Chapter 140-09 WAC  
WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION AND TRADE CENTER—SEPA GUIDELINES

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140-09-090 Environmental checklist. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 43.21C RCW. 85-03-004 (Order 3, Resolution No. 103), § 140-09-090, filed 1/3/85.] Repealed by 08-13-015, filed 6/6/08, effective 7/7/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.21C.120.  

(6/6/08)
WAC 140-09-030  Additional definitions. In addition to those definitions contained within WAC 197-11-700 through 197-11-799, the following terms shall have the following meanings when used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise:

1. "Corporation" means the Washington state convention and trade center established by chapter 67.40 RCW.


3. "Early notice" means the corporation's response to an applicant stating whether it considers issuance of a determination of significance likely for the applicant's proposal (mitigated determination of nonsignificance (DNS) procedures).

4. "Dependent official" means the responsible official by those sections of the SEPA rules that were adopted by reference in WAC 140-09-040.

5. The corporation is authorized to make agreements as to lead agency status or shared lead agency duties for a proposal under WAC 197-11-942 and 197-11-944; provided that the responsible official approves the agreement.

6. The corporation, making a lead agency determination for a private project shall require sufficient information from the applicant to identify which other agencies have jurisdiction over the proposal (That is: Which agencies require non-exempt licenses?).

7. When the corporation is the lead agency for a MTCA remedial action, the department of ecology shall be provided an opportunity under WAC 197-11-253(5) to review the environmental documents prior to public notice being provided. If the SEPA and MTCA documents are issued together with one public comment period under WAC 197-11-253(6), the corporation shall decide jointly with ecology who receives the comment letters and how copies of the comment letters will be distributed to the other agency.

WAC 140-09-040  Designation of responsible official. (1) For those proposals for which the corporation is the lead agency, the responsible official shall be the president of the Washington state convention and trade center.

(2) For all proposals for which the corporation is the lead agency, the responsible official shall make the threshold determination, supervise scoping and preparation of any required environmental impact statement (EIS), and perform any other functions assigned to the "lead agency" or "responsible official" by those sections of the SEPA rules that were adopted by reference in WAC 140-09-020.

PART THREE - CATEGORICAL EXEMPTIONS AND THRESHOLD DETERMINATIONS

WAC 140-09-065  Purpose of this part and adoption by reference. This part contains the rules for deciding whether a proposal has a "probable significant, adverse environmental impact" requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS) to be prepared. This part also contains rules for evaluating the impacts of proposals not requiring an EIS. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC 197-11-300 Purpose of this part.
197-11-305 Categorical exemptions.
197-11-310 Threshold determination required.
197-11-315 Environmental checklist.
197-11-330 Threshold determination process.
197-11-335 Additional information.
197-11-340 Determination of nonsignificance (DNS).
197-11-350 Mitigated DNS.
197-11-360 Determination of significance (DS)/initiation of scoping.
197-11-390 Effect of threshold determination.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.21C.120. 08-13-015, § 140-09-065, filed 6/6/08, effective 7/7/08. Statutory Authority: Chapter 43.21C RCW. 85-03-004 (Order 3, Resolution No. 103), § 140-09-065, filed 1/3/85.]

(6/6/08)
PART FOUR - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

WAC 140-09-110 Purpose of this part and adoption by reference. This part contains the rules for preparing environmental impact statements. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC
197-11-400 Purpose of EIS.
197-11-402 General requirements.
197-11-405 EIS types.
197-11-406 EIS timing.
197-11-408 Scoping.
197-11-410 Expanded scoping. (Optional)
197-11-420 EIS preparation.
197-11-425 Style and size.
197-11-430 Format.
197-11-435 Cover letter or memo.
197-11-440 EIS contents.
197-11-442 Contents of EIS on nonproject proposals.
197-11-443 EIS contents when prior nonproject EIS.
197-11-444 Elements of the environment.
197-11-448 Relationship of EIS to other considerations.
197-11-450 Cost-benefit analysis.
197-11-455 Issuance of DEIS.
197-11-460 Issuance of FEIS.

