WAC 296-307-49505 What precautions must be taken when welding or cutting containers? (1) No welding, cutting, or other hot work may be performed on used drums, barrels, tanks or other containers until they have been cleaned thoroughly enough to be certain that there are no flammable materials present or any substances such as greases, tars, acids, or other materials which when subjected to heat, might produce flammable or toxic vapors. Any pipe lines or connections to the drum or vessel must be disconnected or blanked.

(2) All hollow spaces, cavities, or containers must be vented to permit the escape of air or gases before preheating, cutting or welding. Purging with inert gas is recommended.