

Rule Adoption Notice

Oil Spill Contingency Plan - Railroad, Chapter 173-186 WAC

The Department of Ecology adopted Chapter 173-186 WAC, Oil Spill Contingency Plan – Railroad on August 31, 2016. The rule will go into effect on October 1, 2016.

What is Chapter 173-186 WAC?

Chapter 173-186 WAC establishes oil spill contingency plan, drill and equipment verification requirements, and provisions for inspection of records for owners and operators of railroads required to submit oil spill contingency plans under chapter 90.56 RCW, and for the response contractors that support the implementation of the railroad plans. The adoption of this rule requires railroads to develop and maintain contingency plans approved by Ecology.

Response to Comments

Ecology's response to comments received during the public comment period is now available. Download a copy at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1608021.html>

Whom does this rule affect?

This rule applies to all railroads (not owned by the state) operating in Washington that transport bulk oil as cargo.

More information

For more information on this rule, visit the website for the rule at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/rules/1514ov.html>.

To get updates on Ecology's rulemaking activities, sign-up for the WACTrack e-mail list at www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html.

WHY IT MATTERS

Contingency plans for railroads will ensure that environmental and economic damages from oil spills are reduced and that public health and safety is protected through immediate notifications of spills and threats of spills, coordination with first responders, pre-staged oil response equipment, and personnel trained to respond to incidents in a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated manner. The rule also requires regularly scheduled oil spill drills to test and strengthen the plans through implementation.

Important dates:

Adopted August 31, 2016
Effective October 1, 2016

Contact information:

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Special accommodations:

If you need this document in format for the visually impaired, call the Spill Prevention, Preparedness and Response Program at (360) 407-7455.

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

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.

