

POL 5205

WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM POLICY

Resource Contact: Dam Safety Office

Effective Date: 07-01-91

References: RCW 43.21A.064
RCW 90.03.350
Chapter 173-175 WAC

Revised: 07-01-1999

REVIEW OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

POLICY STATEMENT:

Construction plans and specifications which are received for DSO review after project construction will not be endorsed by the DSO "Approved for Construction" Stamp, nor will they be signed by the DSO project leader. Construction of a facility without prior plan approval is a violation of RCW 90.03.350, and the issues of structural integrity and project safety will be addressed according to provisions of WAC 173-175-620(2) and policies POL 5405 and 5406.

DISCUSSION:

Placement of the DSO Plan Approval stamp and signature by a DSO professional engineer on a set of plans constitutes an agency endorsement that the proposed design and method of construction should result in acceptable structural integrity and safety of the project. That endorsement cannot be given "after the fact" because DSO engineers have not had the opportunity to observe the construction of the project, and to field verify the assumptions made during the design and development of the construction plans and specifications.

Construction Inspections by the DSO are a mandatory part of the approval process. No amount of review of as-built plans can substitute for construction inspection as a means of verifying conformance with accepted engineering design and construction standards.

PROCEDURES:

No Plan Approval will be issued nor plan review fees charged for the original construction work which was conducted illegally. However, regulatory orders may be issued and fines may be levied as described in WAC 173-175-620(2a). Safety issues will be resolved in accordance with procedures contained in WAC 173-175-620(2) and policies POL 5405 and 5406.

Keith E. Phillips
Program Manager
Water Resources Program

Special Note: These policies and procedures are used to guide and ensure consistency among water resources program staff in the administration of laws and regulations. These policies and procedures are not formal administrative regulations that have been adopted through a rule-making process. In some cases, the policies may not reflect subsequent changes in statutory law or judicial findings, but they are indicative of the department's practices and interpretations of laws and regulations at the time they are adopted. If you have any questions regarding a policy or procedure, please contact the department.