



# Hydrofluorocarbons and other fluorinated greenhouse gases rulemaking

Draft Rule Language Meeting

Jan. 27, 2025

# Ecology staff

- Meg Baker - Facilitator, Community Outreach and Environmental Education Specialist
- Tamara Dumitrescu – HFC Technical Lead, Environmental Specialist
- Leonard Machut – Fluorinated Gas Section Manager
- Joshua Grice – CPRP Policy and Planning Section Manager
- Gopika Patwa – HFC Rule Lead
- Nikki Harris – Technical Host

# Overview



Rulemaking context and objectives



Rule language revisions



Timeline



Questions and input



Next steps

# Rulemaking context

## Objectives:

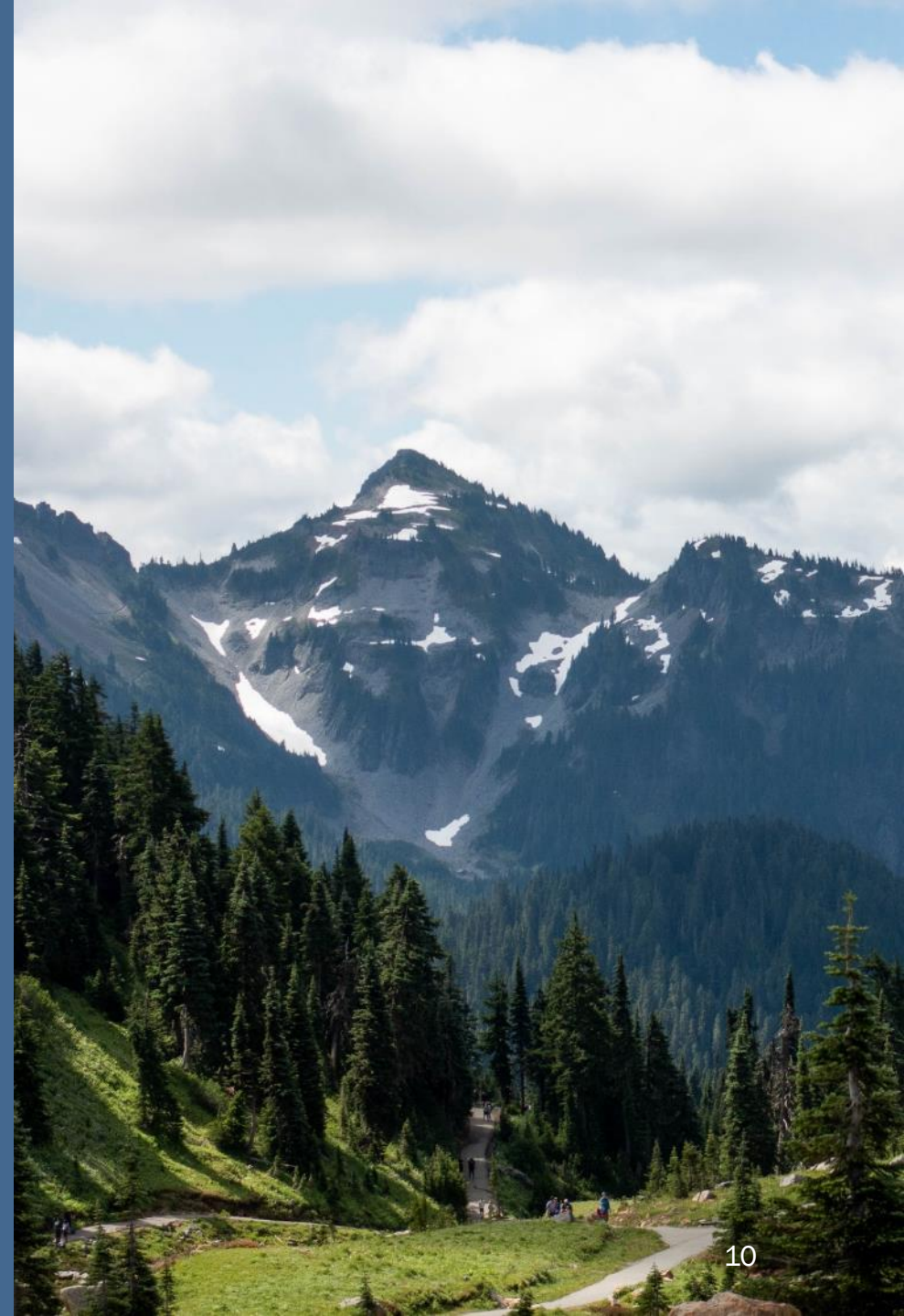
- Support the transition away from using HFCs in products and equipment
- Improve implementation of the statute

