

WSR 23-07-001

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

[Filed March 1, 2023, 12:11 p.m.]

PUBLIC NOTICE

**The Reissuance of the Wastewater Operator
Certification Program Draft Fee Schedule**

The Washington state department of ecology (ecology) certifies wastewater treatment plant operators to ensure they are knowledgeable to properly operate and maintain wastewater treatment plants.

By law, ecology must fund the wastewater operator certification (OpCert) program with fees. These fees are subject to change, depending upon a budget and workload analysis completed every biennium. The current fee schedule is published in WAC 173-230-240.

Based on the estimated administrative costs of the OpCert program and the projected account balance, ecology intends to raise wastewater operator certification fees beginning July 1, 2023.

Copies of the draft fee schedule: The draft fee schedule will be available online (as of March 31, 2023) at <https://ecology.wa.gov/opcert>. You may request hard copies from Torrie Shaul at opcert@ecy.wa.gov.

Public notice process and comments: Ecology is accepting public comments on the draft fee schedule from March 31, 2023, **through 11:59 p.m.** on May 15, 2023. Ecology prefers to receive comments on the draft fee schedule through the eComment form. However, ecology will accept written comments via email and by mail. Ecology will review all comments received by the deadline, and plans to publish the final fee schedule prior to June 30, 2023.

Submit comments:

- Online via the eComment form: <https://wq.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=ABNbt>;
- By email: opcert@ecy.wa.gov; or
- By mail: Poppy Carre, Washington State Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696.

Ecology contact: If you have questions about the draft fee schedule or how to comment, please contact our OpCert program staff at opcert@ecy.wa.gov.

Assistance for persons with disabilities: To request an Americans with Disabilities Act accommodation, contact ecology by phone 360-407-6600, email opcert@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For [telecommunications] relay service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

Language assistance: For language assistance, please contact our OpCert program staff at 360-407-6600 or email opcert@ecy.wa.gov. You can also visit the following web page for more information <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Accessibility-equity/Language-services>.