

WAC 173-166-010 Purpose. The legislature in 1989 gave permanent drought relief authority to the department of ecology and enabled ecology to issue orders declaring drought emergencies. Chapter 171, Laws of 1989 amends chapter 43.83B RCW (Water supply facilities).

(1) Chapter 171, Laws of 1989 authorizes the Washington state department of ecology (ecology) to assist in alleviating future drought conditions throughout the state, and sets forth the criteria and procedures for implementing the 1989 drought relief legislation.

(2) Ecology has authority under chapter 171, Laws of 1989 to:

(a) Issue emergency permits to withdraw public waters as an alternate source of water supply.

(b) Approve water right transfers between willing parties.

(c) Provide funding assistance for eligible drought projects and measures.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.83B.420. WSR 91-03-081 (Order 90-53), § 173-166-010, filed 1/17/91, effective 2/17/91. Statutory Authority: 1977 c 339 § 75. WSR 78-04-019 (Order 78-3), § 173-166-010, filed 3/10/78.]