## Ecology is considering:

- Revisions to WAC 173-443-065 and -075 to modify the sell-through provision
  - This allows equipment manufactured prior to prohibition dates to be sold for a limited amount of time.
- Revisions to WAC 173-443-040 to modify the prohibitions for automatic commercial ice machines
- Other necessary technical and administrative changes



# Rule language revisions



# WAC 173-443-030: Definitions and acronyms

- **“Automatic commercial ice machine” (ACIM)**
  - Made consistent with definition from 10 CFR 431.132 as referred in EPA’s 40 CFR 84.54(a)(8)
- **Remote Condensing unit**
  - Added ACIM specific reference for remote condensing units
    - From 10 CFR 431.132
- **“Stand-alone unit, automatic commercial ice machine”**
  - Added definition as referred to in EPA 40 CFR 84.54(a)(8), definitions for ACIMs
    - From 10 CFR 431.132 and .134

# WAC 173-443-030: Definitions and acronyms

- **“Mothballing” or “system mothballing”**
  - Removed “for longer than 60 days”
  
- **“New refrigeration equipment”**
  - Added clarification: “and increases the cooling load”

# WAC 173-443-040: List of prohibited substances

## Table 1:

- End-Use Category: Refrigeration
  - Updated chemical list and date in “Remote condensing units, ACIM (New and retrofit) row to match EPA restrictions for ACIMs (40 CFR 84.54(C)(14))
  - Updated ACIMs stand alone units (self contained) to match EPA 40 CFR, Part 84, Subpart B, Section 84.54(a)(8)



# WAC 173-443-060: Prohibitions and additional requirements for new products and equipment listed in Table 1

## (1) Prohibitions:

- Added clarifying detail “sell”
  - “No person may **sell**, offer for sale, lease, rent, install, or otherwise cause to enter into Washington commerce any new product or equipment, as defined in WAC 173-443-030, that contains or uses a prohibited substance listed in WAC 173-443-040, Table 1, unless an exemption is provided for in WAC 173-443-050.”

# **173- 443-065: Prohibitions and additional requirements for new or retrofit refrigeration equipment in Table 2**

## **(1) Prohibitions**

- Added clarifying detail “sell” (see slide 14 for similar edit)

## **(2) Sell through provision:**

- Removed specific date(s) in the provision, January 1, 2024, manufacture by, and January 1, 2026, sell through end
- Removed rental and lease of equipment from sell through provision
- Added two-year time limit for selling, distribution, and installation of equipment

# **173- 443-075: Prohibitions and additional requirements for new or retrofit air conditioning equipment in Table 3**

- **(1) Prohibitions**
  - Added clarifying detail “sell” (see slide 14 for similar edit)
  - Fixed a typo: “other” to “otherwise”
- **(2) Sell through provision:**
  - Removed specific date(s) in the provision, January 1, 2024, manufacture by, and January 1, 2026, sell through end
  - Removed rental and lease of equipment from sell through provision
  - Added two-year time limit for selling, distribution, and installation of equipment
  - Added install for variable refrigerant flow air conditioning systems to provision if components are manufactured prior to the effective date of the prohibition

# **WAC 173-443-125: Registration requirements for refrigerant wholesalers, distributors, and reclaimers**

## To be added:

- Clarifying language:
  - New facilities that begin operation after January 1, 2024, requirement to register within 3 months of beginning operation

