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SENATE BILL 6191

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senator McCoy

Prefiled 01/08/16.

1 AN ACT Relating to the treatment of wastewater; and amending RCW  
2 90.48.160, 90.48.490, and 90.48.520.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.48.160 and 1989 c 293 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) Any person who conducts a commercial or industrial  
7 operation of any type which results in the disposal of solid or  
8 liquid waste material into the waters of the state, including  
9 commercial or industrial operators discharging solid or liquid waste  
10 material into sewerage systems operated by municipalities or public  
11 entities which discharge into public waters of the state, shall  
12 procure a permit from either the department or the ~~((thermal power  
13 plant))~~ energy facility site evaluation council as provided in RCW  
14 90.48.262(2) before disposing of such waste material: PROVIDED, That  
15 this section shall not apply to any person discharging domestic  
16 sewage only into a sewerage system.

17 (b) The department may, through the adoption of rules, eliminate  
18 the permit requirements for disposing of wastes into publicly  
19 operated sewerage systems for:

20 ~~((1))~~ (i) Categories of or individual municipalities or public  
21 corporations operating sewerage systems; or

1           (~~(2)~~) (ii) Any category of waste disposer;  
2 if the department determines such permit requirements are no longer  
3 necessary for the effective implementation of this chapter. The  
4 department may by rule eliminate the permit requirements for  
5 disposing of wastes by upland finfish rearing facilities unless a  
6 permit is required under the federal clean water act's national  
7 pollutant discharge elimination system.

8           (2) Beginning January 1, 2017, any new operation disposing of  
9 solid or liquid waste material into the waters of the state requiring  
10 a permit under subsection (1) of this section must include enhanced  
11 biological nutrient removal or any combination of treatment  
12 technologies that remove at a minimum eighty percent of  
13 pharmaceutical or personal care product chemical constituents or  
14 substances found in wastewater.

15           **Sec. 2.** RCW 90.48.490 and 1985 c 249 s 3 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17           Plans for upgrading sewage treatment facilities and plans for new  
18 sewage treatment facilities shall:

19           (1) Address the greatest reasonable reduction of combined sewer  
20 overflows and implementation of pretreatment standards; and

21           (2) Include enhanced biological nutrient removal or any  
22 combination of treatment technologies that remove at a minimum eighty  
23 percent of pharmaceutical or personal care product chemical  
24 constituents or substances found in wastewater.

25           **Sec. 3.** RCW 90.48.520 and 1987 c 500 s 1 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27           In order to improve water quality by controlling toxicants in  
28 wastewater, the department of ecology shall in issuing and renewing  
29 state and federal wastewater discharge permits review the applicant's  
30 operations and incorporate permit conditions which require all known,  
31 available, and reasonable methods to control toxicants in the  
32 applicant's wastewater. Permit conditions must include enhanced  
33 biological nutrient removal or any combination of treatment  
34 technologies that remove at a minimum eighty percent of  
35 pharmaceutical or personal care product chemical constituents or  
36 substances. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to: (1)  
37 Limits on the discharge of specific chemicals, and (2) limits on the  
38 overall toxicity of the effluent. The toxicity of the effluent shall

1 be determined by techniques such as chronic or acute bioassays. Such  
2 conditions shall be required regardless of the quality of receiving  
3 water and regardless of the minimum water quality standards. In no  
4 event shall the discharge of toxicants be allowed that would violate  
5 any water quality standard, including toxicant standards, sediment  
6 criteria, and dilution zone criteria.

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