

Demolition Safety Stakeholder Group Meeting:
12806 Gateway Drive South, Tukwila, WA; October 21, 2019, 10:00am

Meeting Summary

Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Staff present:

Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Safety and Health Specialist
DOSH Administrative Regulations Analyst
DOSH Technical Services Safety Program Manager

Organizations represented (in no particular order):

Walsh Group
AGC of Washington

Welcome/Introductions:

The meeting began at 1:02 pm.

DOSH staff provided a high level summary of the sections with proposed changes:

DOSH staff shared with attendees the catalyst for this rulemaking, summarizing the fatalities from the HWY 410 overpass incident.

DOSH staff reviewed the revised draft with the attendees. Sections with proposed changes include: preparatory operations; stairs, passageways, and ladders; chutes; removal of materials through floor openings; removal of walls, masonry sections, and chimneys; catch platforms; removal of steel constructions; and, mechanical demolition.

The group discussed in detail the definition of “competent person.” Attendees’ verbalized understanding the WAC does not require an engineer to perform the engineering survey.

Attendees verbalized the companies they represent have always “followed” the recommendations of the engineering survey and demolition plan. They expressed disbelief that companies did not follow.

DOSH staff informed attendees further changes may be incorporated; to update sections with language from unified fall protection (hole and openings) to foster consistency.

Both attendees approved the suggested changes.

WAC 2960155-775(17)

The group discussed the term “sprinkle” as currently written. Attendees noted the term is not consistent with current practice. For example, the WAC requires use of water, and there are alternate methods used in the industry such as vacuum and containment. Use of water, and the potential for using too much water, may create secondary hazards such as run-off. Attendees noted, although using industry current standards, they are not in compliance with the WAC and suggested alternative language:

Where dust may form during demolition, you must use a method to control exposure to dust and ensure hazard is contained. Acceptable methods include use of water, vacuum and/or containment; or, other effective method. You must ensure the use of such method does not create a secondary hazard; for example, run-off and contamination of secondary area or environment.

The attendees stated the proposed changes look good; and, support modification to WAC 296-155-775(17).

The meeting concluded at 10:36am.

Documents available for attendees at the start of the meeting:

- Agenda
- Agency proposed changes for Chapter 296-155 WAC, Standards for Construction Work, Part S Demolition (draft date 09-09-2019)