

ATTACHMENT 1: Email thread forwarded to me from Grant County Water Conservancy Board.

Subject: Re: Professional credential on submitted decisions and reports of exams

From: "Ken Enns" <KEENNS@msn.com>

Date: 7/9/2026, 8:14 AM

To: "Kaila Anderson" <kanderson@landauinc.com>, "Tim Reiersen" <tim@water-consultant.com>, "Bill Sullivan" <bill@americanlandandwater.com>, "Kelsey Mach" <kelsey.mach@geosyntec.com>, "Spud Brown" <goldenwestfarms@gmail.com>, "Alan Dillin (dillin@nwi.net)" <dillin@nwi.net>, "Ashton Stevens" <ashtonstevensfarm@outlook.com>, "David Prchal (davidprchal@hotmail.com)" <davidprchal@hotmail.com>

This email chain was apparently started because of GRAN-25-03 where the HG analysis in the ROE was not stamped by a licensed HG. Ecology did however amend and approve the change application without the HG stamp. It may not happen the next time.

Ken

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: Christensen, Dave (ECY) <davc461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 7:58 AM

To: Ken Enns <KEENNS@msn.com>; Spud Brown <goldenwestfarms@gmail.com>; Alan Dillin (dillin@nwi.net) <dillin@nwi.net>; David Prchal (davidprchal@hotmail.com) <davidprchal@hotmail.com>; Ashton Stevens <ashtonstevensfarm@outlook.com>

Cc: Spangle, Herm (ECY) <HSPA461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Carr, Benjamin (ECY) <beca461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Professional credential on submitted decisions and reports of exams

Hi Ken,

The issue came up where we (Ecology) had not been consistent in requiring work to be stamped (approved) by a licensed hydrogeologist and instead allowed professional engineers to stamp the work that should have had the HG approval. Because the rules and statute are very clear about what work must be approved by each category of credential, we wanted to be sure we explained the distinction to conservancy boards. Engineering work must be stamped by professional engineers. Hydrogeologic work must be stamped by licensed hydrogeologists.

Going forward we will be consistently applying the requirements as described below.

If you have further questions, please contact your Ecology WCB contact and they can explain this in more detail.

Best Regards,
Dave

Dave Christensen (*He/ him*)

Deputy Program Manager
Department of Ecology - Water Resources Program
(360) 489-4227 (cell)

From: Ken Enns <KEENNS@msn.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 7:52 AM

To: Christensen, Dave (ECY) <davc461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Spud Brown <goldenwestfarms@gmail.com>; Alan Dillin (dillin@nwi.net) <dillin@nwi.net>; David Prchal (davidprchal@hotmail.com) <davidprchal@hotmail.com>; Ashton Stevens <ashtonstevensfarm@outlook.com>

Subject: Re: Professional credential on submitted decisions and reports of exams

External Email

Dave,

I am a Commissioner with the GCWCB. You state that there was an inconsistent application in one of our ROE and ROD. Can you please provide additional information on this application and what we need to do now?

Thanks, Ken

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: Christensen, Dave (ECY) <davc461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 4:12 PM

To: dolsenecon@aol.com <dolsenecon@aol.com>; dbrownh2owater@gmail.com <dbrownh2owater@gmail.com>; bergerb@pocketinet.com <bergerb@pocketinet.com>; DOR Walla Walla County BOE <jmunns@wwcowa.gov>; adam@acgeospatial.com <adam@acgeospatial.com>; scwcb6@gmail.com <scwcb6@gmail.com>; ldevera@nwi.net <ldevera@nwi.net>; Carol Cowling <carol.cowling@gmail.com>; kara-kaelber@franklincd.org <kara-kaelber@franklincd.org>; keenns@msn.com <keenns@msn.com>; kcwcb_clerk@yahoo.com <kcwcb_clerk@yahoo.com>; klickitatwcb@gmail.com <klickitatwcb@gmail.com>; floydhilligoss@gmail.com <floydhilligoss@gmail.com>; waterboard@co.lincoln.wa.us <waterboard@co.lincoln.wa.us>; nbelsby42@gmail.com <nbelsby42@gmail.com>; alisa.grumbles@klickitatcounty.org <alisa.grumbles@klickitatcounty.org>

Cc: Carr, Benjamin (ECY) <beca461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Berns, Ria (ECY) <RBER461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Spangle, Herm (ECY) <HSPA461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Kogle, Matthew (ECY) <mkog461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Turner, Scott (ECY) <STUR461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Melcher, Austin (ECY) <AMEL461@ECY.WA.GOV>;

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Feltner, Jason (ECY) <jfel461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Flores, Lola (ECY) <lfo461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Subject: RE: Professional credential on submitted decisions and reports of exams

Dr. Olsen,

Thank you for your questions.

