

# Prevailing Wage Determinations

*2018 Annual Report*

December 2018

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# Introduction

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The Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) provides this report annually as requested by members of the prevailing wage community. The report summarizes the department's review of and response to requests for prevailing wage determinations and modifications, or requests for reconsideration of previous determinations, during Fiscal Year (FY) 2018.

Washington's prevailing wage law (Chapter 39.12 RCW) was passed by the legislature in 1945. The law is partly modeled after the federal Davis-Bacon Act, passed by Congress in 1931 to preserve the local wages of workers hired for federal public works projects. It protects workers' wages and benefits by setting a minimum hourly rate of wages, benefits, and overtime that contractors must pay workers on public projects. This ensures workers receive a standard rate of wages and benefits established for the same work in their locality. The law also ensures all contractors competing for public works projects pay their workers the established local wage rate.

When a question arises about the appropriate wage rate, any interested party can request a determination. A prevailing wage determination is a formal decision by L&I's industrial statistician. A determination decides the classification, called a "scope of work," that applies to particular job tasks, and the wage that workers in the classification earn. Should the industrial statistician decide to make a formal determination, determinations are appealable agency orders. After an initial determination is issued, a party may seek a modification. A party may also make a request for reconsideration of a determination or modification.

L&I aims to provide interested parties one place to review determinations made during the course of the year by preparing this annual report.

# 2018 Actions

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## FISCAL YEAR 2018 DETERMINATIONS, MODIFICATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR RECONSIDERATION

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, L&I's Prevailing Wage Program received three formal requests for determinations or modifications regarding prevailing wages. Due to the timing of the requests, the program was not able to provide responses during FY 2018, and is working now to make determinations and provide responses. The resulting information will be provided in L&I's 2019 report on this topic.

The following information describes the requests for prevailing wage determinations or modifications L&I received in FY 2018.

### **Request for Determination: Prevailing Wage Requirements for Leachate and Gas Piping Work**

United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters and Steamfitters Local 32 and the Washington State Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters and Steamfitters requested a determination regarding the applicable prevailing wages for the installation of leachate and methane gas collection and piping systems and controls at the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill.

### **Request for Determination: Prevailing Wage Applicability for Architectural Sheet Metal Work**

Northshore Sheet Metal requested a determination regarding the applicability of Metal Fabricator (in-shop) prevailing wages for prefabrication of architectural sheet metal for building exteriors.

### **Request for Review: Prevailing Wage Requirements for Valve Actuator Work**

The Washington State Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters requested a review of the correct prevailing wages for the inspection, refurbishment and reinstallation of high pressure steam pipe valve actuator mechanisms at Columbia Generating Station, a nuclear power plant.

## SUMMARY

Due to timing of the three requests received, L&I made no formal determinations or modifications and resolved no requests for reconsideration in FY 2018. No requests from previous years remain unresolved. Information about L&I's responses to the three requests received in FY 2018 will be provided in the agency's 2019 report.

Visit [L&I's website](http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/PrevWage/Policies/default.asp) at <http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/PrevWage/Policies/default.asp> for more detailed information about published prevailing wage determinations and policies.