcement. After announcing the beginning of a rulemaking, the agency begins developing draft rule language with input from the public and consultation from Tribes. At this time, Ecology may host public meetings and informal comment periods.

Proposal: After rule development is complete, Ecology proposes draft rule language and opens a public comment period. Comments are collected online and at formal hearings. During the proposal phase, the public can provide comments on the draft rule language and other supporting documents, which could include:

- An economic regulatory analysis and/or Small Business Economic Impact Statement
- State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) documentation, which may identify and analyze associated environmental impacts.

Adoption: Once the public comment period and hearings are complete, the comments are considered and the rule language is finalized. Ecology's director will approve the adoption of the rule. The rule typically becomes effective 31 days after adoption. When adopting a rule, the agency responds to formal comments in a Concise Explanatory Statement, and provides a final regulatory analysis, implementation plan, and Environmental Justice Assessment in accordance with the HEAL Act.

Español (Spanish)

Ecología quiere escuchar su opinión sobre este proceso reglamentario. Si tiene dificultades para entender la lengua inglesa o presenta una discapacidad, puede solicitar asistencia lingüística y otros tipos de ayuda y servicios sin coste alguno. Si tiene preguntas, envíe un correo electrónico a Nikki.Harris@ecy.wa.gov.

中文 (Chinese)

生态署希望能听到您对这项法规制定的意见。如果您理解英语有困难或有残疾，可应要求提供免费语言援助或其他帮助和服务。如果您有问题，请发送电子邮件到 Nikki.Harris@ecy.wa.gov。

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Bộ Môi Sinh (Ecology) muốn nghe ý kiến của quý vị về việc làm luật này. Nếu quý vị gặp khó khăn trong việc hiểu tiếng Anh hoặc bị khuyết tật, hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí hoặc các hỗ trợ và dịch vụ khác được cung cấp theo yêu cầu. Nếu quý vị có câu hỏi, hãy gửi email đến Nikki.Harris@ecy.wa.gov.

한국어 (Korean)

주 환경부는 이 규칙 제정에 대한 귀하의 의견을 듣고 싶어합니다. 영어를 이해하시는 데 어려움이 있거나 장애가 있는 경우, 요청하시면 무료 언어 지원 또는 기타 지원 및 서비스를 이용하실 수 있습니다. 질문이 있으시면 Nikki.Harris@ecy.wa.gov.

¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/laws-rules-rulemaking/rulemaking>