

INFORMATION PACKET

Electrical Rules

Public Hearing

Date: December 10, 2012
Time: 9 a.m.
Location: Department of Labor & Industries
7273 Linderson Way SW, Room S119
Tumwater, Washington 98501

The Department of Labor & Industries will hold a public hearing to receive information and comments about proposed changes to the electrical rules in chapter 296-46B WAC.

The Electrical Program reviews the electrical rules for additions and revisions on an annual basis to ensure the rules are consistent with the national consensus standards and industry practice. Due to the rule moratorium, the program didn't adopt rules in 2011.

The program needs to proceed with rulemaking to:

- Adopt the 2014 national electrical consensus standards. Due to the previous rulemaking moratorium, the program has not adopted rules since 2009 and did not update any of the national electrical safety standards used to regulate the electrical industry. It is critical the program conducts rulemaking to adopt the 2014 national electrical consensus standards – such as the National Electrical Code and current versions of the National Electrical Safety Code, national telecommunications standards and formalize policy changes that are supported by the industry – so that Washington is current with other states. Washington is now one cycle behind most other states in standards adoption. It is important for Washington to be consistent with other states and emerging technology and industry practices to ensure the same basic safety standards are required of electrical contractors and suppliers who work in multiple states.
- Adopt proposals evaluated by the department on the rulemaking moratorium's exemption requirements and determined to be required by legislation and beneficial to or requested and supported by the regulated entities or small businesses they affect. This includes:
 1. Proposals to provide clarification of the electrical law and policy for use in adjudicative processes by judges, stakeholders, and the department; and
 2. Proposals submitted for general housekeeping, grammatical, and reference corrections to bring the rules up to date.

If you require special communication or accommodation arrangements, please contact us at (360) 902-6411 or Sally.Elliott@lni.wa.gov no later than November 30, 2012. Requests received after this date may not allow adequate time to make the arrangements.

Send written comments using one of the following:

By mail to:

Sally Elliott
Specialty Compliance Services Division
Post Office Box 44400
Olympia, WA 98504-4400

By electronic mail to: Sally.Elliott@lni.wa.gov

By fax: 360-902-5292 (Comments submitted by fax must be 10 pages or less.)

Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. on December 10, 2012.

Details of specific proposed amendments will be published in Washington State Register 12-21 on November 7, 2012. This rule is specifically exempt from the small business economic impact statement requirement because the proposed changes will clarify rule language without changing its effect [see RCW 34.05.328(5)(b)(iv)]. The tentative adoption date for these rules is January 22, 2013, and the tentative effective date is March 1, 2013.