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February 21, 2017

Notice to Withdraw Rulemaking and Immediately Refile

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is withdrawing its notice of rulemaking (Preproposal Statement of Inquiry CR 101 form) filed February 17, 2016, AO # 16-03, WSR 16-05-098.

In the rulemaking notice, Ecology proposed to amend Chapter 173-303 WAC – Dangerous Waste Regulations by adopting four EPA hazardous waste regulations, along with some state-initiated changes.

Then in September 2016, EPA promulgated the Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Final Rule (81 FR 85732). Ecology determined that the Generator Improvements rule should be adopted at the earliest opportunity, along with new EPA regulations revising export-import rules and establishing an electronic manifest system. One reason for including these new rules in this rulemaking is because EPA requires states to adopt mandatory rules within a given timeframe. Also, the generator improvement rule is beneficial to generators by providing regulatory flexibility and making the regulations more user-friendly.

Ecology wants to continue the rulemaking process for the previous four EPA rules and state-initiated rules as listed in the original CR 101, and expand the rulemaking to include the new EPA rules. Therefore, Ecology is withdrawing our original notice of rulemaking and immediately refiling a notice of rulemaking expanding the scope to include the generator improvement rule, export-import revisions and electronic manifest system, along with the rules listed in the first CR 101.

For more information, contact Robert Rieck at 360-407-6751 or <u>Robert.rieck@ecy.wa.gov</u>. Additional information is found at:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/laws_rules/DWRegs/1603ov.html

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