

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Date: June 12, 2024

To: Washington State Board of Health Members

From: Kate Dean, Board Member

Subject: Update to WAC 246-290-100 – Delegated Rulemaking to Implement Climate Resilience in Water System Plans as required by Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB) 1181

Background and Summary:

In the 2023 legislative session, Washington’s legislature passed [Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill \(E2SHB\) 1181](#), codified as RCW 43.20.310. The intent of this bill is to improve the state’s climate response planning framework. The comprehensive bill includes a section requiring Group A public water systems with 1,000 or more connections to include a climate resilience element in their water system plans.

On November 8, 2023, the State Board of Health (Board) granted delegated rulemaking authority to the Department of Health (Department) to update and align public water system planning requirements in [WAC 246-290-100](#) with this new legislation.

On May 13, 2024, the Department adopted changes to WAC 246-290-100 in Washington State Register [24-11-057](#). The newly adopted rule becomes effective June 13, 2024.

Today, Mike Means with the Department of Health’s Office of Drinking Water will provide a brief background on the bill, rulemaking process, and public comments received.

Staff

Shay Bauman, Policy Advisor

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