

**WAC 173-303-900 Public involvement and participation.** (1) Intent. Public involvement and participation plays a significant role in the decision making process. The department intends to foster public awareness, information and consultation, and to respond actively to public concerns. The department will inform the public of major issues, proposed projects, and regulatory changes, and will consult interested and affected segments of the public before making important decisions. The overall goal of the department is to provide knowledge to the public about dangerous waste issues that vitally affect the state, to encourage broader understanding of the public role in dangerous wastes and their proper management, and to promote an open dialogue between the public, industry, and government.

(2) Applicable requirements. In fulfilling the intent of public involvement and participation in the decision making process, the department will refer to and, where applicable, follow the requirements and guidance set forth in the following:

- (a) Chapter 34.04 RCW, Administrative Procedure Act;
- (b) Chapter 34.08 RCW, Washington State Register Act of 1977;
- (c) Chapter 42.17 RCW, Public Records Act;
- (d) Chapter 197-11 WAC, Guidelines interpreting and implementing the State Environmental Policy Act;
- (e) 40 C.F.R. Part 25, Public Participation in Programs Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Clean Water Act; and
- (f) Reserve.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105 and 70.105D RCW. WSR 98-03-018 (Order 97-03), § 173-303-900, filed 1/12/98, effective 2/12/98; WSR 94-01-060 (Order 92-33), § 173-303-900, filed 12/8/93, effective 1/8/94. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105 RCW and RCW 70.95.260. WSR 82-05-023 (Order DE 81-33), § 173-303-900, filed 2/10/82.]