

Public Workshop for Ambient Air Quality Standards Update

April 18, 2013



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Why are we doing this rule making?

- Update ambient air quality standards to be met in Washington.
- Align state ambient standards with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).
- Meet EPA Infrastructure State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements.

What is the focus of the rule making?

- Align rules with NAAQS by amending or consolidating these chapters into a new chapter:
 - Ch. 173-470 WAC Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter
 - Ch. 173-474 WAC Ambient Air Quality Standards for Sulfur Oxides
 - Ch. 173-475 WAC Ambient Air Quality Standards for Carbon Monoxide, Ozone, and Nitrogen Dioxide
- Add ambient air quality standard for Lead (Pb)

Why now?

- Legal deadlines to submit infrastructure SIPs to EPA
- EPA requires Ecology update ambient standard rules before they can approve SIPs
 - Failure to meet deadlines will cause EPA to issue Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs) to implement the standards
 - Failure to meet the SIP submittal deadlines can result in loss of federal highway funds
 - Ecology, local governments, and the business community prefer Ecology have regulatory control

What options have we considered?

- Not update state ambient air quality standards
- Keep three current rules and update them individually
- Combine existing rules into one rule
- Add standard for lead standard to new rule or add it to an existing rule
- Include updates to the radionuclides standard rule

What is being proposed?

- Consolidate existing criteria pollutant rules into one rule, and add a Lead (Pb) standard
- Incorporate current federal NAAQS
- Include existing, more stringent state SO₂ standards
- Delete references to Total Suspended Particulate and particulate fallout standards
- Delete obsolete reporting requirement for local agencies

How will the changes effect stakeholders?

- Ecology and local air agencies already implement federal NAAQS
- Stakeholders in the Tacoma-Pierce County Nonattainment Area will benefit
- Business community and local air agencies will benefit
- No additional costs to regulated sources

When is this happening?

- Timeline:
 - CR-101 filing date March 2013
 - Stakeholder Workshop April 2013
 - CR-102 filing date Summer 2013
 - CR-103 filing date Fall 2013

Questions for stakeholders

- Have we proposed the most efficient approach for future updates of the ambient air standards?
- Are ambient monitoring reports from the local authorities to Ecology still needed?
- Should more stringent state standards for SO₂ be retained?
- Is the particulate fallout standard in WAC 173-470-110 still needed?

How can you participate?

- Stakeholder meeting
- Provide comments
- Access more information on this rule at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/rules/rules_laws.html
- Participate in formal comment period
- Contact Ecology staff directly

Who to contact?

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Where can I get a copy of the proposal?

- Current proposal:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/rules/rules_laws.html

- Current state ambient standard rules:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/laws-rules/ecywac.html>

- EPA ambient standards:

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&SID=99bac4cfd77423315bf23777689d8564&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title40/40cfr50_main_02.tpl