

# Department of Ecology

## Water Quality Standards Policy Forum #5

**May 23, 2013 ~ Lacey, WA**  
**9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (PST)**

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is holding the fifth Water Quality Policy Forum to continue discussions on potential changes to the Surface Water Quality Standards (WAC 173-201A) to adopt new human health criteria and to update implementation tools.

### Location

- **In person:** Ecology staff will present the webinar at the Ecology Headquarters Auditorium, 300 Desmond Drive, Lacey, WA 98503-1274 ([directions](#)). Seating for interested parties is available at that location. To reserve a seat, please email [swqs@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:swqs@ecy.wa.gov).
- **Interactive webinar:** Webinar participants will be able to ask questions, participate in discussions, and watch presentations from any online computer and phone. Free registration for the webinar is available online at: <https://customer.accuconference.com/Registration/index.aspx?pkRegQG=e44cdaf9-450e-46af-908c-7c12518619ca>.

### Agenda (draft)

*Note: Times may vary according to questions and discussion with Policy Forum participants.*

9:00 a.m.	<b>Introduction</b> (Susan Braley and Melissa Gildersleeve, Ecology) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting logistics</li> <li>• Status of rule-making process and recap of earlier Policy Forums</li> <li>• Status and role of Delegate's Table</li> </ul>
9:15 a.m.	<b>Continuation of mercury discussion from March 28 Policy Forum</b> (Cheryl Niemi, Ecology) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss some of the complex issues associated with regulation of mercury and PCBs in surface waters</li> </ul>
10:00 a.m.	<b>Specific chemical issues: Arsenic – Part 1</b> (Cheryl Niemi, Ecology) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of regulatory issues related to arsenic  <i>(NOTE: Part 2 will discuss criteria issues at the next scheduled Policy Forum in July)</i></li> </ul>
11:00 a.m.	<b>Reference doses and cancer potency factors</b> (Lon Kissinger, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10)
12:30 p.m.	<b>Break for Lunch</b>
1:30 p.m.	<b>Relative source contribution: an important input to the criteria equations for non-carcinogens</b> (Cheryl Niemi, Ecology) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPA's <a href="#">Human Health Ambient Water Quality Criteria and Fish Consumption Rates: Frequently Asked Questions</a> (January 2013)</li> <li>• Ecology comments to the Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA) regarding EPA's FAQs</li> </ul>
2:30 p.m.	<b>Break</b>
2:45 p.m.	<b>Levels of protection for carcinogens and non-carcinogens: science and policy issues</b> (Cheryl Niemi, Ecology)
3:30 p.m.	<b>National Toxics Rule Human Health Criteria Pollutants Spreadsheet</b> (Cheryl Niemi, Ecology)
4:30 p.m.	<b>Adjourn Policy Forum</b> (Melissa Gildersleeve, Ecology) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of topics covered in this Forum, overview of what will be covered in next Forum, next steps.</li> </ul>

# Additional Resources

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## Agency Contacts

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## More Information

Surface Water Quality Standards web page: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/swqs/index.html>

Surface Water Quality Standards Rule Revisions: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/swqs/Currswqsruleactiv.html>

Reducing Toxics in Fish, Sediments, & Water web page: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/toxics/fish.html>