**RULE-MAKING ORDER**  
**PERMANENT RULE ONLY**

**CR-103P (December 2017)**  
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

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**Agency:** Department of Ecology  
**AO #** 18-02

**Effective date of rule:**  
**Permanent Rules**  
☑ 31 days after filing.  
☐ Other (specify) ______ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**  
☐ Yes  ☑ No  
If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** In 2018, Legislation passed amending Chapter 70.95B RCW (Chapter 213, Laws of 2018). It directed Ecology, with the advice of an advisory committee, to establish an initial fee schedule in rule.

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is adopting changes to chapter 173-230 WAC, Certification of Operators of Wastewater Treatment Plants (Rule). This Rule establishes the classifications for wastewater treatment plants and the requirements for certification of wastewater treatment plant operators.

The changes to the Rule include the following:  
- Establishes a new fee schedule as directed by the Legislature in 2018.  
- Provides for an Operator in Training and respective education and experience qualifications for Groups II-IV.  
- Creates standalone sections where more information and clarity were needed.  
- Clarifies Rule language to codify existing program practices.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**  
- Repealed: 173-230-010 thru 173-230-140  
- Amended:  
- Suspended:

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 70.95B Domestic Waste Treatment Plants - Operators

**Other authority:**

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**  
Adopted under notice filed as WSR 19-07-024 on 03/12/19 (date).  
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: The only change made from the proposed Rule was the addition of two allowable types of relevant experience, one inadvertently removed and another as clarification based on a question asked at a public hearing.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: Jocelyn W. Jones  
Address: PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504  
Phone: 360-407-6321  
Fax: N/A  
TTY: People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711  
Email: jocelyn.jones@ecy.wa.gov  
Web site: [https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1910023.html](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1910023.html)  
Other: N/A
Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero. No descriptive text.

Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note. A section may be counted in more than one category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:</th>
<th>New</th>
<th>Amended</th>
<th>Repealed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal statute:</td>
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<td>Federal rules or standards:</td>
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<td>Recently enacted state statutes:</td>
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<th>The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:</th>
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<th>Amended</th>
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<th>The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:</th>
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<th>Amended</th>
<th>Repealed</th>
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<th>The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:</th>
<th>New</th>
<th>Amended</th>
<th>Repealed</th>
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<th>The number of sections adopted using:</th>
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<tr>
<th>Date Adopted: July 10, 2019</th>
<th>Signature:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name: Maia D. Bellon</td>
<td>Signature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title: Director</td>
<td>Signature</td>
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