1. The practice of engineering is defined in statute under RCW 18.43.020. (8)(a) states "Practice of engineering" means any professional service or creative work requiring engineering education, training, and experience and the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences to such professional services or creative work as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, design, and supervision of construction for the purpose of assuring compliance with specifications and design, in connection with any public or private utilities, structures, buildings, machines, equipment, processes, works, or projects.

Engineering analysis would be work falling under this definition.

2. An example of a recent situation where the Water Resources program realized the inconsistent application of state rules came from the Grant County Water Conservancy Board record of decision and report of examination from earlier this year. After several discussions among regional managers, we determined that a clarification about the rule requirements would be beneficial to address the inconsistency.

I hope this answers your questions.

Best Regards,
Dave

Dave Christensen (*He/ him*)

Deputy Program Manager

Department of Ecology - Water Resources Program

(360) 489-4227 (cell)

From: dolsenecon@aol.com <dolsenecon@aol.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 2:31 PM

To: Christensen, Dave (ECY) <davc461@ECY.WA.GOV>; dbrownh2owater@gmail.com; nbelsby@gmail.com; bergerb@pocketinet.com; DOR Walla Walla County BOE <jmunns@wwcowa.gov>; adam@acgeospatial.com; scwcb6@gmail.com; ldevera@nwi.net;

ldevera@nwi.net; Carol Cowling <carol.cowling@gmail.com>; kara-kaelber@franklincd.org;
keenns@msn.com; kcwcb_clerk@yahoo.com; klickitatwcb@gmail.com; floydhilligoss@gmail.com;
waterboard@co.lincoln.wa.us

Cc: Carr, Benjamin (ECY) <beca461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Berns, Ria (ECY) <RBER461@ECY.WA.GOV>;
Spangle, Herm (ECY) <HSPA461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Kogle, Matthew (ECY) <mkog461@ECY.WA.GOV>;
Turner, Scott (ECY) <STUR461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Melcher, Austin (ECY) <AMEL461@ECY.WA.GOV>;
Feltner, Jason (ECY) <jfel461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Flores, Lola (ECY) <lfo461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Subject: Re: Professional credential on submitted decisions and reports of exams

External Email

Dave,

1) Unclear to me what you are including under "engineering" analysis?. Please be specific.

2) What/which WCB actions have brought your concern to our attention?

Thanks,

D.O.
BCWCB
509-783-1623

In a message dated 7/8/2026 2:16:46 PM Pacific Daylight Time, davc461@ECY.WA.GOV writes:

Good Afternoon Water conservancy board contacts,

I wanted to reach out with some important information for Water Conservancy Boards.

It has come to our attention that the water conservancy board (WCB) rules may not have been consistently applied regarding the requirement for a licensed professional to approve (with stamp) any relevant analysis submitted to a water conservancy board to support a change application. This email is to provide some basic information as a reminder of the current rule requirements.

Under [WAC 173-153-110\(3\)](#), any engineering, hydrologic, geologic, or hydrogeological analysis submitted to a water conservancy board must be done by professionals licensed under RCW 18.43 (for engineering) or RCW 18.220 (for geology/hydrogeology) and must bear the appropriate professional stamp.

When Ecology reviews water conservancy board records of decision and reports of examination (ROD-ROEs), Ecology will verify that any engineering analysis is stamped by a professional engineer (PE) and any hydrogeologic analysis is stamped by licensed hydrogeologist (HG).

If Ecology finds that there is a missing stamped analysis, we will ask the WCB and applicant to provide a stamped analysis or withdraw the ROD-ROE until such time that a stamped analysis can be provided. If no stamped analysis is provided to Ecology after this communication, we will reverse the ROD-ROE and deny the change application.

This may seem like a shift in past practice. However, this approach is needed so Ecology follows the rules applicable to this situation. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best Regards,
Dave

Dave Christensen (*He/ him*)
Deputy Program Manager
Department of Ecology - Water Resources Program
(360) 489-4227 (cell)



<https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines>

This communication is a public record and may be subject to disclosure as per the Washington State Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.