



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Ecology-DOH MOU and Joint Review Procedures for Planning/Engineering Documents

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The MOU and Joint Review Procedures are...

- A bi-lateral agreement between Ecology and DOH that describe coordinating our review of planning and engineering documents.
 - Includes water system plans.
 - Meet the requirements of RCW 90.03.386(1).
- Procedures/process coordination between Ecology and DOH.
- **Not** meant to create new policy.
 - Different than Ecology's Municipal Water Law Policy update.



Role and Responsibilities



Ecology

- Ensuring max. water right limits are not exceeded by current and projected use.
- Watershed plan consistency



DOH

- Responsible for review of all other portions of the documents.
 - Approval date, water use efficiency, service area identification, local government consistency, and reclaimed water evaluation
- Make the decision on the documents.

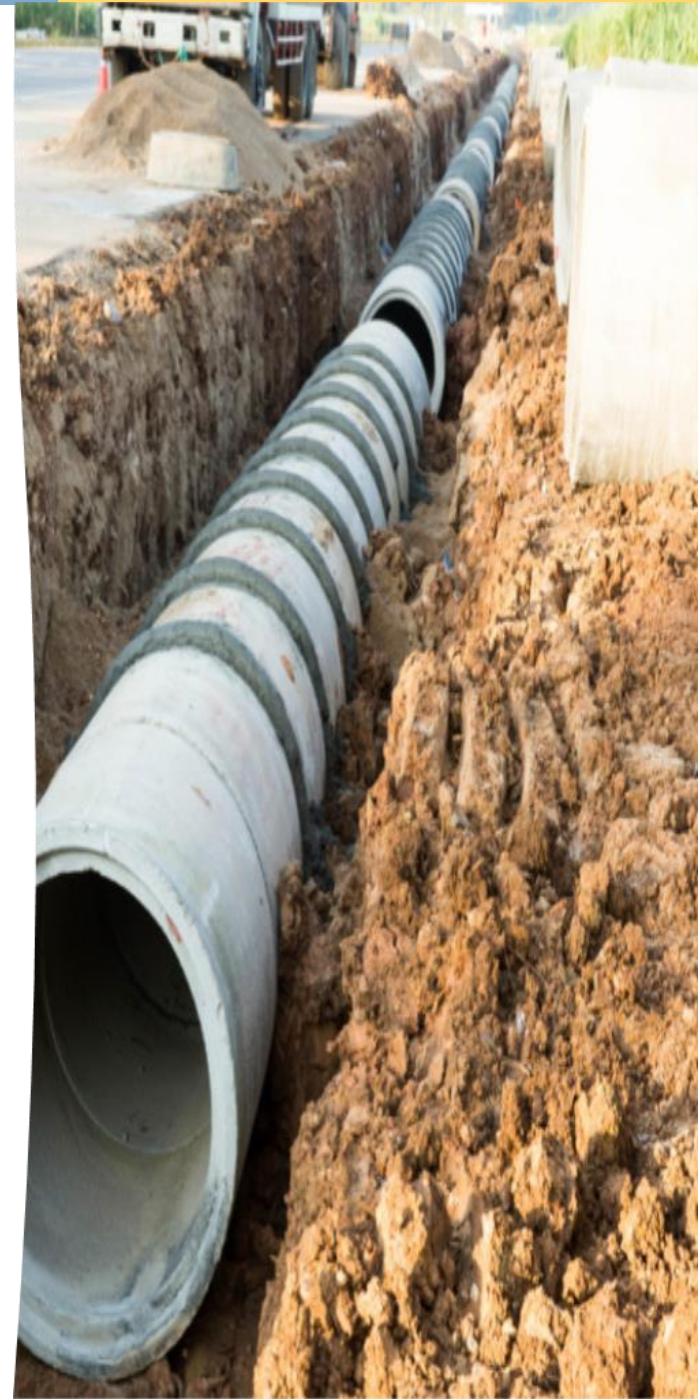
Reasons for the Update

- Last updated in 2007.
- Formalize process improvements to make our joint review **more efficient and effective.**
- Better process will help us achieve our goals:
 - DOH: ensuring safe and reliable drinking water.
 - Ecology: protecting senior water rights and the environment.



What has Changed

- Most document reviews won't change substantially.
- More communication between agencies and with water systems.
- Clearer definition and more detailed process steps for agency staff.
- Formalized options to help resolve any concerns or issues that arise during the review process:
 - Additional discussion time for Ecology and water systems.
 - More document decision options that can be tailored to fit a particular situation.



Next Steps

- Support Ecology and DOH staff implementing this agreement.
- We are not taking public comments but welcome feedback.
- Our goal is to update these documents on a more frequent basis going forward to ensure continual process improvement.



Thank you

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