



Signature on file

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Secretary of Transportation

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Date

No Idling: Drivers, Stop Your Engines

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

This Secretary's Executive Order is intended to conserve fuel, protect the health of our workforce and community, and improve air quality. Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) employees are directed to minimize idling time in all aspects of WSDOT's operations.

B. Background

- Within this executive order, idling means allowing an engine to run while the motor vehicle transmission is not engaged in forward or reverse motion.
- Idling vehicles and equipment degrade local air quality. Emissions from idling vehicles accumulate and can pose a health risk to employees and the community at large. Idling vehicles also waste fuel and money and contribute to global warming.
- Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine.
- Today's diesel engines are not designed to idle. Excess idling has damaged emission-related components on trucks and as a result has increased downtime and repair costs.

II. Secretary's Executive Order

No vehicle or engine may idle for more than 5 consecutive minutes. This limit applies to all WSDOT vehicles, unless the vehicle is idling for specific circumstances defined below:

- When the health and safety of employees or others may be jeopardized (e.g., due to weather conditions or when the visibility of the driver is impaired), vehicle operators will only idle a vehicle for the minimum amount of time needed to maintain visibility and an appropriate work environment inside the vehicle.
- When it is necessary to complete a function of the vehicle (e.g., hydraulic power, engaging power take off or warning lights and/or headlights).
- When warming a vehicle up to operating temperatures as specified by the equipment manufacturer (no more than 5 minutes). The best way to warm a vehicle is to drive it.
- When it is necessary for servicing, testing, or maintenance.

III. Contact for More Information

For more information about this Secretary's Executive Order, contact the Equipment Administration Office at 360-705-7862 or visit the [Transportation Equipment Fund](#) intranet page.

IV. References

- Secretary's Executive Order [E 1018](#) *Environmental Policy Statement*
- Secretary's Executive Order [E 1047](#) *Business Travel Policy*
- Secretary's Executive Order [E 1082](#) *Business Practices for Moving Washington*
- [Vehicle Operator's Handbook](#) M 3032
- [Transportation Equipment Fund](#) intranet page

V. Review and Update Requirements

When changes are necessary to update this document, inform the Assistant Secretary of Engineering and Regional Operations. The Assistant Secretary reviews this document periodically and proposes updates to the Secretary of Transportation for approval.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

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