Publication of orders—Emergency orders. Whenever the department limits the total amount of oil or gas which may be produced from any pool to an amount less than that which the pool could produce if no restrictions were imposed (whether incidental to, or without, a limitation of the total amount of oil which may be produced in the state) the department shall prorate the allowable production for the pool among the producers in the pool on a reasonable basis, so that each producer will have opportunity to produce or receive his or her just and equitable share, subject to the reasonable necessities for the prevention of waste, giving where reasonable, under the circumstances, to each pool with small wells of settled production, allowable production which prevents the premature abandonment of wells in the pool.

All orders establishing the "oil allowable" and "gas allowable" for this state, and all orders prorating such allowables as herein provided, and any changes thereof, for any month or period shall be issued by the department on or before the fifteenth day of the month preceding the month for which such orders are to be effective, and such orders shall be immediately published in some newspaper of general circulation printed in Olympia, Washington. No orders establishing such allowables, or prorating such allowables, or any changes thereof, shall be issued without first having a hearing, after notice, as provided in this chapter: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, When in the judgment of the department, an emergency requiring immediate action is found to exist, the department may issue an emergency order under this section which shall have the same effect and validity as if a hearing with respect to the same had been held after due notice. The emergency order permitted by this section shall remain in force no longer than thirty days, and in any event it shall expire when the order made after due notice and hearing with respect to the subject matter of the emergency order becomes effective. [1994 sp.s. c 9 § 840; 1951 c 146 § 33.]

Severability—Headings and captions not law—Effective date—1994 sp.s. c 9: See RCW 18.79.900 through 18.79.902.