

# ELECTRICAL CURRENTS

A Newsletter from the Office of L&I Chief Electrical Inspector Wayne Molesworth

August 2025

## Questions of the Month

Are there electrical rules being proposed right now that could affect you? Where can you go to see current proposed rule makings and how to be involved in the process?– See correct answer on page 2.

## New Rulemaking Proposals

**Amendments** We are proposing changes to the electrical rules WAC 296-46B and filed a [CR-101](#) on August 6, 2025. The amendments are needed to implement Substitute Senate Bill 5528 ([SSB 5528](#)), concerning the installation of transportation electrification infrastructure. The bill requires Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) or a similar nationally recognized training programs certification to install or maintain electric vehicle transfer equipment on public works projects.

Amendments to WAC [296-46B-935](#) and WAC [296-46B-960](#) are included in this filing. We propose streamlining the electrical administrator exam application process by issuing administrator exam candidates a unique exam ID and increasing the amount of time allowed for testing without having to start a new examination period .

### Here's what's next:

There will be opportunities to provide comments during a formal public comment period. L&I expects to file the CR-102 Proposed Rulemaking in October 2025. See future editions of this newsletter for more information as the process continues. Find all the rulemaking documents [here](#).

## Qualified Contractor Network (QCN)

*This message is posted on behalf of the Washington State Department of Commerce by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries*

We're excited to announce that the [Qualified Contractor Network \(QCN\) application](#) is now online. Washington state contractors can apply to become eligible to work on Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Home Energy Rebate projects that will start later this year.

The QCN is seeking the following contractors and tradespersons to perform home energy rebate work:

- Electrical Contractors
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) contractors
- Plumbing Contractors
- Energy auditors
- General construction contractors

You can learn more about participating the QCN program [here](#).

## Safety Tip of the Month

Electrical safety is a major concern at all construction sites. Electrical accidents injure and kill workers each year. Make sure all electricians understand and follow electrical safety procedures, especially those new to the trade. Always use proper safety and personal protective equipment to help prevent these

This document may contain hyperlinks to internet web pages.

Access this PDF document online at:

<https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/electrical/electrical-currents-newsletter/>

Electrical Section Internet Address: <https://www.lni.wa.gov/> -

Select Licensing & Permits, then Electrical



## Year in Review

In the year ending on June 30, 2025, the electrical program delivered:

313,794 total inspections, 50,639 of them done through our [Virtual Electrical Inspection](#) program.

81% of inspections completed within 24 hours of request

93% of inspections completed within 48 hours of request

62,775 corrections written - 53% for serious safety concerns

1.73 million miles driven

176,199 permits sold – 92.5% are contractor permits 98.5% of permits purchased online

77.8% of inspection requests made online

6,375 citations written - about a third are warnings

4,823 of the citations written targeted the underground economy. 2,944 hours of training and outreach done by [ECORE](#)

4,763 pages reviewed by plans examiners - 100% of plans were submitted online

20,514 licenses and certificates processed - 90% on line 6,310 new trainee certificates issued – 87.9% on line

6.17 million hours of experience reviewed by the technical review team – approximately 92% approved, remaining hours were not approved because the applicant had all hours needed to qualify for exam or were denied for cause.

This is just a snap shot of all the hard work that the electrical program staff did last year.

### Last Year's Most Issued Corrections

3,134- GFCI protection in dwellings - NEC 210.8(A) 2,876 - No access for inspection - RCW 19.28.101

2,415- Notifying the department work was ready for inspection when it was not ready - WAC 296-46B-906(7)(B)

1,757- Not following the manufacturer's instructions - NEC 110.3(B)

1,539- Requesting an inspection when previous corrections are incomplete - WAC 296-46B-906(7)(D)

1,291 - Circuit directory or circuit description - NEC 408.4(A)—951 not visible for inspection WAC 296.46B.010(4)

730 – GFCI Other than dwelling units - NEC 210.8(B)—725 NEC 250.24 Grounding of Service-Supplied Alternating-Current Systems

**Answer to Question of the Month:** You can go to the [Electrical Laws, Rules & Policies](#) page on [L&I's site](#) to see current proposed rules, the next steps and when or how you can provide input.

**Picture of the Month:** Checking for the connection of the equipment grounding conductor to equipment is always an important part of any electrical inspection. This HVAC equipment was barely connected to the equipment grounding conductor when it was found by the inspector. NEC 250.8(A) lists the methods grounding and bonding can be accomplished. Is this a code compliant method?

*If viewing this document online, click on the picture to open a larger image.*



This document may contain hyperlinks to internet web pages.

Access this PDF document online at: <https://lni.wa.gov/licensing-permits/electrical/electrical-currents-newsletter/>

Electrical Section website: [www.lni.wa.gov/](http://www.lni.wa.gov/) - Select Licensing & Permits, then Electrical

This document is available in alternative formats to accommodate persons with disabilities. For assistance, call 1-800-547-8367. (TDD/TTY users, please call 360-902-5797.) Labor & Industries is an Equal Opportunity employer.