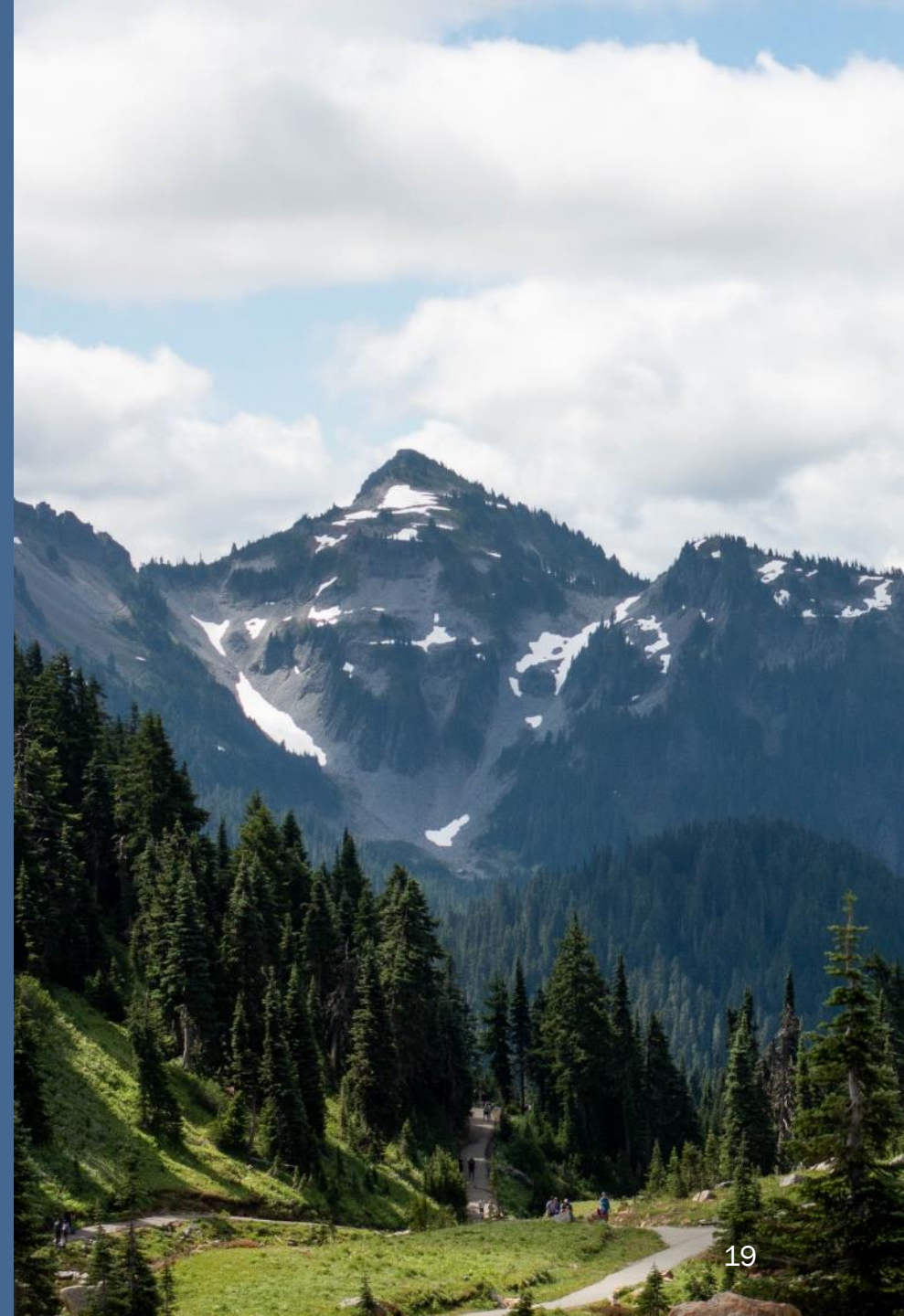
# Technical and administrative fixes

**173-443-095(3)(h)(iv)(i) and 173-443-225(2)(3)(c):**

- **Updated section and program names**
  - Air Quality Program to Climate Pollution Reduction Program
  - HFC Program to Fluorinated Gases Section
- **Corrected Ecology email address**
  - HFC@ecology.wa.gov to [HFC@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:HFC@ecy.wa.gov)



# Questions & comments



# Rulemaking timeline

## Rule announcement

- Introduce rulemaking
- Public meetings
- Rule development
- Informal public comment periods

October 2024 – July 2025

Issued guidance  
**December 2024**

## Rule proposal

- Announce public hearings
- Provide proposed rule language
- Formal comment period
  - Hold public hearings
  - Submit comments

July 2025 – Fall 2025

## Rule adoption

- Adopt final rule language (File CR-103)
- Concise Explanatory Statement
- Economic analysis
- Rule effective after 31 Days

Late 2025

# Next steps

## Comment online:

- Collecting input on the draft rule language
- Our comment period is live, and it ends **Feb. 10, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.**
- Comment online:  
<https://ecology.commentinput.com?id=AM4HrPuda>

## Community Forum

- Jan. 29, 2025 at 5 p.m.





# Thank you

**Compliance/Technical Assistance**

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**Rulemaking**

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