

Worker Protection Standard Implementation

as of January 9, 2018

Issue

In Washington State, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) jointly enforce WPS and are responsible for revising their respective WPS regulations to conform with EPA's changes.

WSDA has adopted rules updating Worker Protection Standards to correspond to federal regulations. The new WSDA rules take effect January 13, 2018.

L&I has not yet adopted rules to correspond to federal regulations, and an effective date for L&I rules has not yet been identified.

Industry stakeholders must be informed of what they are expected to comply with, and they must be provided adequate time and opportunity to obtain the necessary training to comply as well as adequate time to implement required changes in their operations.

Action Requested of WSDA and L&I

- Engage in a harmonized process of rules updating
- Include stakeholders in rules updates
- Provide clear, consistent, complete and timely information to stakeholders regarding rules changes
- Provide a sufficient number of timely training opportunities regarding updates (in both English and Spanish)
- Allow industry members time to participate in training and implement changes before enforcing