

DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington



Washington State Department of
Health

New Reclaimed Water Rule Opportunities & Challenges

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Opportunities & Challenges

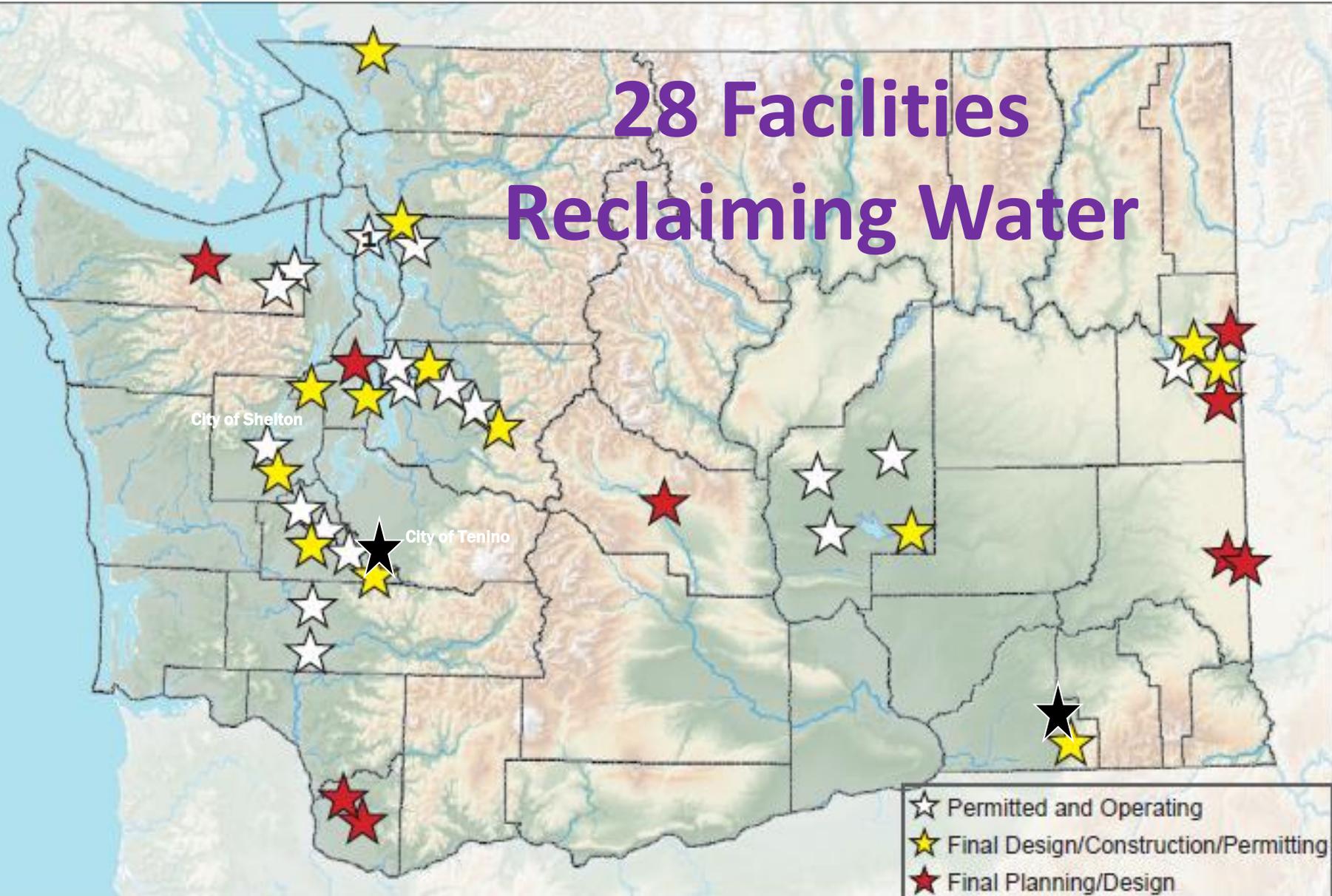
Washington Rulemaking History



- 1992** – Washington Legislature passes RCW 90.46 Reclaimed Water Use Act
- 1997** – Ecology & Health publish *Water Reclamation and Reuse Standards*
- 2006** – Ecology with DOH directed to develop Reclaimed Water Rule (WAC 173-219) & Guidance Manual
- 2010** – Governor Suspends Rulemaking for 2-Years
- 2014** – Rulemaking resumes

Reclaimed Water Facilities

**28 Facilities
Reclaiming Water**



What is Reclaimed Water?

Water derived in any part from wastewater with a domestic wastewater component that has been adequately and reliably treated, so that it can be used for beneficial purposes.

