

From: [Tom Holmes](#)
To: [Jones, Jocelyn \(ECY\)](#); [Carre, Poppy \(ECY\)](#)
Subject: RE: Informal Comment Period beginning today for chapter 173-230 (Wastewater Operator Certification)
Date: Friday, October 26, 2018 6:51:45 AM

I just started looking at the rule and I haven't even made it out of the definitions and I have already spent an hour working on this. I have added my first comment below, so you can understand what to expect.

Poppy, I do want to point out that I was a bit disappointed that I was not allowed to participate on the RAC. I have given a lot of time to helping the certification program over the past decade as have others on the certification committee only to be passed over when the time came to help with the Rule. I am concerned that it will take 20 hours to go over the rule and fix minor issues that could have been fixed from the start. Hopefully it gets easier once I get deeper into the document.

Tom's comments:

1. Your definition in rule is incorrect in that it leaves out a very important distinction that should be included. I have highlighted the word from the RCW. Please add this word. Without this word you will create confusion and people will think that an operator certification is not required to be in charge of maintenance. This is more an issue at bigger facilities where you might have maintenance managers that don't think certification is required because it was left out in your certification rule.

RCW [70.95B.030](#)

Wastewater treatment plant operators—Certification required.

As provided for in this chapter, the individual on-site at a wastewater treatment plant who is designated by the owner as the operator in responsible charge of the operation and **maintenance** of the plant on a routine basis shall be certified at a level equal to or higher than the classification rating of the plant being operated.

If a wastewater treatment plant is operated on more than one daily shift, the operator in charge of each shift shall be certified at a level no lower than one level lower than the classification rating of the plant being operated and shall be subordinate to the operator in responsible charge who is certified at a level equal to or higher than the plant. This requirement for shift operator certification shall be met by January 1, 1989.

Operators not required to be certified by this chapter are encouraged to become certified on a voluntary basis.

From: Jones, Jocelyn (ECY) <jwin461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2018 4:59 PM

To: ECOLOGY-WW-OPCERT@LISTSERV.ECOLOGY.WA.GOV

Subject: Informal Comment Period beginning today for chapter 173-230 (Wastewater Operator Certification)

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Hello OpCert Listserv subscribers!

Today, the Department of Ecology is beginning an Informal Public Comment Period. This is an opportunity for you to review and comment on a draft of proposed changes to chapter 173-230 WAC (Certification of Operators of Wastewater Treatment Plants).

To view the [draft rule language](#), review the [Summary of Proposed Changes](#) and the [draft funding model](#), or to [submit comments](#), please go to the [OpCert rulemaking webpage](#).

Informal Comment Period: October 25 – November 26, 2018
(midnight)

Thank you again for your interest in the Operator Certification rulemaking. We look forward to hearing your thoughts on the draft rule language!

If you have any questions please contact me at jocelyn.jones@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-6321 or Poppy Carre at poca461@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-6449.

Cheers,

Jocelyn

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