

**Washington State Department of Ecology
Chapter 173-316 WAC – Sustainable Food Management Grants
Divert, Inc. Response**

September 1, 2026

Chris Fredley
FCGrantRules@ecy.wa.gov
564-233-1615

Divert thanks the Washington Department of Ecology for its continued efforts to ensure that food rescue remains at the forefront of Washington's implementation strategies aimed to help the state reach its organics diversion goals. We are thankful for the opportunity to participate in this rulemaking and offer the comments below.

Comments on Draft Chapter 173-316 WAC Sustainable Food Management Grants

WAC 173-316-210 Safe Food Transport and Supply Chain Modernization

1. Divert recommends that Ecology considers language involving the hiring of a driver or employee on the list of activities or related costs eligible under this grant category.

WAC 173-316-230 Food Waste Reduction Pilots and Data Improvement

2. Divert recommends that Ecology considers language allowing businesses to be included as eligible applicants under this grant category.

Divert would welcome the opportunity to speak with the Department of Ecology further on these recommendations and appreciates the opportunity to give continued input. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Holly Yanai at hyanai@divertinc.com or 614-940-1799.

Sincerely,



Chris Thomas
Vice President of Public Affairs
Divert Inc.