

(Effective December 27, 2024)

WAC 296-67-335 Contractors. (1) Application. This section applies to contractors performing maintenance, repair, supply services, turnaround, major renovation, or specialty work on or adjacent to a process. It does not apply to contractors providing incidental services that do not affect process safety, such as janitorial work, food and drink services, laundry, delivery or other supply services.

(2) Refinery employer responsibilities.

(a) When selecting a contractor, the refinery employer must obtain and evaluate information regarding the contract employer's safety performance, including programs used to prevent employee injuries and illnesses, and must require that its contractors and any subcontractors use a skilled and trained workforce pursuant to chapter 296-71 WAC.

(b) The refinery employer must inform the contractor and must ensure that the contractor has informed each of its employees of the following:

(i) Potential process safety hazards associated with the contractor's work;

(ii) Applicable refinery safety rules; and

(iii) Applicable provisions of this chapter, including the requirements of WAC 296-67-367 Emergency planning and response, and WAC 296-24-567 Employee emergency plans and fire prevention plans.

(c) The refinery employer must develop, implement, and maintain effective written procedures and safe work practices to ensure the safe entry, presence and exit of the contractor and employees of the contractor in process areas pursuant to WAC 296-67-327 Operating procedures.

(d) The refinery employer must periodically evaluate the performance of contractors in fulfilling their obligations as specified in this section. The refinery employer must ensure and document that the requirements of this section are performed and completed by the contractor.

(e) The refinery employer must obtain and make available to the division of occupational safety and health (DOSH) upon request, a copy of the contractor's injury and illness log related to the contractor's work in the process area.

(3) Contractor responsibilities.

(a) The contractor must ensure that all of its employees are effectively trained in the work practices necessary to safely perform their jobs, including:

(i) Potential process safety hazards related to their jobs;

(ii) Applicable refinery safety and health rules;

(iii) The specific actions to take in an emergency; and

(iv) Applicable provisions of this chapter, including the provisions of WAC 296-67-367 Emergency planning and response, and WAC 296-24-567 Employee emergency plans and fire prevention plans.

(b) The contractor must document that each contract employee has received and understood the training required by this section. The contractor must prepare a record that contains the identity of the contract employee, the date(s) and subject(s) of training, and the means used to verify that the employee understood the training.

(c) The contractor must ensure that each of its employees understands and follows the safety and health procedures of the refinery employer and the contractor.

(d) The contractor must advise the refinery employer of any specific hazards presented by the contractor's work, as well as any hazards identified by the contractor while performing work for the refinery employer.

(4) Nothing in this section or others in chapter 296-67 WAC, Safety standards for process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals, Part B, must preclude the employer from requiring a contractor or an employee of a contractor to whom information is made available under this part to enter into a confidentiality agreement prohibiting them from disclosing such information, pursuant to WAC 296-901-14018 Trade secrets.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060, and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 24-02-037, § 296-67-335, filed 12/27/23, effective 12/27/24.]