



Hazardous Waste Program Plain Talk Review Process

Before You Write

You must take the actions below before you begin writing your document.

- ❖ Review the Plain Talk Principles and/or examples at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/quality/plaintalk/index.htm>
- ❖ Define your audience in writing:
 - Who are they?
 - What do you know about them? (E.g. education, time, interest in topic, demographics)
 - How does *who they are* impact *how you write*?
- ❖ Clearly define your purpose in writing. Consider:
 - Making a brief list of questions readers should be able to answer, and/or a
 - List of the things you want the readers to be able to do
- ❖ Contact a Plain Talk Team Member for a preview session to discuss the audience, purpose and principles.
- ❖ Participate in Plain Talk Training (optional)
 - Several Department of Personnel Trainings include Plain Talk Principles including:
 - Clear Writing
 - Technical Writing
 - Plain Talk
 - Program/Agency Plain Talk Training may eventually be available

Review Process Overview

- 1) Submit the document to the Plain Talk Team Lead (Team Lead). This should be done after peer technical review and prior to final formatting.
- 2) The Lead assigns two Plain Talk Team Members (Project Team) to the document.

Project Lead: Coordinates project communications and meetings
Reviews the document
Sends final document to the Lead

Project Member: Reviews the document

- 3) The Project Lead contacts the author(s) to:
 - Clarify the document's audience and purpose
 - Determine author's deadlines
- 4) The Project Team determines one of the following:
 - No Plain Talk Review is needed.
 - A Quick Review is sufficient
 - A Full Review is necessary
- 5) The Project Lead discusses the review decision with the author and initiates the appropriate review process.
- 6) When the review is finished the Project Lead sends the Team Lead a copy of the final document.
- 7) The Team Lead provides necessary information to the Agency Plain Talk Coordinators and HW Program GMAP reporting contact.

Quick Review Process

- 1) The Project Team makes comments on the document.
- 2) The Project Lead compiles the comments and provides them to the author.
- 3) The author incorporates the comments and sends a revised copy back to the Project Lead.
- 4) If the Project Team determines additional revisions are necessary, repeat steps 2 and 3 or begin a *Full Review*.
- 5) When the review is complete the Project Lead sends the final draft to the Team Lead.

Full Review Process

- 1) The Project Lead schedules a joint review session including:
 - Author
 - Authors designees (2 maximum)
 - Project Team

Note: The review participants must have the authority to make decisions regarding the document's final form.

- 2) The Project Lead makes arrangements for necessary equipment and facilities:
 - Room
 - Laptop
 - Video Projector
 - Electronic copy of document
 - NetMeeting
 - Internet Connection
- 3) Hold a joint review session
- 4) Repeat steps 1-3 as necessary
- 5) When the review is complete the Project Lead sends the final draft to the Team Lead.

