

Facial Coverings and Mask Policy

Washington State and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Updated Guidance:

Washington State and the CDC have adjusted their facial coverings recommendations for employees who work in businesses that are not readily accessible to the public. Energy Northwest's facilities fall into this category. Therefore, effective November 16, 2021, EN has revised our policy.

- Fully vaccinated personnel do not need to wear a facial covering or mask both indoors and outdoors. To verify vaccination status, personnel will need to show proof of vaccination to Occupational Health, Human Resources or Lori Walli at the MPF. Once verified, a gold grommet will be placed on the personnel's badge holder to indicate they have been vaccinated.
- When outdoors, all unvaccinated personnel, must wear a facial covering or mask if a 6-foot distance cannot be maintained between personnel. If working alone outdoors, then no facial covering or mask is needed for unvaccinated personnel.
- When working indoors, all unvaccinated personnel, must wear a facial covering or mask unless they are working alone in their enclosed office. This includes private offices and cubicles. If personnel share open working spaces with other personnel, such as shop areas, then all unvaccinated personnel must always wear a facial covering or mask.
- Exceptions to the above are described below in the **Exceptions to Wearing Facial Coverings/Masks** section.

COVID-19 best management strategy:

Facial coverings or masks are a critical defense against COVID-19, and combined with social distancing, increased hygiene and cleaning remains the highest and most effective strategy for protecting both the employee and more importantly their coworkers. Keeping everyone safe is our number 1 priority.

The following outlines the current strategy:

1. Cover face and nose with facial covering or mask.
2. Maintain at least a 6-foot distance between yourself and others when practicable.
3. Diligent personal hygiene (hand washing), use of gloves, and other PPE.

Personnel use of facial coverings or masks:

It is permissible to use personal facial coverings or masks which meet the state's definition of a "facial covering". Employee supplied N95 and K95 masks do not require a mask fit or special qualifications when the use is voluntary. These masks are designed to fit tightly around the nose and mouth to protect the wearer from smaller, airborne particles. As it is more difficult to achieve a proper fit with an N95 or K95 respirator, these are not recommended for use by people with facial hair.

All personnel are free to voluntarily wear a facial covering or mask or other protective equipment when it's not required if use doesn't create a safety or security issue.

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Guidance for use:

1. Wash hands and face with soap and water.
2. Face covering or mask should fit snugly over the nose and mouth.
3. Strictly avoid touching your face.
4. Wash hands after removing the face covering or mask.
5. Home supplied face coverings should be thoroughly washed between uses.
6. Face masks should be kept clean and dry. **

*** If an employee voluntarily elects to wear a N95 or K95 face mask, they should hold onto the item, keep it protected and clean for re-use within their shift. While re-use of face masks is not specified by the manufacture, the CDC does provide that limited re-use of a mask is a mitigation strategy when supplies are low.*

Compliance with Security:

Individuals on site wearing a face covering or mask either inside or outside of the protected area, will need to remove the item when requested by Security to conduct a face-to-badge comparison.

Exceptions to Wearing Facial Coverings/Masks:

Consistent with this Policy, EN expects all personnel to adhere to the following:

1. Always carry an EN or self-provided facial covering or mask with you.
2. Prior to entering any EN building, cover your nose and mouth with a mask or facial covering unless fully vaccinated.
3. When inside any EN building (to include traversing), unvaccinated personnel must always properly wear a mask or facial covering, unless otherwise exempted.

Exemptions:

1. When alone working in an office, cubical, common work area, vehicle, or job site. However, if approached in any of these areas by other personnel, you must cover your nose and mouth with a mask or facial covering if unvaccinated.
2. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or otherwise relies on language cues such as facial markers and expression.
3. When a job has no in-person interaction.
4. When requested by Security to remove the mask or facial covering to allow for proper identification.
5. When job duties require wearing respiratory protection greater than that provided by a mask or facial covering.
6. Individuals who have an underlying health condition which has been approved through Human Resources.
7. Inside the following locations:

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- a. When greater than 6 feet from another employee: Main Control Room, Radwaste Control Room, Control Room Simulator when conducting operator training.
- b. The Security firing range during live weapons training and while working in a contaminated area (CA).
8. When eating, drinking, or smoking in authorized locations (social distancing expectations remain applicable).
9. When wearing a facial covering or mask interferes with the safe conduct of your work (e.g. introduces an industrial safety hazard, plant transient or trip risk, etc.) and with supervisor approval. Workers may discuss relaxation of the requirement for specific jobs at the pre-job brief or in the field with the supervisor.
10. Extra care should be exercised when wearing a facial covering or mask in the Radiological Controlled Area (RCA) or a Contaminated Area (CA). Facial coverings or masks should be snug to the face and still allow facial movement (talking) to prevent frequent adjustment and touches to the face. A facial covering or mask is NOT required when in a CA. However, facial coverings or masks are required while traversing to and from CA. Remove facial covering or mask after donning protective clothing (PC) and place in packet of modesty garment NOT PC pocket. After exiting the CA, don facial covering or mask.

Exemptions continued:

OPTIONAL: Facial coverings or masks may be worn in a CA but must remain snug, covering nose and mouth always; avoid touching face or adjusting facial covering or mask. Replace facial coverings or masks that become wet with perspiration or are unusable upon exit of the CA (near hand friskers). This exception has been assessed to eliminate the ingestion risk of radioactive material.

11. It is sometimes difficult to clearly understand an individual talking through a mask, especially for those who may be participating in a meeting remotely. If an unvaccinated presenter can maintain six feet of distance from the rest of the group, they may remove their mask to facilitate clear communication. It should be replaced immediately when they are not speaking. This exception applies to all meetings and training settings for unvaccinated personnel.

