DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Rule Implementation Plan
Chapter 173-423 WAC, Clean Vehicles Program Rulemaking

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Implementation Plan

Chapter 173-423 WAC

Clean Vehicles Program Rulemaking

Climate Pollution Reduction Program

Washington State Department of Ecology

Olympia, Washington

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Table of Contents

Page

Purpose....1
Introduction....2
Implementation and Enforcement....3
Informing and Educating Persons Affected by the Rule....4
Promoting and Assisting Voluntary Compliance....6
Evaluating the Rule....7
Training and Informing Ecology Staff....8
List of Supporting Documents that May Need to be Written or Revised....9
More Information....10
Contact Information....11

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 November 18, 2026, Ecology adopted amendments to Chapter 173-423 WAC Clean Vehicles Program (AO # 25-09). The purpose of this rule implementation plan is to inform those who must comply with Chapter 173-423 WAC about how Ecology intends to:

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

Also included in this plan is information about:

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

Implementation and Enforcement

Ecology has a team dedicated to the implementation and enforcement of the Clean Vehicles Program. This team includes the Zero-Emission Vehicle Specialist, the Mobile Source Air Quality Specialist, and the Community Outreach and Engagement Specialist. This team will communicate with commercial and government fleets operating in Washington about the updated fleet reporting and how to participate, including providing materials for reporting. Fleet reporting is meant to help utilities and state agencies plan for transportation electrification and decarbonization, and this team will also help analyze and compile data for external entities to use this information. Improved grid planning and more targeted state agency transportation electrification and decarbonization incentive programs will serve to support our state's motor vehicle emission standards

It is important to note that in response to recent federal actions, Ecology has paused enforcement of several of our motor vehicle emission standards. The length of the pause varies depending on the program. Enforcement of Advanced Clean Trucks, Advanced Clean Cars II and Heavy-Duty Low NOx Omnibus are currently paused through the end of model year 2026, or December 31, 2026. However, entities may still earn credits for compliance under the program. Once resumed, Ecology will continue to provide guidance on the implementation and enforcement of the Clean Vehicles Program through our email lists and Ecology webpages. Note that Advanced Clean Cars is not impacted by this enforcement pause.

Informing and Educating Persons Affected by the Rule

Throughout the rulemaking process, Ecology has taken the following actions to help inform interested persons:

- Emailed notices to the Clean Vehicles Program email list, the Air Quality Program general distribution list on rules and statewide plans email list, and the WACTrack email list
- Sent out public notices and issued a press release
- Sent out letters to Tribal Governments
- Posted information on Ecology's Clean Vehicles Program rulemaking website

Held public meetings, including:

- Public information session on December 15, 2025
- Industry focused public meeting on January 12, 2026
- Community forum on January 15, 2026

Held two public hearings via webinar:

- Public Hearing 1 on August 4, 2026
- Public Hearing 2 on August 5, 2026

Held 1:1 meetings with interested parties upon request

Audiences interested in or affected by this rule include:

- Truck drivers and operators
- Vehicle manufacturers and related trade groups
- Vehicle dealers and related trade groups
- Electric utilities
- Environmental and clean energy public interest groups
- Fuel producers and fuel suppliers
- Environmental justice proponents
- Electric vehicle charging equipment manufacturers, service providers, and related businesses

- Hydrogen producers, refueling equipment manufacturers, service providers, and related businesses
- Business associations
- Fleet managers

Ecology will continue to inform and educate these audiences in the following ways:

- Send email notices through the Clean Vehicles Program email list
- Keep rulemaking information and documents posted on the rulemaking website for at least two years following the rule's adoption
    - Update and maintain the Vehicle emission standards webpage
    - Hold meetings with interested parties as necessary

Promoting and Assisting Voluntary Compliance

The actions mentioned above that inform and educate interested parties also help promote voluntary compliance. Several other activities have proven useful in promoting voluntary compliance, such as:

- Posting the regulations and implementation plan on the rulemaking webpage.
- Availability of Ecology staff to answer technical assistance questions from interested parties.
- Involving staff responsible for implementing this rule in the development of the adopted rule.

Ecology will provide necessary information to those regulated by Chapter 173-423 WAC via the Clean Vehicles Program email list and the relevant Ecology webpages. Ecology will update the Vehicle emission standards web page and associated pages to help fleets understand and participate in fleet reporting by providing the following information:

- Reporting materials, including but not limited to any necessary links to a potential reporting platform and documents used for fleet reporting, such as a spreadsheet
- A fleet reporting guidance document to outline the reporting process, deliverables, and answer frequently asked questions
- Reports summarizing completed data submitted in fleet reporting periods
- Other helpful information to facilitate the reporting

Evaluating the Rule

Ecology will routinely evaluate the rule to ensure that fleet reporting is helping the state meet its greenhouse gas reduction limits by providing timely and useful information to utilities conducting grid planning as well as state agencies designing incentive programs for transportation electrification, while also reducing burden upon and meeting the regulated community's needs. Ecology will monitor the various impacts of the rule. To evaluate the effectiveness of the rule, Ecology will do the following:

- Work closely with regulated entities (e.g., commercial and government fleets) to understand feasibility of the reporting design in practice
- Audit quality and accuracy of reported data and number of fleets reporting, relative to Ecology's estimated population of covered fleets
- Conduct rulemaking as necessary to maintain alignment with California's motor vehicle emissions standards, as required by RCW 70A.30.010

Training and Informing Ecology Staff

Ecology has a team devoted to the implementation and enforcement of the Clean Vehicles Program. The staff responsible for implementing this rule have been involved in the development of the adopted rule. Ecology will hold staff trainings, use staff meetings, section meetings, and the agency website to train and inform any additional agency staff as needed.

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

Ecology has identified the following supporting documents that may need to be written or revised because of the rule amendments adopted in this rulemaking: fleet reporting platform guidance document, fleet reporting data summary report, and fleet reporting spreadsheet for reporting.

Ecology maintains a webpage for the Clean Vehicles Program rulemaking that houses resources including slideshows from public meetings and public hearings. We will continue to update this website with any potential training webinars, guidance documents, and other fleet reporting materials created to support fleet reporting.

More Information

Chapter 173-423 WAC rulemaking webpage: https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/laws-rules-rulemaking/rulemaking/wac-173-423-clean-vehicles-program

Ecology's vehicles emissions standards webpage: https://ecology.wa.gov/air-climate/reducinggreenhouse-gas-emissions/vehicle-emissions-standards

Chapter 70A.30 RCW Motor Vehicle Emissions Standards: https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.30

Ecology's vehicle emissions standards webpage: https://ecology.wa.gov/air-climate/air-quality/vehicle-emissions/clean-cars

ZEV mailing list: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAECY_233

2026 ZEVergreen report: https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/documents/2614015.pdf

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