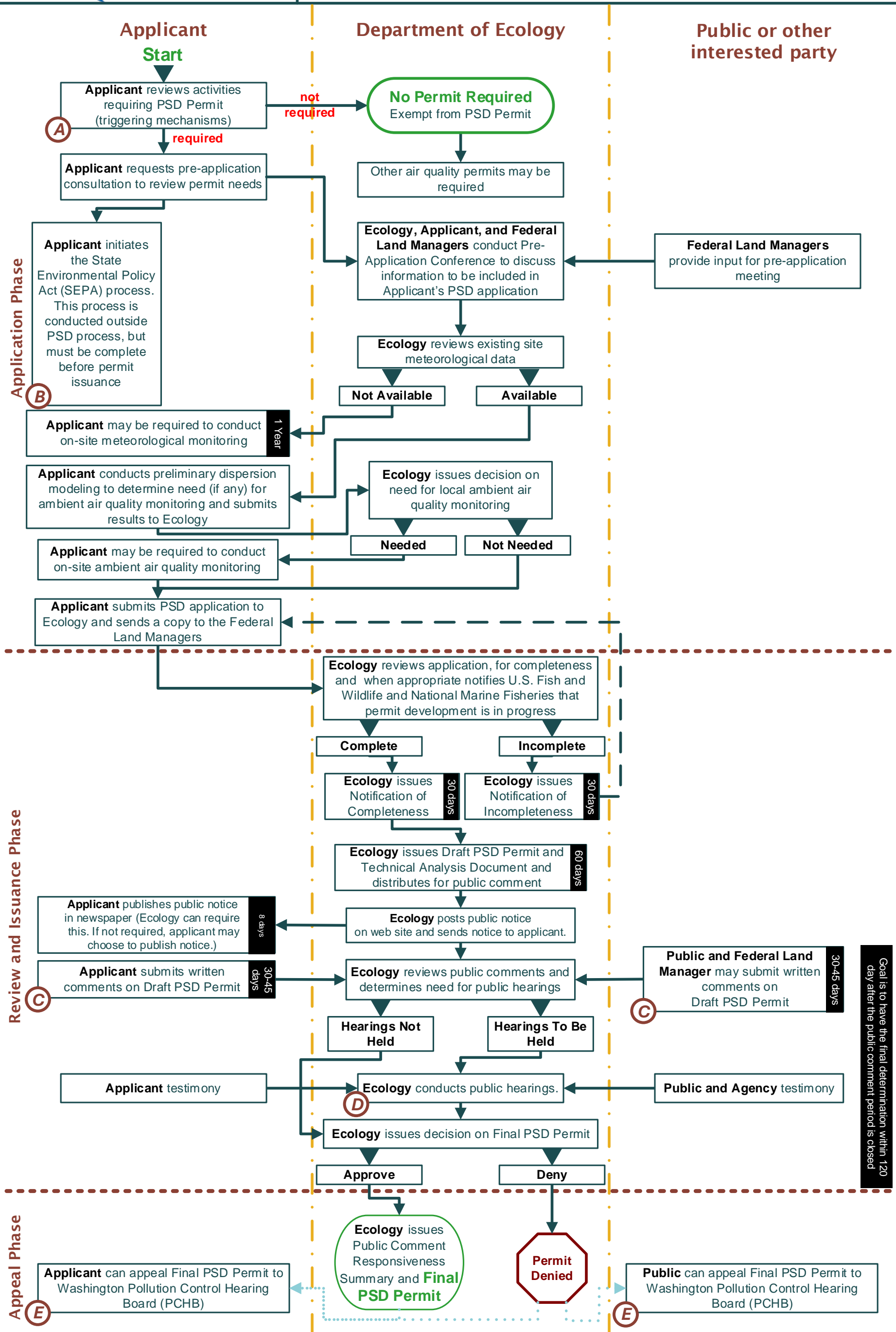


Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) – Air Quality Permit



Legend: (A) = Hyperlink → = Progression - - - -> = Revision ... = Optional

For more information on this or any permitting process visit <https://www.oria.wa.gov> or call the Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance at (800) 917-0043

Link A

What Triggers the Need for a PSD Permit for a New Source?

For a new source, it is actually quite simple. There are two categories of potential PSD sources:

- Back in 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) focused on a group of air pollutant emitting sources that they considered to be particularly significant. If any of the those sources were capable of emitting more than 100 tons per year of any regulated new source review pollutant, they would be subject to PSD permitting. Please see the EPA rule, 40 CFR 52.21(b)(1)(i)¹, for a list of 100 ton sources.
- Any source not on this 100 ton list would be subject to PSD permitting if it is capable of emitting more than 250 tons per year of any regulated new source review pollutant.

To determine which pollutants are subject to new source review regulation, refer to the EPA rule, 40 CFR 52.21(b)(23)(i)².

[Back to Schematic](#)

¹ <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2013-title40-vol3/pdf/CFR-2013-title40-vol3-sec52-21.pdf#page=3>, page 3

² <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2013-title40-vol3/pdf/CFR-2013-title40-vol3-sec52-21.pdf#page=9>, page 9

Link B

How do SEPA requirements relate to PSD?

The SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act) process in itself is not a permit process. It is a process intended to give permitting agencies the information (the Environmental Impact Statement) necessary to make an informed determination of the potential environmental impact of the proposed project: Air, water, soils, flora, fauna, agricultural, endangered species, etc. The determination(s) may lead to specific terms and conditions in any related permits. You can learn details of the SEPA process from Ecology's 'SEPA Handbook,' Publication #98-114. You can get a copy by calling (360) 407-6924, or download it from <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/98114.pdf>.

The PSD process is a permit development procedure for regulatory agencies to use to approve construction and operation of relatively large projects. It is specific to air quality impact-related issues. However, as part of this permitting process, the Air Quality Program is required to consider collateral environmental impacts.

The tie between the SEPA and PSD processes is that **a PSD permit cannot be finalized until the SEPA process is complete, and the PSD permit writer has considered its conclusions.**

[Back to Schematic](#)