PART FIVE - COMMENTING

WAC 140-09-128 Adoption by reference. This part contains rules for consulting, commenting, and responding on all environmental documents under SEPA, including rules for public notice and hearings. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC
197-11-500 Purpose of this part.
197-11-502 Inviting comment.
197-11-508 SEPA register.
197-11-510 Public notice.
197-11-535 Public hearings and meetings.
197-11-545 Effect of no comment.
197-11-550 Specificity of comments.
197-11-560 FEIS response to comments.
197-11-570 Consulted agency costs to assist lead agency.

PART SIX - USING EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

WAC 140-09-150 Purpose of this part and adoption by reference. This part contains rules for using and supplementing existing environmental documents prepared under SEPA or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the corporation's own environmental compliance. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC
197-11-600 When to use existing environmental documents.
197-11-610 Use of NEPA documents.
197-11-620 Supplemental environmental impact statement—Procedures.
197-11-625 Addenda—Procedures.
197-11-630 Adoption—Procedures.
197-11-635 Incorporation by reference—Procedures.
197-11-640 Combining documents.
PART SEVEN - SEPA AND AGENCY DECISIONS

WAC 140-09-155 Purpose of this part and adoption by reference. This part contains rules (and policies) for SEPA's substantive authority, such as decisions to mitigate or reject proposals as a result of SEPA. This part also contains procedures for appealing SEPA determinations to agencies or the courts. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC
197-11-650 Purpose of this part.
197-11-655 Implementation.
197-11-660 Substantive authority and mitigation.
197-11-680 Appeals.

WAC 140-09-160 Substantive authority. (1) The policies and goals set forth in this chapter are supplementary to those in the existing authorization of the Washington state convention and trade center.

(2) The corporation may attach conditions to a permit or approval for a proposal so long as:
(a) Such conditions are necessary to mitigate specific probable adverse environmental impacts identified in environmental documents prepared pursuant to this ordinance; and
(b) Such conditions are in writing; and
(c) The mitigation measures included in such conditions are reasonable and capable of being accomplished; and
(d) The corporation has considered whether other local, state, or federal mitigation measures applied to the proposal are sufficient to mitigate the identified impacts; and
(e) Such conditions are based on one or more policies in subsection (4) of this section and cited in the license or other decision document.

(3) The corporation may deny a permit or approval for a proposal on the basis of SEPA so long as:
(a) A finding is made that approving the proposal would result in probable significant adverse environmental impacts that are identified in a FEIS or final SEIS prepared pursuant to this ordinance; and
(b) A finding is made that there are no reasonable mitigation measures capable of being accomplished that are sufficient to mitigate the identified impact; and
(c) The denial is based on one or more policies identified in subsection (4) of this section and identified in writing in the decision document.

(4) The corporation designates and adopts by reference the following policies as the basis for the corporation's exercise of authority pursuant to this section:
(a) The corporation shall use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of state policy, to improve and coordinate plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the state and its citizens may:
(i) Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
(ii) Assure for all people of Washington safe, healthy, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
(iii) Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without unreasonable degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
(iv) Preserve when feasible historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage;
(v) Maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;
(vi) Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
(vii) Enhance the quality of renewable resources and support recycling of depletable resources.

(b) The corporation recognizes that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the environment.

(5) To the extent that the appeal provision of RCW 43.21C.060 may be applicable to the corporation, the corporation hereby eliminates any appeal to the legislative authority of the corporation of decisions to grant, condition, or deny a proposal.

WAC 140-09-170 No administrative appeal. There is no administrative appeal of any corporation determination relating to SEPA. Any appeal must be a judicial appeal under WAC 197-11-680(4).

WAC 140-09-173 Notice/statute of limitations. (1) The corporation, applicant for, or proponent of an action may publish a notice of action pursuant to RCW 43.21C.080 for any action.

(2) The form of the notice shall be substantially in the form provided in WAC 197-11-990. The notice shall be published by the corporation, applicant or proponent pursuant to RCW 43.21C.080.

