



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Department of Health

Subject of possible rule making: Chapter 246-290 WAC, Group A public water supplies, federal Revised Total Coliform Rule.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 43.20.050

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: Under a primacy agreement between the Department of Health (department) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the department regulates public water systems by carrying out the federal drinking water requirements. In order to maintain primacy, the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule must be adopted into state rules. The federal Revised Total Coliform Rule provides greater public health protection by requiring public water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. The rule revision will also include technical changes to improve overall clarity and consistency with state and federal rules.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency establishes requirements for public water systems and will review the proposed rules prior to adoption to ensure they are consistent with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule requirements.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe)

The department will use a collaborative rulemaking process and seek input from interested parties through the Drinking Water Advisory Group, the Washington Water Utility Council, and presentations at public meetings. The department will provide information to interested parties through our rulemaking ListServ, E-mail, quarterly newsletter Water Tap, and the Office of Drinking Water's website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater.aspx>.

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

Interested parties can participate in the department's collaborative process by contacting Brad Burnham, Office of Drinking Water, P.O. Box 47822, Olympia, Washington 98504-7822, (360) 236-3158 or brad.burnham@doh.wa.gov.

DATE 07/23/2013

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Secretary of Health

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