

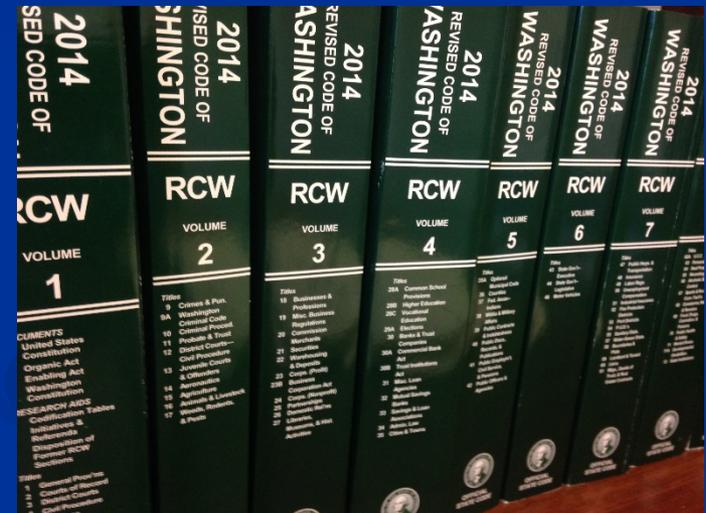
Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought



Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Chapter 90.86 RCW

- Governs the Committee.
- Adopted in 2005.
- 2015 is 3rd year since 2005 in which committee has been activated (2005 & 2010).



Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Chapter 90.86 RCW (organization)

- 4 members of each chamber; appointed each biennium.
- Must include the chairs of the two committees with oversight of water resource policies.
- Committee responsible for selecting a Chair and a Vice-Chair.
- In odd numbered years, Chair must be from the Senate (silent on Vice-Chair).

Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Chapter 90.86 RCW (charge)

- May meet from “time to time” at call of the Chair when a drought is declared or a drought declaration is likely.
- Request & review info on water supply conditions and the economic, environmental, and other experienced or anticipated impacts of low water.
- Make recommendations to the Senate & House on budgetary and legislative improvements to drought response programs and planning.

Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Chapter 90.86 RCW (coordination)

- Executive branch must respond to Committee requests.
 - Department of Ecology.
 - Governor's Water Emergency Committee (created in WAC to determine "undue hardships").
 - Other state agencies with water management or related responsibilities.

Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Chapter 90.86 RCW (reporting)

- Department of Ecology must report to the Committee describing the drought response activities of the state and federal agencies participating in the Water Supply Availability Committee (created in WAC to evaluate water supply conditions).
- No less than once monthly.
- Must include info regarding applications for approvals and denials of emergency water withdraws and temp. changes or transfers of water rights.

Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Possible To Do List for Today

- Elect Chair and Vice-Chair.
 - Chair must be a Senator.
- Discuss policies, operating procedures, and potential work plan (see memo).
- Discuss next steps.
 - Frequency of meetings.
 - Location of meetings.
 - Potential dates for meetings.
 - Information to request from agencies.



Joint Legislative Committee on Water Supply During Drought

Committee Staff

Senate Committee Services

Diane Smith

(360) 786-7410

diane.smith@leg.wa.gov

Office of Program Research

Jason Callahan

(360) 786-7117

jason.callahan@leg.wa.gov

