Chapter 173-225 WAC

FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT—ESTABLISHMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION

WAC

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WAC 173-225-010 Introduction. Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) provides that applicants for a license or permit from the federal government relating to any activity which may result in any discharge into the navigable waters shall obtain a certification from the state in which the discharge originates, or will originate, that any such discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301, 302, 306, and 307 of the FWPCA. The department of ecology, under chapter 90.48 RCW, has been designated as the state water pollution control agency for all purposes of the FWPCA, and is authorized to participate fully in the programs of that act as well as to take all action necessary to meet the requirements thereof.

[Order 73-29, § 173-225-010, filed 11/15/73.]

WAC 173-225-020 Purpose. The purpose of this regulation is to establish procedures for public notice and public hearings in relation to the processing of applications for certification required by section 401 of the FWPCA.

[Order 73-29, § 173-225-020, filed 11/15/73.]

WAC 173-225-030 Public notice and public hearings. Whenever an application for certification required by section 401 of FWPCA is filed with the department of ecology, the following procedures pertaining to public notice and public hearings shall apply:

(1) Public notice of an application shall be performed in relation to all applications, as follows:

(a) By mailing notice of the application for certification to persons and organizations who have requested the same and to all others deemed appropriate; and

(b) When determined by the department as desirable in the public interest, by publication of a notice twice, once each on the same day of the week in two consecutive weeks, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the activity described in the application is located, and in such other counties as are deemed appropriate by the department. The applicant for a certification shall be required to cause such notice to be published in a form approved by the department and the applicant shall bear the cost of such publication and provide an affidavit of publication to the department.

(2) Any person desiring to present views on the application in relation to water pollution control considerations shall do so by providing the same in writing to the regional office of the department of ecology identified in the notice of application within 20 days after notice of the application was last published or such longer period of time as the director may determine, or, in the case where notice is provided only by WAC 173-225-030 (1)(a), within the time period stated in said notice.

(3) If the department determines there is sufficient public interest in any application, a public hearing for the submission of oral views as well as written views shall be held. When this determination is made before notice of application is performed, such notice shall set forth the time and place of the hearing; otherwise, a separate notice of public hearing shall be made and such notice shall be distributed and published in the manner provided in WAC 173-225-030(1). Whenever a public hearing is to be held, the requirement of WAC 173-225-030(2) above in relation to the timing of submitting written views shall not apply, but the deadline for submitting written views shall be set forth in the notice announcing the hearing.

[Order DE 75-6, § 173-225-030, filed 3/7/75; Order 73-29, § 173-225-030, filed 11/15/73.]