



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
*DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH*  
*PO Box 47820 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7820*  
*(360) 236-3000 • 711 Washington Relay Service*

June 25, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Rule Adoption of Chapter 246-275, Onsite Nonpotable Water Systems

In accordance with Chapter 43.376 RCW and the Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989, we invite collaboration with Indian tribes and tribal organizations in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affects Indian tribes and tribal people. Therefore, please be advised that we are initiating rulemaking for onsite nonpotable water systems in Washington as directed by the Legislature by the passage of Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1184.

**Purpose**

Chapter 246-275 WAC, Onsite Nonpotable Water Systems, will address risk-based water quality and construction standards for the on-site treatment of nonpotable alternative water sources, including wastewater from all domestic fixtures, graywater, rainwater, and stormwater for nonpotable end uses such as toilet and urinal supply water, clothes washing, irrigation, and dust suppression. The rule protects public health by establishing use limitations and minimum standards for alternative water treatment, water quality monitoring and reporting, and system design and operation. The Washington State Department of Health (department) was directed by the legislature to adopt a rule by July 1, 2022 to be effective by December 31, 2022.

**Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Program/Urban Indian Health Organizations**

We would appreciate any input or concerns that tribal representatives wish to share, including whether this onsite nonpotable water system rule will have disproportionate impact on American Indian/Alaska Native people, Indian Health Program, or Urban Indian Health Organizations.

**Comments and Questions**

Our department would appreciate any input or concerns that tribal representatives wish to share regarding this action. Upon your request we will make copies of materials related to our onsite nonpotable water system rule as they become available. To request a copy of the materials specific to the action or to provide comments, please contact Brian Sayrs, Planning Policy Lead, [brian.sayrs@doh.wa.gov](mailto:brian.sayrs@doh.wa.gov), (509) 329-2112.

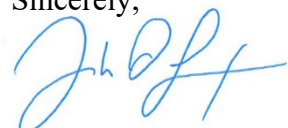
**Consultation Available on Request**

Please contact Tamara Fife, our agency's Tribal Relations Director, by telephone at (360) 870-8903 or by email at [tamara.fife@doh.wa.gov](mailto:tamara.fife@doh.wa.gov), if you would like to request a formal consultation with the agency or if you have tribal-affairs related questions.

The Honorable Tribal Leader  
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Please forward this information to anyone with an interest in the regulation of onsite nonpotable water systems.

Sincerely,



Joe Laxson  
Policy Director  
Environmental Public Health  
Washington State Department of Health

cc: Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health  
Tamara Fife, MPH  
Brian Sayrs