

WAC 296-54-58130 Helicopter logging—Fueling area. (1) Separate areas must be designated for landing logs and for fueling helicopter(s).

(2) Refueling any helicopter with either aviation gasoline or Jet B (turbine) type fuel while the engine is running is prohibited.

(3) Helicopters using Jet A (turbine-kerosene) type fuel may be refueled with engines running provided the following criteria are met:

(a) Unauthorized employees must not be allowed within fifty feet of the refueling operation or fueling equipment; and

(b) Fire extinguishers must be strategically located in the fueling area and must have a combined rating of at least 20A:120BC.

(4) All fueling employees must be thoroughly trained in the refueling operation and in the use of the available fire extinguishing equipment they may be expected to use.

(5) The following are prohibited within fifty feet of the fueling area or fueling equipment:

(a) Smoking;

(b) Open flames;

(c) Exposed flame heaters;

(d) Flare pots; and

(e) Open flame lights.

EXCEPTION: Aircraft preheaters are not prohibited. However, no fueling may be performed while the heaters are in operation.

(6) The fueling area must be posted with "no smoking" signs.

(7) Because there are many causes of static electricity, fueling employees must assume that it is present at all times. Before starting refueling operations, the fueling equipment and the helicopter must be bonded and the fueling nozzle must be electrically bonded to the helicopter. Using conductive hose is not an acceptable method of bonding. All grounding and bonding connections must be electrically and mechanically firm to clean unpainted metal parts.

(8) To control spills, fuel must be pumped either by hand or power; pouring or gravity flow is prohibited. Self-closing nozzles or deadman controls must be used and must not be blocked open. Nozzles must not be dragged along the ground.

(9) In case of a spill, the fueling operation must be immediately stopped until the person in charge determines that it is safe to resume.

(10) Helicopters with their engines stopped while being refueled with aviation gasoline or Jet B (turbine) type fuel, must comply with subsection (4) through (9) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060, and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 17-17-131, § 296-54-58130, filed 8/22/17, effective 10/22/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040 and [49.17].050. WSR 99-17-117, § 296-54-58130, filed 8/18/99, effective 12/1/99.]