WAC 296-127-020 Interpretation of phrases used in chapter 39.12 RCW. (1) The "acceptance date of the public works project" referred to in RCW 39.12.065 is the date that the contract awarding agency formally accepts the completed public works project pursuant to state law.

(2) RCW 39.12.050 and 39.12.065 refer to "inadvertent filing or reporting error." The department defines an error as "inadvertent" if it is made by a contractor, as defined by WAC 296-127-010(5), or employer that shows that the error was made notwithstanding the use of due care by the contractor or employer. The burden of proving that an error is inadvertent rests with the contractor or employer charged with the error.

(3) The definition of "locality" in RCW 39.12.010(2) contains the phrase "wherein the physical work is being performed." The department interprets this phrase to mean the actual work site. For example, if nonstandard items specifically produced for public works projects are prefabricated in a county other than the county wherein the public works project is to be completed, the wage for the offsite prefabrication shall be the applicable prevailing wage for the county in which the actual prefabrication takes place. Workers who deliver such nonstandard items, as well as materials pursuant to the terms of WAC 296-127-018, shall be paid the applicable prevailing wage for the county in which the public works project is located.

(4) In the implementation and enforcement of RCW 39.12.050, 39.12.055, 39.12.065, and 39.12.130 the terms "contractor" and "subcontractor" include an entity, however organized, with substantially identical corporate and/or operational structure to an entity that has been found to violate RCW 39.12.050, 39.12.055, and 39.12.065. The factors used to determine substantial identity shall include an assessment of whether there is: Substantial continuity of the same business operation; use of the same machinery and/or equipment; similarity of jobs and types of working conditions; continuity of supervisors; and similarity of product or services. An entity with operational, corporate, and management structures distinct from an entity that has been found in violation under RCW 39.12.050, 39.12.055, or 39.12.065, or any associated rules, shall not be deemed a substantially identical entity.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 39.12 RCW. WSR 25-09-126, s 296-127-020, filed 4/22/25, effective 1/1/26. Statutory Authority: Chapters 39.04 and 39.12 RCW and RCW 43.22.270. WSR 92-01-104, § 296-127-020, filed 12/18/91, effective 1/31/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 39.12.050, 39.12.065, 43.22.270 and 51.04.020. WSR 86-03-063 (Order 85-28), § 296-127-020, filed 1/17/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 39.12.015, 39.12.060 and HB 795, 1982 1st ex.s. c 38. WSR 82-18-041 (Order 82-28), § 296-127-020, filed 8/27/82.]