



SPECIAL EDITION

● WAC Changes

The Governor's Executive Order, 11-03, extended the restrictions on rule making to December 31, 2012. The program will move forward with adoption of the 2014 NEC and rule proposals that are intended to be implemented by the legislative act, or have no significant opposition, benefit the electrical industry, and have minimal or positive economic impacts. This rule development process will include possible modification to all sections of WAC 296-46B.

The Department will evaluate each proposal to ensure that it meets the criteria listed above. This means that proposals will need to include complete substantiation when submitted for review.

● Keep Informed

There will not be a specific mailing list for this WAC revision process. Special WAC update postings will be maintained using the Electrical Program's *Electrical Email List*, internet website, and *Electrical Currents* newsletter.

The best way to stay informed of the WAC process and other electrical issues is to join the *Electrical Email List* at:

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/Main/Listservs/Electrical.asp>

● Proposals For Change

The Department develops rules to aid stakeholders and the department in clarification or enforcement of the intent of the electrical statute. Any stakeholder in the electrical industry may make proposals for additions and/or revisions to the Washington Administrative Code WAC 296-46B Electrical Safety Standards, Administration, and Installation electrical rules.

The department is responsible for and has final authority for developing all rules. The department will act as the correlating body during the rule development process and may at any time promote rule change as necessary to accommodate statutory change, department policies or procedures, or industry benefit.

The form shown in this edition must be used to submit rule proposals for the 2012, revision cycle. An electronic MS Word version of the form is available on our Rule Development page at:

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Electrical/LawRulePol/RuleDev/default.asp>

Stakeholder proposals **must be received** from 12:01 AM May 1, 2012 through 11:59 PM May 31, 2012. Any proposal received before or after these dates will be rejected. All proposals must be made electronically using the form supplied by the department.

The submitter may submit a proposal(s) by:

- Sending the proposal(s) as an email attachment to <mailto:ElectricalWAC@lni.wa.gov>; or
- Mailing a compact disc containing the proposal(s) to Chief Electrical Inspector, P.O. Box 44460, Olympia, WA, 98504-4460 – must be received by the closing date.

Proposed revisions should include the relevant existing text and should use legislative format (i.e. Use underscore (or underlining) to denote wording to be inserted (i.e. inserted wording) and strike-through to denote wording to be deleted (i.e. ~~deleted wording~~)).

Proposals not submitted according to these instructions will be rejected.

All proposals require:

- Evidence of a specific problem, and

Electrical Section Internet Address: <http://www.Lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/electrical>

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- Substantiation showing that the proposal meets all the following requirements:
 - Will provide a solution for the problem,
 - Has positive or minimal negative economic impacts (Include an economic analysis of the total estimated cost/saving to the electrical industry and the Department including a breakdown of the estimate that clearly shows the impacts considered), and
 - Has no significant opposition (Document anticipated support or opposition).

● Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC process has proven to be very valuable in past years. The department will again appoint an advisory General TAC made up of experts and interest group representatives to review and make **recommendations** on proposals from the electrical industry.

Persons interested in becoming TAC members must submit a letter of interest for specific positions to the Chief Electrical Inspector, P.O. Box 44460, Olympia, WA, 98504-4460 **to be received from May 1, 2012, through May 31, 2012**. The letter should show constituency support for the prospective member. The Department will not consider letters submitted outside these dates. All applications will be evaluated to determine that the applicant meets the requirements for the position and have constituency support.

In order to keep the size of the TAC to an efficient and effective number, the committee will be limited to 32 voting members. The TAC makeup will be based on an equitable distribution relative to proportion of involvement within the electrical industry in Washington. TAC membership provides an opportunity for everyone interested in the Electrical Program's WAC development to participate in the process.

If unable to attend the TAC meeting, the member may identify an alternate to attend the meeting. There will be no formal alternate assigned by the department. Any TAC member that may be absent must notify the Chief Electrical Inspector of the alternate's name at least one week prior to the TAC meeting. Failure to make the required notification will result in the position being vacant during the meeting.

● The TAC – Process

The TAC will review industry proposals and identify those that may have an economic impact on other specialties, small businesses, construction costs, or the cost of enforcement. Members who know they will be absent from a TAC meeting should make every effort to send an alternate. The TAC must review and evaluate proposals based on:

- The need to:
 - To address a critical life/safety need;
 - To address a specific state rule/policy/statute;
 - To maintain or improve the state's economy,
 - Improve a fair competitive environment for electrical contractors; or
 - To correct errors and omissions.
- Having positive or minimal negative economic impacts (Include an economic analysis of the total estimated cost/saving to the electrical industry and the Department including a breakdown of the estimate that clearly shows the impacts considered), and
- Having no significant opposition.

