



RULE-MAKING ORDER
(RCW 34.05.360)

CR-103 (10/1/89)

Agency: Department of Agriculture

- Permanent Rule
 Emergency Rule

(1) Date of adoption: March 8, 1993

(2) Purpose: Broaden the Department's authority to delegate the function of presiding officer to better handle the adjudicative hearings conducted by the Department.

(3) Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

- Repealed:
Amended: 16-08-021, 16-08-141, 16-08-151
Suspended:

(4) Authority for adoption:

- Statute: RCW 34.05.425
Other Authority:

(5.1) PERMANENT RULE ONLY

Pursuant to notice filed as WSR _____ on _____ (date).
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version:

(5.2) EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

Pursuant to RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- (a) That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
 (b) That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding: The Department currently has difficulties when handling certain adjudicative cases under its purview due to the existing structure of "presiding officers." This rule amendment will clear up those difficulties identified and the Department will continue on with its case log.

(5.3) Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

- Yes No If yes, explain:

(6) Effective date of rule:

Permanent Rules

- 31 days after filing
 Other (specify) _____ *

Emergency Rules

- Immediately
 Later (specify) _____

*(If less than 31 days after filing, specific finding in 5.3 under RCW 34.05.380(2) is required)

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

Michael V. Schwisow

SIGNATURE

Deputy Director

DATE

3/08/93

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

CODE REVISER'S OFFICE
STATE OF WASHINGTON

MAR 08 1993

TIME 1:29
DATE 93-07-02

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 91-23-051, filed 11/15/91, effective 12/16/91)

WAC 16-08-021 Presiding officer. (1) The director will designate the presiding officer for an adjudicative proceeding:

(a) In matters involving an adjudicative proceeding, the director may designate as presiding officer an administrative law judge assigned by the office of administrative hearings under the authority of chapter 34.12 RCW, or the deputy director;

(b) In matters involving ~~((a))~~ an emergency or brief adjudicative proceeding or involving a proceeding pursuant to WAC 16-08-022, the director may designate ~~((an assistant director))~~ in writing staff persons to function as the presiding officer. ~~((In matters involving emergency adjudicative proceedings the director may designate an assistant director, the deputy director, or the deputy director's assistant as presiding officer.))~~

(2) A person who has served as an investigator, prosecutor, or advocate in any stage of an adjudicative proceeding or someone who is subject to the authority or direction of such a person, may not serve as a presiding officer in the same proceeding.

(3) The presiding officer shall have the authority to:

(a) Determine the order of presentation of evidence;

(b) Administer oaths and affirmations;

(c) Issue subpoenas;

(d) Rule on procedural matters, objections, and motions;

(e) Rule on offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;

(f) Interrogate witnesses called by the parties in an impartial manner to develop any facts deemed necessary to fairly and adequately decide the matter;

(g) Call additional witnesses and request additional exhibits deemed necessary to complete the record and receive such evidence subject to full opportunity for cross-examination and rebuttal by all parties;

(h) Take any appropriate action necessary to maintain order during the hearing;

(i) Permit or require oral argument or briefs and determine the time limits for submission thereof;

(j) Take any other action necessary and authorized by any applicable statute or rule;

(k) Waive any requirement of these rules unless a party shows that it would be prejudiced by such a waiver.

NEW SECTION

WAC 16-08-022 Consolidation of proceedings. The department may consolidate an emergency adjudicative proceeding with an adjudicative proceeding on the merits.

WAC 16-08-141 Brief adjudicative proceedings. (1) Pursuant to RCW 34.05.482, the department will use brief adjudicative proceedings where not violative of law and where protection of the public interest does not require the department to give notice and an opportunity to participate to persons other than the parties. Those circumstances may include:

- (a) Actions taken by the agency based on the failure:
 - (i) To maintain, supply, or display records; and/or
 - (ii) To display evidence of a license; and/or
 - (iii) To display or post information required by law; and/or
 - (iv) To possess required insurance, bonding or other security.
- (b) Actions taken with respect to late application renewal fees.
- (c) Actions taken with respect to certificate of compliance agreements under WAC 16-461-010.
- (d) Actions taken with respect to sale permits pursuant to RCW 15.13.270.
- (e) Actions taken to revoke certification of plant material as foundation or breeder planting stock pursuant to RCW 15.14.110.
- (f) Penalty actions taken with respect to cattle breed name use.
- (g) Penalty actions taken against milk producers pursuant to RCW 15.36.115 or 15.36.595.
- (h) Dairy degrade or permit suspension actions taken pursuant to (~~RCW 15.36.595~~) chapter 15.36 RCW.
- (i) Actions taken with respect to licenses for sale of milk for animal food pursuant to RCW 15.37.030 et seq.
- (j) Actions taken with respect to registration of commercial feed pursuant to RCW 15.53.9036(~~+~~).
- (k) Actions taken with respect to pesticide registration under RCW 15.58.110.
- (l) Actions taken with respect to organic certification pursuant to RCW 15.86.060 and/or 15.86.070.
- (m) Actions taken with respect to mushroom buyer or dealer licenses pursuant to RCW 15.90.020.
- (n) Actions taken with respect to animal health certificates pursuant to RCW 16.36.050.
- (o) Actions taken with respect to destruction or treatment of quarantined animals pursuant to RCW 16.36.090.
- (p) Actions taken with respect to licenses for garbage feeding to swine pursuant to RCW 16.36.108.
- (q) Actions taken with respect to licenses related to custom farm slaughter pursuant to chapter 16.49 RCW.
- (r) Actions taken with respect to licenses related to custom meat facilities pursuant to chapter 16.49 RCW.
- (s) Actions taken with respect to approval of livestock pens within feedlots pursuant to RCW 16.58.080.
- (t) Actions taken with respect to certified feed lot licenses pursuant to RCW 16.58.130.
- (u) Actions taken with respect to seizure and destruction of incorrect weights and measures pursuant to RCW 19.24.250.
- (v) Actions taken with respect to licenses of grain dealers or warehousemen pursuant to RCW 22.09.471.

