



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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April 24, 2015

To: Bud Hover, Director
Washington State Department of Agriculture

From: Teresa Norman, Hearing Officer *Teresa Norman*

Re: Public hearing on proposed changes to chapters 16-450 (Controlled Atmosphere Storage Requirements for Fruits and Vegetables) and 16-461 (Inspection Requirements for Fruits and Vegetables) WAC

April 21, 2015
Wenatchee, WA

April 22, 2015
Yakima, WA

Background

Rules establishing standards for controlled atmosphere storage of fruits and vegetables and providing requirements for obtaining and maintaining a controlled atmosphere storage license were originally codified in 1962 under chapter 16-690 WAC, in 1971 under chapter 16-459 WAC, and in 1973 under chapter 16-449 WAC. In 2004, these three WAC chapters were recodified together under chapter 16-450 WAC. It has not been amended since.

Rules establishing standards for the inspection of fruits and vegetables were codified under chapter 16-461 WAC in 1968, and have been amended periodically to promote clarity regarding exemptions, shipping permits, certificates of compliance, compliance agreements, and penalties for violations. The chapter was last updated in 2009 to amend 16-461-010 regarding inspection certificates and permits. This rule update provides a mechanism for auditing the volume of commodities shipped on certificate of compliance forms.

The CR-102s announcing the proposals to amend these two WAC chapters were filed with the Code Reviser on March 17, 2015 and sent to interested parties shortly after filing.

The public comment period ran from March 17th until the close of business on April 22, 2015.

Hearing Process

Two hearings were held: one in Wenatchee and one in Yakima. Chuck Dragoo gave the technical presentations. There was no public attendance.