

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5079**

55th Legislature  
1997 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 21, 1997  
YEAS 38 NAYS 4

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 10, 1997  
YEAS 62 NAYS 36

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**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved

CERTIFICATE

I, Mike O Connell, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5079** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5079**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 1997 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1997 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment (originally sponsored by Senator Swecker)

Read first time 02/05/97.

1            AN ACT Relating to permit processing; adding a new section to  
2 chapter 90.48 RCW; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The purpose of this act is to encourage  
5 environmental permit program efficiency and pollution prevention  
6 through increased private sector participation in the preparation of  
7 wastewater discharge permits currently administered by the department  
8 of ecology. The legislature recognizes that pollution prevention can  
9 often be accomplished through cooperative partnerships between  
10 government and industry and through voluntary changes in industrial  
11 production methods. By using expertise available in the private  
12 sector, the permit preparation option provided in this act is intended  
13 to reduce the time required to issue wastewater discharge permits and  
14 better protect the water quality of the state.

15            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 90.48 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17            (1) Within fifteen days of receipt of an application for the  
18 issuance of a new permit or modification of an existing permit under

1 RCW 90.48.160 or 90.48.260, the department shall determine whether it  
2 is likely that the permit will be processed within one hundred eighty  
3 days. If the department determines that a permit will not be processed  
4 within one hundred eighty days, the applicant shall be notified. Upon  
5 receipt of this notification, an applicant may choose to proceed with  
6 the draft permit preparation option in subsection (2) of this section.

7 (2) Any person applying for the issuance of a new permit or  
8 modification of an existing permit under RCW 90.48.160 or 90.48.260 may  
9 submit an application with a draft permit and fact sheet if the  
10 department cannot process the permit within the timeline provided in  
11 subsection (1) of this section.

12 (3) The department shall approve or deny the permit proposal within  
13 forty-five days of submission if no public hearing is required, or  
14 within ninety days of submission if a public hearing is required. The  
15 department or the applicant may negotiate a permit proposal if both  
16 parties agree to a timeline. The department retains full authority  
17 under this chapter to approve, modify, or disapprove any draft permit  
18 or fact sheet submitted under this section.

19 (4) The department shall make available guidelines specifying the  
20 elements of a complete draft permit and fact sheet.

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