

Resource Contact: Dam Safety Office

Effective Date: 07-01-91

References: RCW 90.03.350
Chapter 173-175 WAC
Dam Safety Guidelines

Revised: 07-01-1999

ISSUANCE OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT

POLICY STATEMENT:

A construction permit will be issued for construction of a new dam or modification of an existing dam after the following actions are satisfactorily completed:

- Engineering design reports and associated information, as required by WAC 173-175-130, have been submitted and reviewed.
- The construction plans and specifications have been developed in accordance with WAC 173-175-140 and have been found to conform to accepted engineering practice and guidance/requirements contained in the *Dam Safety Guidelines*.
- The construction permit fee has been paid.
- The construction inspection plan has been developed in accordance with WAC 173-175-170 and has been accepted.
- The project proponent has complied with the State Environmental Policy Act.

DISCUSSION:

This policy is a direct implementation of the requirements of RCW 90.03.350 and Part Two of Chapter 173-175 WAC. It designates a "Project Leader" within the DSO to be responsible for ensuring that all actions required in the applicable RCW's, WAC's and SEPA process have been met, before the dam construction permit is issued.

PROCEDURES:

A professional engineer will be designated by the DSO Supervisor to be "Project Leader" and to be responsible for managing all DSO engineering and administrative tasks. The authority and responsibilities of the project leader are described in detail below and listed on the attached checklist.

The project leader will be responsible for:

- All DSO related administrative matters.
- External contact for correspondence, meetings and coordination with project proponent, interested parties, and engineering consultants.

- Internal coordination with all Ecology sections/units associated with the project, including SEPA.
- External coordination with state agencies and other governmental units.
- Coordinating section engineering review of plans and specifications.
- Coordinating section review of construction inspection plan.
- Collection of construction permit fees
- Issuing the construction permit
- Coordinating the DSO construction inspection activities
- Confirming acceptability of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plan
- Where appropriate, coordinating with local emergency service officials to confirm acceptability of Emergency Action Plan (EAP)
- Review of construction records summary
- Authorizing commencement or resumption of project operation

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Special Note: These policies and procedures are used to guide and ensure consistency among water resources program staff in the administration of laws and regulations. These policies and procedures are not formal administrative regulations that have been adopted through a rule-making process. In some cases, the policies may not reflect subsequent changes in statutory law or judicial findings, but they are indicative of the department's practices and interpretations of laws and regulations at the time they are adopted. If you have any questions regarding a policy or procedure, please contact the department.