

Clean Energy Transformation Rule

Chapter 173-444 WAC

Public Hearing for Proposed Rule

Melanie Forster

Hearing Officer

October 6, 2020



Agenda

- 1:35 p.m. – Presentation about proposed rule
- 1:50 p.m. – Questions & answers
- 2:05 p.m. – Short break
- 2:10 p.m. – Public comments/testimony
- Wrap up



Washington Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) Goals

- By 2045, all electricity used in Washington will come from clean energy (renewable or nonemitting) resources.
- By 2030:
 - At least 80% of electricity comes from clean energy
 - For up to 20% of electricity, use these alternatives:
 - Buy unbundled renewable energy credits
 - Pay penalty – fuel types & technologies
 - Invest in **Energy Transformation Projects (ETPs)**
 - Use electricity from waste-to-energy facility



Scope of the Rule

- CETA requires Ecology to adopt rule by January 1, 2021 that establishes:
 - Calculation for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions content in electricity (RCW 19.405.020(22) and RCW 19.405.070)
 - Requirements for Energy Transformation Projects (ETPs) (RCW 19.405.020(18), RCW 19.405.040, RCW 19.405.100)
- The proposed rule applies to electric utilities and establishes:
 - Part I: Calculation methods for GHG emissions in electricity
 - Part II: Framework requirements for ETPs
- Ecology is consulting with Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and Washington Department of Commerce



Rulemaking Timeline

**Announced
Rulemaking
CR-101**

Developed rule

Stakeholder meetings

January 14, 2020

February 12, 2020

March 16, 2020

May 13, 2020

**Proposed
rule for
comment
CR-102**

**Evaluate &
respond to
comments**

**Adopt
rule
CR-103**

Oct. 18,
2019

Nov. 2019 – Aug. 2020

Sept. 2 –
Oct. 14,
2020

Oct. 15 –
Dec. 2020



Proposed Rule – GHG Emissions Calculation

- WAC 173-444-040 – GHG emissions calculation method
- Establishes methods only, no reporting requirements
- Developed with Commerce and UTC; compatible with Fuel Mix Disclosure
- Uses existing reporting and calculation systems:
 - EPA
 - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)
- Includes method for transmission losses, but not typical to use it
- Includes emission factor for unspecified electricity from statute



Proposed Rule – Energy Transformation Projects

Part II establishes the framework requirements for ETPs:

- WAC 173-444-060 – Process for identifying eligible project categories
- WAC 173-444-070 – Process and requirements for developing comprehensive protocol
 - The comprehensive protocol sets the methodologies, standards, & procedures for eligible project categories.
- WAC 173-444-080 – Procedures for validation, verification, monitoring, & reporting on ETPs
 - Validation of project plans – Ecology or third-party
 - Verification (implemented projects) – third-party



Invited to Comment on Proposed Rule

Public comment period:

- September 2, 2020 – October 14, 2020

Three ways to submit comments:

- In this public hearing
- Online: <http://aq.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=DNfCV>
- Mail to:

Washington Department of Ecology, Air Quality Program

Attn: Debebe Dererie

P.O. Box 47600

Olympia, WA 98504-7600



More Information and Contact

- Rulemaking website

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Laws-rules-rulemaking/Rulemaking/WAC-173-444>

- Contact

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360-407-7558 or 360-688-8103 (mobile)

- To stay informed, join our e-mail notification list:

<http://listserv.ecology.wa.gov/scripts/wa-ECOLOGY.exe?A0=ECOLOGY-CLEAN-ENERGY-UPDATES>

Thank you!

