

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1413

Chapter 249, Laws of 2009

61st Legislature
2009 Regular Session

DOMESTIC WASTEWATER FACILITY PERMIT FEES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/26/09

Passed by the House March 9, 2009
Yeas 59 Nays 38

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 14, 2009
Yeas 28 Nays 19

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Approved April 28, 2009, 4:01 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1413** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

Chief Clerk

FILED

April 29, 2009

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1413

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By House Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by
Representatives McCoy, Nelson, Quall, and Blake)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to water discharge fees; amending RCW 90.48.465;
2 and creating new sections.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.48.465 and 2002 c 361 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall establish (~~annual~~) fees to collect
7 expenses for issuing and administering each class of permits under RCW
8 90.48.160, 90.48.162, and 90.48.260. An initial fee schedule shall be
9 established by rule and be adjusted no more often than once every two
10 years. This fee schedule shall apply to all permits, regardless of
11 date of issuance, and fees shall be assessed prospectively. All fees
12 charged shall be based on factors relating to the complexity of permit
13 issuance and compliance and may be based on pollutant loading and
14 toxicity and be designed to encourage recycling and the reduction of
15 the quantity of pollutants. Fees shall be established in amounts to
16 fully recover and not to exceed expenses incurred by the department in
17 processing permit applications and modifications, monitoring and
18 evaluating compliance with permits, conducting inspections, securing
19 laboratory analysis of samples taken during inspections, reviewing

1 plans and documents directly related to operations of permittees,
2 overseeing performance of delegated pretreatment programs, and
3 supporting the overhead expenses that are directly related to these
4 activities.

5 (2) The annual fee paid by a municipality, as defined in 33 U.S.C.
6 Sec. 1362, for all domestic wastewater facility permits issued under
7 RCW 90.48.162 and 90.48.260 shall not exceed the total of a maximum of
8 (~~fifteen~~) eighteen cents per month per residence or residential
9 equivalent contributing to the municipality's wastewater system.

10 (3) The department shall ensure that indirect dischargers do not
11 pay twice for the administrative expense of a permit. Accordingly,
12 administrative expenses for permits issued by a municipality under RCW
13 90.48.165 are not recoverable by the department.

14 (4) In establishing fees, the department shall consider the
15 economic impact of fees on small dischargers and the economic impact of
16 fees on public entities required to obtain permits for storm water
17 runoff and shall provide appropriate adjustments.

18 (5) The fee for an individual permit issued for a dairy farm as
19 defined under chapter 90.64 RCW shall be fifty cents per animal unit up
20 to one thousand two hundred fourteen dollars for fiscal year 1999. The
21 fee for a general permit issued for a dairy farm as defined under
22 chapter 90.64 RCW shall be fifty cents per animal unit up to eight
23 hundred fifty dollars for fiscal year 1999. Thereafter, these fees may
24 rise in accordance with the fiscal growth factor as provided in chapter
25 43.135 RCW.

26 (6) The fee for a general permit or an individual permit developed
27 solely as a result of the federal court of appeals decision in
28 *Headwaters, Inc. v. Talent Irrigation District*, 243 F.3rd 526 (9th Cir.
29 2001) is limited, until June 30, 2003, to a maximum of three hundred
30 dollars. Such a permit is required only, and as long as, the
31 interpretation of this court decision is not overturned or modified by
32 future court rulings, administrative rule making, or clarification of
33 scope by the United States environmental protection agency or
34 legislative action. In such a case the department shall take
35 appropriate action to rescind or modify these permits.

36 (7) All fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the
37 water quality permit account hereby created in the state treasury.

1 Moneys in the account may be appropriated only for purposes of
2 administering permits under RCW 90.48.160, 90.48.162, and 90.48.260.

3 (8) The department shall present a biennial progress report on the
4 use of moneys from the account to the legislature. The report will be
5 due December 31st of odd-numbered years. The report shall consist of
6 information on fees collected, actual expenses incurred, and
7 anticipated expenses for the current and following fiscal years.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** INCREASING FEES BY THE FISCAL GROWTH FACTOR.

9 The department of ecology is authorized to increase fees up to the
10 fiscal growth factor for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, except that there
11 may be no increase in fees for fiscal years 2010 or 2011 for categories
12 of dischargers whose fees exceed the costs of managing their permits.
13 The department of ecology, with the advice of an advisory committee,
14 shall evaluate the existing fee structure, including the current
15 inequity of fees relative to permit workload, and report its findings
16 and recommendations to the 2010 legislature.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** ANNUAL RULE REVISION. The department of

18 ecology is authorized to adjust the fee schedule annually through
19 December 31, 2011.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** CAPTIONS NOT LAW. Captions used in this act

21 are not any part of the law.

Passed by the House March 9, 2009.
Passed by the Senate April 14, 2009.
Approved by the Governor April 28, 2009.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 29, 2009.