



Rule Adoption Notice

Oil Spill Contingency Plan, Chapter 173-182 WAC

As a result of legislation passed in 2003 (ESSB 5766) Ecology is required to send out notification to businesses affected by rule adoptions. To comply with this law and to keep the regulated community better informed of Ecology rule adoptions, you are receiving this notification of a rule adoption.

For more information or technical assistance:

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For more information:

Visit online:
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/spills.html

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Requirements of the rule

These rules require tank vessel, cargo, fishing and passenger vessels, oil-handling facilities, and pipelines to plan for major oil spills. They require plan holders to use state approved clean-up contractors, and require equipment deployment and tabletop drills to test the effectiveness of the plans.

When plans are written and tested they should:

- ◆ Maximize the effectiveness and timeliness of oil spill response;
- ◆ Ensure continual readiness, maintenance of equipment and training of personnel;
- ◆ Support coordination with state, federal, and other contingency planning efforts; and
- ◆ Provide for the protection of Washington waters, natural, cultural and significant economic resources by minimizing the impact of oil spills.

Summary of the rules adopted on September 25, 2006

The following is a highlight of the new requirements. Please see the rules for complete understanding of new regulations and standards.

WAC 173-182 Oil Spill Contingency Plan Applicability:

- ◆ Applies to all facilities and pipelines located on or near navigable waters of Washington
 - which produce, store, process, transport, or otherwise handle oil, including crude oil, and which
 - transfer oil in bulk to or from a tank vessel or pipeline.
- ◆ For vessels this rule applies to all cargo and passenger vessels 300 gross tons and larger and to all tank vessels regardless of size operating in Washington waters.

WAC 173-182 Oil Spill Contingency Plan Requirements include:

- ◆ Complete notification and initial response actions;
- ◆ Equipment planning standards for early assessment through long term management of a worst case spill;
- ◆ Require the use of state approved response contractors, and presents standards and a process for application by the contractors;



- ◆ Spill management team requirements;
- ◆ Drill and inspection requirements;
- ◆ Enforcement provisions.

Effective October 26, 2006

Chapter 173-182 WAC becomes effective 31 days after the rule is filed with the Office of the Code Reviser.

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appeal under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For additional information about appealing this adoption please contact Jerry Thielen, Ecology's Regulatory Affairs Manager at (360) 407-7551 or by email jthi461@ecy.wa.gov.

If you require this publication in an alternate format, please contact the Spills Program at (360) 407-7455, or Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.