(w) Revocation of compliance agreements for the completion of state phytosanitary, sanitation, or brown garden snail certificates pursuant to chapters 15.13 and 17.24 RCW.

(x) Revocation of compliance agreements for preprinting or use of rubber stamps for nursery stock inspection certificates pursuant to chapter 15.13 RCW.

(y) Revocation of compliance agreements for root sampling of nursery stock pursuant to chapter 15.13 RCW.

Plant Certification

(aa) Agency refusal to certify seed stocks because of misleading or confusing labeling pursuant to chapter 15.60 RCW and WAC 16-316-345.

(bb) Rescinding of permit for seed conditioning pursuant to chapter 15.60 RCW and WAC 16-316-185(8).

(cc) Expulsion from or refusal to allow entry into a seed or plant certification program pursuant to chapters 15.60 and 15.13 RCW.

(2) A party to a brief adjudicative hearing has twenty days to file an application or request from the date of service of the department's notice of intent to take action. The application or request for a brief adjudicative hearing shall be filed at the address listed on the form provided by the department. The party filing the application or request for a brief adjudicative proceeding shall submit a written explanation of their view of the matter along with the application or request. Other parties may file a written response within ten days after service of the application for a brief adjudicative proceeding. Copies of the response shall be served on all parties. Oral statements may be submitted and considered as follows:

(a) If a party to a brief adjudicative proceeding desires an opportunity to make an oral statement, it should be requested in the application or request.

(b) A request to make an oral statement may be granted if the presiding officer believes such a statement would benefit him or her in reaching a decision. The presiding officer shall notify the parties within a reasonable time of the decision to grant or deny the request to hear oral comments, and if the request is granted, shall notify the parties of the time and place for hearing comments.

(3) If the party is present at the time any unfavorable action is taken, the presiding officer shall make a brief statement of the reasons for the decision. The decision on an application shall be expressed in a written order which shall be served upon all parties within ten days after entry.

(4) The presiding officer's written decision is an initial order. If no review is taken of the initial order, it shall be the final order.

(5) The reviewing officer shall conduct a review of an initial order resulting from a brief adjudicative proceeding upon the written or oral request of a party if the director receives the request within twenty-one days from the service of the initial order. If no request is filed in a timely manner, the reviewing officer may review, on his or her own motion, an order resulting from a brief adjudicative proceeding and adopt, modify, or reject the initial order; but the reviewing officer shall not take any action on review less favorable to any party without giving that

party notice and opportunity to explain his or her view of the matter.

(6) A request for review of an initial order shall contain an explanation of the party's view of the matter and a statement of reasons why the initial order is incorrect. The request for review shall be filed with the director and copies shall be served on all parties, and evidence of such service filed. Responses to a request for review of an initial order shall be filed with the director and served on all parties within ten days after service of the request for review.

(7) The order on review shall be in writing, shall include a brief statement of the reasons for the decision, and shall be entered within twenty days after the date of the initial order or of the request for review, whichever is later. The order shall include a description of any further available administrative review or, if none is available, a notice that judicial review may be available.

(8) The record in a brief adjudicative proceeding shall consist of any documents regarding the matter that were considered or prepared by the presiding officer for the brief adjudicative proceeding and/or by the reviewing officer for any review.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 91-23-051, filed 11/15/91, effective 12/16/91)

WAC 16-08-151 Emergency adjudicative proceedings. (1)

Pursuant to RCW 34.05.479, the department shall use emergency adjudicative proceedings for the suspension or cancellation of authority in situations involving an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare requiring immediate action by the department. Such situations shall include:

(a) Failure to possess required insurance, bonding or other security.

(b) Health, safety, or welfare violations when the violation involves an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, including, but not limited to, decisions by the department to condemn horticultural plants under chapter 15.13 RCW; or to condemn infested or infected articles under chapter 15.08 RCW; or to issue stop sale, use, or removal order under chapter 15.49 RCW; or to quarantine apiaries under chapter 15.60 RCW; or to (~~condemn or~~) impound infested, infected, or regulated articles pursuant to chapter 17.24 RCW; or to close food processing facilities under chapter 69.07 RCW; or under rules or regulations of the director adopted pursuant to such laws.

(2) The summary order shall include a brief statement of findings of fact, conclusions of law, and justification for the determination of an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare. The order shall be effective when entered. Service of the order shall be made pursuant to WAC 10-08-110. The order shall also give the affected party forty-eight hours from receipt of the order to request an adjudicative proceeding on the order, or, in the alternative, the director may in the order automatically

establish a date affording the affected party the opportunity to present any defense concerning why the summary order is incorrect.

(3) A decision made upon the emergency adjudicative proceeding shall be expressed in a written order which shall be served on all parties within five days after its entry. This written order is a final order.

(4) The summary order shall be effective pending disposition on the merits of the denial, suspension or revocation of authority.