

## **Clean Air Rule - Chapter 173-442 WAC and Reporting of Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - Chapter 173-441 WAC**

The purpose of this rulemaking is to establish greenhouse gas (GHG) emission standards for certain large emitters and reduce GHG emissions to protect human health and the environment.

The new Clean Air Rule (CAR) – Chapter 173-442 WAC – and Reporting of Emissions of Greenhouse Gases – Chapter 173-441 WAC – will help reduce GHG emissions in Washington State.

### **What is Chapter 173-442 WAC?**

The CAR sets a cap on GHG emissions that reduces every three years until 2035. Ecology estimates that the CAR will cover about two-thirds of the state's GHG emissions. Covered parties can meet their GHG emissions standard by:

- cutting emissions at their facility;
- purchasing emission reduction units from another facility in the program that exceeds its reduction requirements;
- obtaining emission reduction units from projects in Washington; and
- purchasing allowances from an approved program outside of Washington.

### **What is Chapter 173-441 WAC?**

Chapter 173-441 WAC establishes GHG reporting requirements for certain sources in the state of Washington. In addition to the CAR adoption, Ecology amended Chapter 173-441 WAC to change the parties covered by the existing reporting program, modify reporting requirements, and update administrative procedures. These amendments require new sources, including petroleum product producers and importers and natural gas distributors, to report their GHG emissions.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WASHINGTON**

Climate change is a global issue, but Washington State is feeling the impacts locally: acidifying oceans; increased risk of wildfires; prolonged drought; and reduced snowpack threatening water supplies for fish, crops, and power generation.

University of Washington research projects average annual temperatures in our state will rise 3 degrees by 2045. Three degrees sounds small, but it is enough to upset the balance our state depends on, damaging our environment, infrastructure, and economy.

**Important dates:**  
**Adopted September 15, 2016**  
**Effective October 17, 2016**

**Contact information:**  
Sam Wilson  
(360) 407-6837  
sam.wilson@ecy.wa.gov

**Special accommodations:**  
If you need this document in 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.

# Rule Adoption Notice

## Whom does this rulemaking affect?

The rules apply to:

- certain stationary sources;
- petroleum product producers and importers; and
- natural gas distributors.

## Response to Comments

Ecology's response to comments received during the public comment period is now available in the Concise Explanatory Statement document. Download a copy at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/rules/wac173442/1510docs.html>

## Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For more information about appealing this rule adoption, please contact Bari Schreiner, Agency Rules Coordinator, at (360) 407-6998 or [bari.schreiner@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:bari.schreiner@ecy.wa.gov).

## More information

For more information, visit the CAR rulemaking website:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/rules/wac173442/1510ov.html>

For information regarding Ecology's climate change mediation actions and plans, visit:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/index.htm>

To get updates on Ecology's rulemaking activities, sign-up for the WACTrack e-mail list at

[www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html).