

**RCW 78.56.050 Environmental impact statement required—
Mitigation measures to be part of permit requirements—Department of
ecology to cooperate with affected local governments.** (1) An
environmental impact statement must be prepared for any proposed
metals mining and milling operation. The department of ecology shall
be the lead agency in coordinating the environmental review process
under chapter 43.21C RCW and in preparing the environmental impact
statement, except for uranium and thorium operations regulated under
Title 70 RCW.

(2) As part of the environmental review of metals mining and
milling operations regulated under this chapter, the applicant shall
provide baseline data adequate to document the premining conditions at
the proposed site of the metals mining and milling operation. The
baseline data shall contain information on the elements of the natural
environment identified in rules adopted pursuant to chapter 43.21C
RCW.

(3) The department of ecology, after consultation with the
department of fish and wildlife, shall incorporate measures to
mitigate significant probable adverse impacts to fish and wildlife as
part of the department of ecology's permit requirements for the
proposed operation.

(4) In conducting the environmental review and preparing the
environmental impact statement, the department of ecology shall
cooperate with all affected local governments to the fullest extent
practicable. [1994 c 232 § 5.]