

Rule Proposal Notice

Water Quality Program

January 2011

Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington, Chapter 173-201A Washington Administrative Code (WAC)

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes to adopt Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington, Chapter 173-201A WAC. The rule proposal will be published in the Washington State Register on February 2, 2011.

The purpose of this rule proposal is to correct several language errors identified since Ecology adopted the current version of the Water Quality Standards, Chapter 173-201A WAC, in 2006. Portions of the standards contain typographic errors and narrative text or tables that need more clarity. Adopting these changes will make the rule more accurate and easier to understand by correcting and clarifying sections that have caused confusion for some stakeholders.

Ecology issued a:

- Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) and Environmental Checklist under the State Environmental Policy Act.
- Preliminary Cost-Benefit analysis

These documents and the proposed rule language are available for review and comment until March 16, 2011.

Public hearing schedule

The public hearings in Bellevue, Yakima, and Spokane will be held simultaneously to the Lacey hearing through video conference.

- **LACEY:** March 2, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
300 Desmond Drive SE
- **BELLEVUE:** March 2, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
3190 160th Ave. SE

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings are scheduled on March 2, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. in:

- Lacey
- Bellevue (via video conference)
- Yakima (via video conference)
- Spokane (via video conference)

Formal comment period closes March 16, 2011.

For copies of the proposed rule, please visit Ecology's website at:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/swqs/RuleRev2011.html

Contact information:

Department of Ecology
Water Quality Program
Becca Conklin
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Olympia, WA 98504-7600

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Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6600.

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

- **YAKIMA:** March 2, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
15 West Yakima Ave -- Suite 200
- **SPOKANE:** March 2, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
4601 N. Monroe St.

How to submit your comments

The comment period closes March 16, 2011.

You can give us your official comments in the following ways:

1. Testify at the public hearing.
2. Email your comments to swqs@ecy.wa.gov
3. Mail comments to:
Department of Ecology
Water Quality Program
Becca Conklin
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Ecology's response to your comments

All of the comments Ecology receives will become part of the official record. We will respond to all comments in a document called a Concise Explanatory Statement (CES). The CES is required by the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05) and is published after the rule is adopted. You will find your name listed in the document with a reference to where, in the document, Ecology responded your comments.

Expected adoption date

Ecology expects to adopt this rule no earlier than April 6, 2011.

