

Concise Explanatory Statement

Chapter 246-290 WAC, Part 7, Subpart B

Consumer Confidence Reports



General Comments Received	Department of Health Determination
<p>General opposition. A comment expressed general opposition to the rulemaking because many operators are leaving the industry with so many rule changes.</p>	<p>No change to proposed rule. DOH appreciates the feedback. The changes are required under federal regulations. These changes are adopted to ensure consistency between state and federal rules.</p>
<p>Timing. A comment stated that this is not a good time for this rule to be updated because other policy changes are happening at the same time and utilities need to focus their resources on public health improvement.</p>	<p>No change to proposed rule. Federal regulations require these changes be adopted by the state by May 25, 2026, and make them effective by January 1, 2027.</p>

Comments Received Regarding CCR Delivery	Department of Health Determination
<p>Electronic delivery. A comment noted that electronic distribution is highly effective and online access to CCRs would be beneficial for all Group A water systems.</p>	<p>No change to proposed rule. All Group A Community water systems are permitted to deliver their CCR electronically. Systems are only required to provide an electronic version if the population they serve is 50,000 or greater. Non-community systems are not required to produce nor deliver a CCR.</p>
<p>Three-year online delivery requirement. A comment requested clarification on whether a system that voluntarily posts its CCR online is required to maintain it online for three years.</p>	<p>No change to proposed rule. All systems that use a publicly available website to provide reports must maintain public access to the report for no less than three years under WAC 246-290-72120 (1)(d), regardless of service population.</p>

<p>Alternate delivery. A comment expressed concern about the additional work that delivery to apartment residents, office workers, and people with limited internet access would cause if they became mandatory.</p>	<p>No change to proposed rule. While systems are not required to certify that delivery was successfully made to these consumers, a good faith effort to deliver to them is required. Applying the standards in WAC 246-290-72120 (2)(a) and (b) are potential internal measures of the effectiveness of their good faith effort.</p>
<p>Multiple deliveries. A comment stated that delivery of two CCRs per year is a poor use of public resources because the public is already being informed of exceedances and violations and public attention is reduced when repetitive information is presented.</p>	<p>No change to proposed rule. Federal regulations require systems that serve 10,000 or more people to deliver a second CCR each calendar year as described in the rule update. The content of the second CCR is anticipated to be similar if not identical to the previous CCR, accompanied by a six-month update only if required.</p>

Note: The Department of Health did not receive written or oral comments for any other sections.



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