

STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Insurance Building, PO Box 43113 □ Olympia, Washington 98504-3113 □ (360) 902-0555

** CORRECTED **

July 14, 2023

TO: Derek Sandison, Director, Department of Agriculture

Michael Fong, Director, Department of Commerce

Laura Watson, Director, Department of Ecology (was inadvertently left off this list)

Dr. Umair Shah, Secretary, Department of Health

Honorable Hilary Franz, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources

Roger Millar, Secretary, Department of Transportation

Honorable Bob Ferguson, Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

Laura Blackmore, Director, Puget Sound Partnership

Keith Grellner, Chair, State Board of Health

Megan Duffy, Director, Recreation and Conservation Office Russell Olsen, Director, Pollution Liability Insurance Agency

Reema Griffith, Director, Washington State Transportation Commission

Jane Wall, Director, County Road Administration Board Kelly Susewind, Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife

FROM: David Schumacher

Director

SUBJECT: HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT ACT FOR ALL ACT REQUIREMENTS

Beginning July 1, 2023, the <u>Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act)</u> requires covered agencies and <u>opt in</u> agencies to conduct an environmental justice assessment for "significant agency actions" when the significant action is taken. The following are significant agency actions:

- Development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328
- Development and adoption of any new grant or loan program authorized or required by statute
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least \$12,000,000
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least \$15,000,000
- Submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM for approval

Under RCW 70A.02.090, each covered agency must file a notice with the Office of Financial Management (OFM) of significant agency actions for which the agency is initiating an environmental justice assessment. OFM is required to post weekly on its website all filings received from covered agencies.

Covered and opt in agencies that are currently required to submit information to OFM include the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Ecology, Health, Natural Resources, Transportation; Office of the Attorney General; and Puget Sound Partnership.

Other agencies have self-selected to be in the *Listen and Learn* status and are determining if they will "opt in" to the HEAL Act requirements. These *Listen and Learn* agencies are not required to complete an environmental justice assessment but, if they choose to do so, they must submit a notice to OFM.

The current *Listen and Learn* agencies include the State Board of Health, Recreation and Conservation Office, Pollution Liability Insurance Agency, Washington State Transportation Commission, County Road Administration Board, and Department of Fish and Wildlife.

To collect the required information about state agency significant agency actions, OFM has created a web-based application. Agencies must use this application to submit a notice regarding an environmental justice assessment. Please do not share this link with anyone outside of your agency to reduce the potential for fraudulent submissions. Although we request an email address as part of the submission, this address will not be published and it will be used only if OFM has questions. If you have any questions or concerns using the template, please contact Hayden Mackley.

Agency environmental justice assessment notices will be available on OFM's website.

If you have any questions regarding these HEAL Act requirements, please contact your <u>OFM operating</u>, <u>capital</u>, <u>or transportation Budget Advisor</u>.

cc: Select Agency Budget Officers Select Agency HEAL Act Leads Select OFM Budget Advisors