



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

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

Agency: Department of Labor and Industries

Subject of possible rule making: Chapter 296-46B WAC, Electrical Safety Standards, Administration, and Installation

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: Chapter 19.28 RCW, Electricians and Electrical Installations

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:

The electrical rule states some specialty electricians may maintain, repair, or replace (like-in-kind) existing water heating equipment; however, the plumbing statute does not allow electricians to make plumbing connections to hot water tanks unless they have an additional certification as a plumber. This rulemaking will correct the inconsistency in WAC 296-46B-920.

Incorporate new low voltage thermostats into the Class B, random inspection work better aligning safety concerns with department practice, in WAC 296-46B-110 and WAC 296-46B-905.

Clarify that school and institution shops are similar to an industrial environment and that shop equipment may be approved by the department review process for industrial equipment, in WAC 296-46B-030.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:
None.

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

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

The Electrical Board will be used to review these rules.

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

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DATE
July 5, 2005

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SIGNATURE

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