WAC 140-09-175 Purpose of this part and adoption by reference. This part contains uniform usage and definitions of terms under SEPA. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference, as supplemented by WAC 140-09-030:

WAC
197-11-700 Definitions.
197-11-702 Act.
197-11-704 Action.
197-11-706 Addendum.
PART NINE - CATEGORICAL EXEMPTIONS

WAC 140-09-180 Adoption by reference. The corporation adopts by reference the following rules for categorical exemptions from chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code:

WAC 140-09-182 Corporation compliance with flexible thresholds. The corporation will use the flexible thresholds established by the city of Seattle.

WAC 140-09-183 Emergencies. Actions that must be undertaken immediately or within a time too short to allow full compliance with these rules, to avoid an imminent threat to public health or safety, to prevent an imminent danger to public or private property, or to prevent an imminent threat of serious environmental degradation, shall be exempt from the procedural requirements of this chapter. Such actions include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Emergency pollution control actions responding to accidental discharges, leaks or spills into the air, water, or land.
2. Implementation of a change in waste disposal procedures caused by unanticipated changes in waste sources which are in compliance with federal and state regulations and standards.
3. Cleanup or decontamination of the corporation's facilities or equipment accidentally exposed or contaminated, to permit maintenance, repair or relocation, when procedures followed are in accordance with federal or state guidelines, recommendations, or standards.
4. Emergency actions implemented to reduce an imminent hazard to the public health or safety resulting from structural failure, accidental or intentional acts or omissions, equipment malfunction, human error or natural event.

PART TEN - AGENCY COMPLIANCE

WAC 140-09-185 Purpose of this part and adoption by reference. This part contains rules for agency compliance with SEPA, including rules for charging fees under the SEPA
process, listing agencies with environmental expertise, selecting the lead agencies with environmental expertise, selecting the lead agency, and applying these rules to current agency activities. The corporation adopts the following sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC
197-11-900 Purpose of this part.
197-11-902 Agency SEPA policies.
197-11-904 Agency SEPA procedures.
197-11-906 Content and consistency of agency procedures.
197-11-910 Designation of responsible official.
197-11-912 Procedures of consulted agencies.
197-11-914 SEPA fees and costs.
197-11-916 Application to ongoing actions.
197-11-920 Agencies with environmental expertise.
197-11-922 Lead agency rules.
197-11-924 Determining the lead agency.
197-11-926 Lead agency for governmental proposals.
197-11-928 Lead agency for public and private proposals.
197-11-930 Lead agency for private projects with one agency with jurisdiction.
197-11-932 Lead agency for private projects requiring licenses from more than one agency, when one of the agencies is a county/city.
197-11-934 Lead agency for private projects requiring licenses from a local agency, not a county/city, and one or more state agencies.
197-11-936 Lead agency for private projects requiring licenses from more than one state agency.
197-11-938 Lead agencies for specific proposals.
197-11-940 Transfer of lead agency status to a state agency.
197-11-942 Agreements on lead agency status.
197-11-944 Agreements on division of lead agency duties.
197-11-946 DOE resolution of lead agency disputes.
197-11-948 Assumption of lead agency status.
197-11-950 Severability.
197-11-955 Effective date.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.21C.120. 08-13-015, § 140-09-230, filed 6/6/08, effective 7/7/08. Statutory Authority: Chapter 43.21C RCW. 85-03-004 (Order 3, Resolution No. 103), § 140-09-230, filed 1/3/85.]

**PART ELEVEN - FORMS**

**WAC 140-09-220 Severability.** If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 43.21C RCW. 85-03-004 (Order 3, Resolution No. 103), § 140-09-220, filed 1/3/85.]

**WAC 140-09-230 Adoption by reference.** The corporation adopts the following forms and sections of chapter 197-11 of the Washington Administrative Code by reference:

WAC
197-11-960 Environmental checklist.
197-11-965 Adoption notice.
197-11-970 Determination of nonsignificance (DNS).