

## DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS DURING EMERGENCY OR EXIGENCY SITUATIONS

Resource Contact: Dam Safety Section

Effective Date: 07-01-91

Revised: 07-01-99

References: RCW 43.21A.064  
RCW 86.16.035  
Chapter 173-175 WAC

## POLICY STATEMENT:

As described in WAC 173-175-610, actions may be taken by Dam Safety Office professional engineers as deemed necessary to respond to emergency or exigency situations to protect life and property. Where possible, actions and decisions should be in conformance with normal Program Policies. However, discretion may be used as needed, in the judgement of the responding professional engineer, to best meet site specific conditions.

The responding professional engineer has delegated signature authority to authorize up to \$10,000.00 per day for expenses incident to responding to the emergency.

## DISCUSSION:

Under current Ecology policy, Program Managers have signature authority for up to \$10,000.00 per day for expenditures. By this policy, the Program Manager has delegated that authority to the professional engineer responding to the emergency.

## PROCEDURES:

Where time permits, those potential actions which may vary from standard DSO or Water Resources Program Policy should be approved by the Operations Support Section Supervisor.

Where time permits, the responding professional engineer should notify the Section Supervisor, the Program Manager and the supervisor for the Water Resources Budget of the planned expenditure.

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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.