SCOPE

The use of recycled water systems for fire flow and fire sprinkler systems.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Fresno Fire Department’s (FFD or Department) policies related to the City of Fresno recycled water system; particularly as it relates to fire flow and fire sprinklers for development.

BACKGROUND

The City of Fresno has begun to install recycled water mains and fire hydrants throughout the City, and in some cases, contract service areas of the fire department.

These installations will include pumping capacity; however, the water supply currently lacks redundancy and the purple color coded hydrants on the system could be inoperable at any time. Out of service recycled water hydrants will be a normal occurrence; happening on a regular basis.

Standard engineering guidelines note that without an acceptable level of redundancy along with known capacity and overall water supply system performance, recycled water fire hydrant installations cannot be relied upon to provide a reasonable amount of water flow for manual firefighting or to supply a fire sprinkler system.

REQUIREMENTS

Based upon the identified risks, the Department has determined that:

Until further notice, recycled water fire hydrants and supply systems shall not be used as a basis for calculation of available fire protection water supplies to support development projects.