In making recommendations to the Department, the TAC will operate on a super-majority basis. A super-majority vote in support of a motion, of members in attendance, will be considered as 2/3 affirmative support, of the voting members present, for the motion made on a specific proposal (i.e. 22 affirmative votes if all voting members are present). The TAC may propose amended language to a proposal. All voting members share an equal vote. The department will consider all TAC recommendations.

● 2012 WAC Revision Process – Sequence Of Events

- **May 1 through May 31, 2012** – Accept WAC proposals from industry stakeholders
- **May 1 through May 31, 2012** – Accept applications for TAC
- **July 31, 2012** – TAC meeting, Tumwater L&I office
- **September 2012** – File CR 101 – pre-proposal statement of inquiry
- **October 25, 2012** – Electrical Board review

ELECTRICAL CURRENTS

March 2012

- o **November 2012** – File CR 102 –rule filing (opens the official required public comment period)
- o **January 2013** – Public hearing(s)
- o **Spring 2013** – Effective rule

● **General TAC – Membership**

Chairperson– Chief Electrical Inspector (non-voting)

2	Electrical Board Members (non-voting)	1	WA Manufacturing Business
1	Training School/Continuing Education Provider	1	Electrical Engineer
1	JATC	1	Electrical Testing Laboratory
1	Electrical Manufacturer Representative	1	Utility
2	L&I Inspection (Supervisor & Inspector)	10	Electrical Contractors
2	City Regulator (Supervisor & Inspector)	10	Electricians
1	Citizen		

Methodology for Determining the Number of Electrical Contractor and Electrician Members						
Active Licenses & Certificates	# of Contractors	% of All Licenses	# of TAC Members	# of Electricians	% of All Certificates	# of TAC Members
1	2,785	55%	6	16,409	63%	6
2	288	6%	0	2,073	8%	0
3	125	2%	0	472	2%	0
03A	65	1%	0	199	1%	0
4	88	2%	0	272	1%	0
6	540	11%	1	2,420	9%	0
06A	537	11%	1	2,543	10%	1
06B	12	0%	0	66	0%	0
7	103	2%	0	1,076	4%	0
07A	20	0%	0	81	0%	0
07B	65	1%	0	299	1%	0
07C	0	0%	0	9	0%	0
07D	38	1%	0	153	1%	0
07E	3	0%	0	85	0%	0
9	352	7%	0	0	0%	0
10	22	0%	0	52	0%	0
Ad Hoc Group	1,181	23%	2	5,184	11%	3
Total	5,043		10	26,209		10
Notes:	Specialties with <10% of Licenses/Certificates joins the Ad Hoc group					
	The Department will fill the Ad Hoc group on an equitable base with an emphasis on representation closely following the % of licenses to fairly represent the different specialties.					
	Unfilled positions will remain vacant					

PROPOSAL FORM for 2012 WAC 296-46B Rule Changes

Mail CD to:

Chief Electrical Inspector
Department of Labor and Industries
Electrical Section
PO Box 44460
Olympia, WA 98504-4460

Email to:

<mailto:ElectricalWAC@lni.wa.gov>

as an attachment

FOR L&I USE ONLY

Specific Rule #:

Date Received:

NOTES:

1. All proposals must be **received from 12:01 AM May 1 through 11:59 PM May 31, 2012.**
2. Limit each proposal to a single rule section. Use a separate copy for each proposal.
3. **ENTER TEXT ONLY IN THE UNSHADED SPACES ON THIS DOCUMENT – SAVE AS A NEW FILENAME BEFORE SUBMISSION**

Date submitted:

Name:

Representing:

Telephone:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

1. Proposal: *Include new or revised wording, or identification of wording to be deleted. Proposed text should be in legislative format. Use underscore to denote wording to be inserted (e.g. inserted wording) and strike-through to denote wording to be deleted (e.g. ~~deleted wording~~).*

2. Statement of Problem & Substantiation for Proposal: *Note: State the problem that will be resolved by your proposal and all substantiation for your proposal (e.g. technical, economic impact, support, etc.).*

3. Check one:

This proposal is original material

This proposal is not original material

(END OF PROPOSAL)