Chapter 90.46 RCW



Reclaimed Water Beneficial Uses

**Recreational Field
Irrigation**



**Agricultural Irrigation
(Food Crops/Livestock)**



Golf Courses



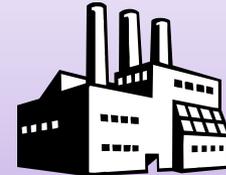
**Impoundments
(Landscaping/
Snowmaking)**



**Environmental
(Wetlands/Streams)**



Industrial



Ground Recharge



Rule-Making Process

Planning
Phase

CR-101

Drafting/
Proposal
Phase

- Advisory Committee

Public
Comment
Phase

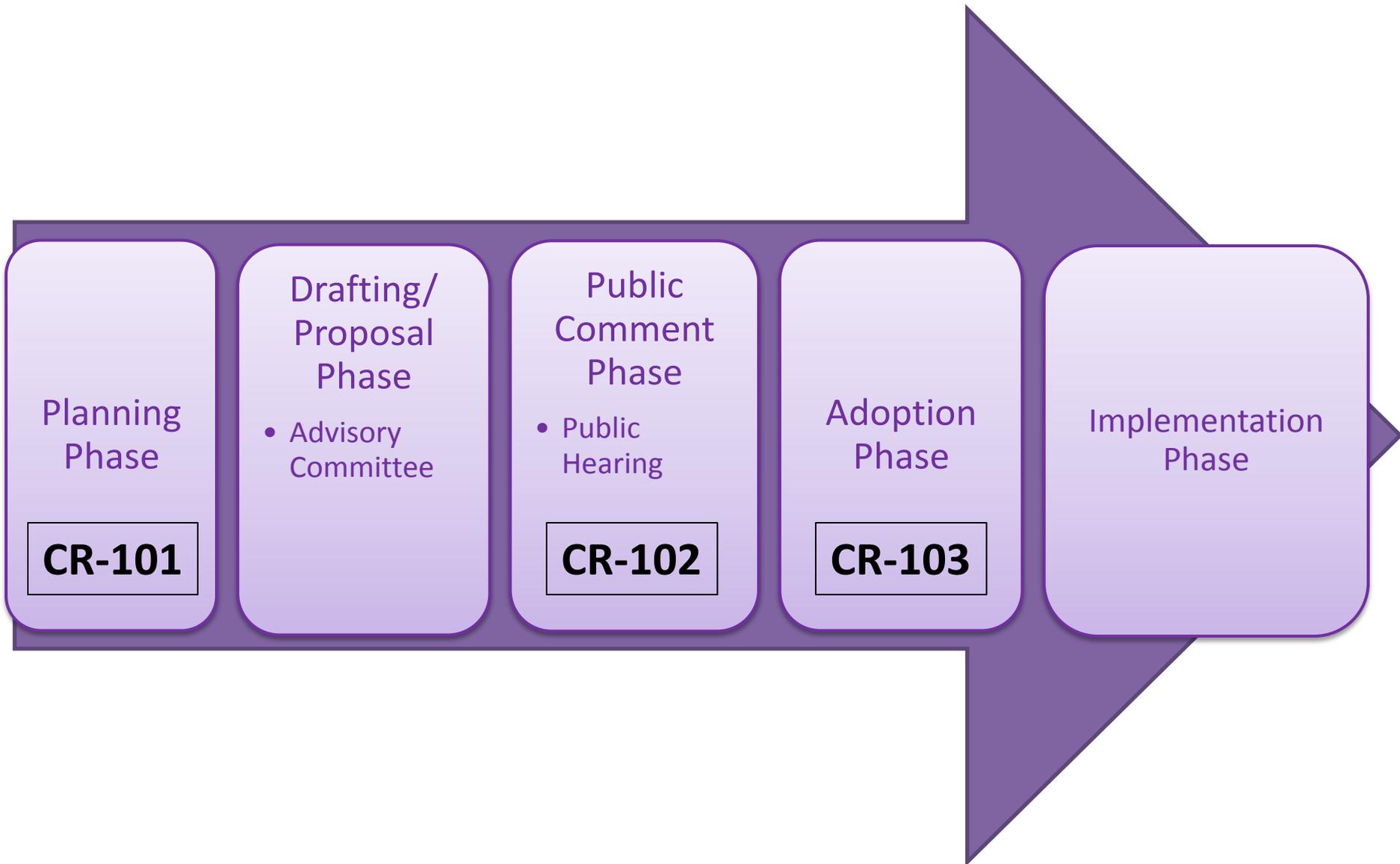
- Public Hearing

CR-102

Adoption
Phase

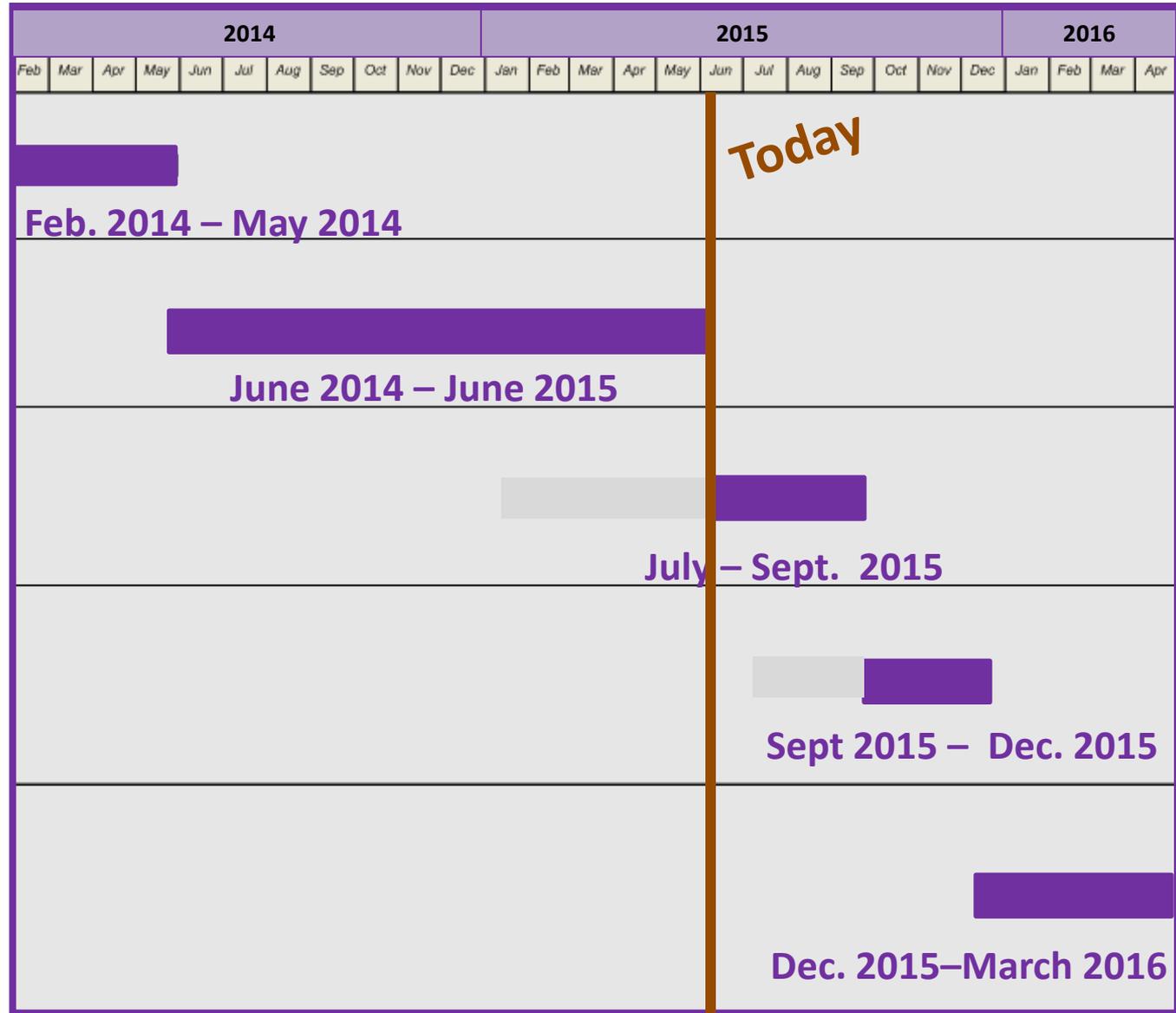
CR-103

Implementation
Phase



Rule Making Process - Schedule

- Planning
- Drafting
- Public
- Adoption
- Implement



Public Participation

Drafting/Proposal Phase

- Advisory Committee
- Rule Language
- Manual



Public Comment Phase

- Public Hearing(s)
- Written Comments



Challenges

- Consistent Statewide Rule
- Climatic and Water Availability Differences
- Case-By-Case Situations
- Water Rights Impairment
- Streams Closed by Regulation
- Federally Reserved Water Rights.

Certainty/Consistency

- Adopted Regulation Replaces Standards
- Designated “Lead” and “Non-Lead” Agency
- 2-Classes of Reclaimed Water (A & B)
- Single Permit Governs the Location, Rate, Water Quality and Beneficial Use
- Permit Review Timeframes
- Rule Effective and Compliance Dates
- Operators Certification

Rule Flexibility

- Adaptability for Advances in Technology
- Adaptable to Regional Differences
- Recommendations on Case-By-Case Basis
- Mitigation for Water Right
- Water Right Impairment



Questions?

