

**WAC 296-840-095 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter the following definitions apply:

**Action level.** A concentration of airborne respirable crystalline silica of 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , calculated as an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA).

**Competent person.** An individual who is capable of identifying existing and foreseeable respirable crystalline silica hazards in the workplace and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate or minimize them. The competent person must have the knowledge and ability necessary to fulfill the responsibilities set forth in WAC 296-840-140.

**Construction work.** All or any part of excavation, construction, erection, alteration, repair, demolition, and dismantling, of buildings and other structures and all operations in connection therewith; the excavation, construction, alteration and repair of sewers, trenches, caissons, conduits, pipe lines, roads and all operations pertaining thereto; the moving of buildings and other structures, and to the construction, alteration, repair, or removal of wharfs, docks, bridges, culverts, trestles, piers, abutments or any other construction, alteration, repair or removal work related thereto.

**Director.** The director of the department of labor and industries or his/her authorized representative.

**DOSH.** The division of occupational safety and health, Washington state department of labor and industries.

**Employee exposure.** The exposure to airborne respirable crystalline silica that would occur if the employee were not using a respirator.

**High-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter.** A filter that is at least 99.97 percent efficient in removing mono-dispersed particles of 0.3 micrometers in diameter.

**Objective data.** Information, such as air monitoring data from industry-wide surveys or calculations based on the composition of a substance, demonstrating employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica associated with a particular product or material or a specific process, task, or activity. The data must reflect workplace conditions closely resembling or with a higher exposure potential than the processes, types of material, control methods, work practices, and environmental conditions in the employer's current operations.

**Permissible exposure limit (PEL).** A concentration of airborne respirable crystalline silica of 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , calculated as an 8-hour TWA.

**Physician or other licensed health care professional (PLHCP).** An individual whose legally permitted scope of practice (i.e., license, registration, or certification) allows him or her to independently provide or be delegated the responsibility to provide some or all of the particular health care services required by WAC 296-840-145.

**Regulated area.** An area, demarcated by the employer, where an employee's exposure to airborne concentrations of respirable crystalline silica exceeds, or can reasonably be expected to exceed, the PEL.

**Respirable crystalline silica.** Quartz, cristobalite, and/or tridymite contained in airborne particles that are determined to be respirable by a sampling device designed to meet the characteristics for respirable-particle-size-selective samplers specified in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 7708:1995: Air quality - Particle size fraction definitions for health-related sampling.

**Specialist.** An American Board Certified Specialist in Pulmonary Disease or an American Board Certified Specialist in Occupational Medicine.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060 and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 18-07-098, § 296-840-095, filed 3/20/18, effective 4/23/18.]