WAC 194-28-070 Compliance evaluation. RCW 43.325.080 requires the department to specify how agency efforts to meet the goals set forth in RCW 43.19.648(1) will be evaluated. In so doing, the department will consider the following criteria in determining whether state agencies have, to the extent practicable, satisfied 100 percent of fuel usage for operating vessels, vehicles, and construction equipment from electricity or biofuel, effective June 1, 2015:

(1) Vehicle electrification.

(a) It is considered practicable to procure a PHEV and PEV light-duty vehicle, light-duty truck, or medium-duty passenger vehicle when the following criteria are met:

(i) The vehicle is due for replacement;

(ii) Charging requirements can be met during routine use or through fleet management strategies; and

(iii) The lifecycle cost is within five percent of an equivalent HEV based on anticipated length of service.

(b) Agencies are encouraged to pursue electrification in additional vehicle classes as opportunities emerge.

(c) Per RCW 43.19.648(5), agencies are to install EVSE capable of charging PEVs and PHEVs in each of the state's fleet parking and maintenance facilities, to the extent practicable, by December 31, 2015. The department is not charged with monitoring or reporting on compliance with this law, but agencies need to show progress in this area for electricity to be a feasible fuel source at these locations.

(d) Under the federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) is responsible for rule making to determine the extent to which alternative fuel credits recognize electricity used by HEVs and PHEVs in state vehicle fleets subject to the federal Energy Policy Act of 1992. The department will utilize the USDOE rule when crediting compliance for these vehicles.

(2) Biofuels.

(a) Biodiesel: Unless otherwise limited by law, it is considered practicable for agencies to:

(i) Use a minimum of 20 percent biodiesel-blend fuel (B20) on an annualized basis when purchasing fuel through the state procurement system.

(ii) Make good faith efforts to identify sources and procure a minimum of B20 when purchasing fuel on a retail basis.

(b) Ethanol: It is considered practicable for agencies with "flex-fuel" vehicles capable of using either high-blend ethanol fuel (E85) or regular gasoline to make good faith efforts to identify sources and procure E85 when purchasing fuel on a retail basis if the price of E85 is at least 20 percent less than regular gasoline.

(c) Renewable Natural Gas: It is considered practicable for agencies considering acquisition of natural gas-fueled vehicles to actively assess opportunities to procure renewable natural gas as the primary fuel.

(3) Alternate fuels.

Compressed natural gas, liquefied natural gas, or propane may be substituted for electricity or biofuel if the department determines that electricity and biofuel are not reasonably available. If an agency believes electricity and biofuels are not reasonably available to fuel a specific vehicle, vessel, or construction equipment, the agency must submit a request for such a determination to the department by July 1 of the year prior to the agency's anticipated procurement on a form provided by the department. Such a request may be made as part of the agency's annual reporting under WAC 194-28-080.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.325.080. WSR 24-16-061, § 194-28-070, filed 7/31/24, effective 8/31/24; WSR 13-10-016, § 194-28-070, filed 4/22/13, effective 5/23/13.]