WAC 173-160-010  What is the purpose of this regulation?  (1)
These regulations are adopted under chapter 18.104 RCW, to establish
minimum standards for the construction and decommissioning of all
wells in the state of Washington.
(2) The following are excluded from these regulations:
(a) Any excavation that is not intended to locate, divert, arti-
ficially recharge, observe, monitor, dewater, or withdraw ground water
except resource protection wells, ground source heat pump borings,
grounding wells, and geotechnical soil borings.
(b) Any excavation for the purpose of obtaining or prospecting
for oil, natural gas, minerals, products of mining, quarrying, insert-
ing media to repressurize oil or natural gas bearing formations, storing
petroleum, natural gas, or other products, as provided in chapter
78.52 RCW.
(c) Infiltration or exfiltration galleries, trenches, ponds,
pits, and sumps, except where the department determines that the in-
tended use of the excavation meets a definition in RCW 18.104.020.
(d) Grounding wells and grounding rods that are installed to a
deepth of twenty-five feet or less.
(3) Under chapter 90.48 RCW, those excavations excluded in sub-
section (2)(a) through (d) of this section shall be constructed, main-
tained, and decommissioned to ensure protection of the ground water re-
source and to prevent the contamination and waste of that resource.
(4) The following wells are regulated under this chapter and may
be regulated under chapter 173-218 WAC: Injection wells used to dis-
pose of water which has been withdrawn for heating or cooling purposes
and remediation wells that are used to inject any substance to remedi-
ate, clean up, or control potential or actual contamination.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.104 RCW. WSR 09-01-125 (Order 08-10),
§ 173-160-010, filed 12/19/08, effective 1/19/09; WSR 06-23-121 (Order
06-08), § 173-160-010, filed 11/21/06, effective 12/22/06. Statutory Au-
thority: Chapter 18.104 RCW and RCW 43.21A.080. WSR 98-08-032 (Order
97-08), § 173-160-010, filed 3/23/98, effective 4/23/98. Statutory Au-
thority: Chapter 18.104 RCW. WSR 88-08-070 (Order 88-58), §
173-160-010, filed 4/6/88; Order 73-6, § 173-160-010, filed 4/30/73.]