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FIRE INDUSTRY BULLETIN 2018-002

SCOPE

City of Fresno (and contract service area) requirements related to one (1) and two (2) family dwelling (NFPA 13D) fire sprinkler systems.

PURPOSE

This bulletin notifies applicable stakeholders of the Department's existing requirements relative to fire sprinkler installations in one (1) and two (2) family dwellings covered under *National Fire Protection Standard 13D* (2016 edtn.). These stakeholders include: Residential developers, Home builders, Fire sprinkler contractors, Designers, Installers, etc.

BACKGROUND

It has recently been brought to the Department's attention that some *NFPA 13D* fire sprinkler systems may have been installed incorrectly. As with all other building standards, it is the Department's requirement that all residential fire sprinkler systems be designed and installed per the requirements of the *California Residential & Fire Codes*, *NFPA 13D*, and applicable Department policies.

INFORMATION

Fresno Municipal Code (FMC) §10-50101.1.3, establishes the fire code official's authority to enforce building standards and fire protection requirements for R-3 occupancies, including one (1) and two (2) family dwellings.

REQUIREMENTS

NFPA 13D systems that are installed as "Standalone-Alone" systems in accordance with *NFPA 13D*, §3.3.11.9, shall be equipped with passive purge in accordance with *NFPA 13D* §3.3.11.5, except that all toilets are to be equipped with passive purge (Note: this requirement does not eliminate the mandatory check valve after the tee to the sprinkler system). Hereafter, these systems will be referred to as "Standalone with passive purge" (SAWPP) throughout this document.

"To protect and put service above all else."

SAWPP systems are also required to have two control valves installed, one which is the main control valve located after the City water meter, ahead of any landscape tee, domestic plumbing tee and fire sprinkler tee. Additionally, SAWPP systems must also have a control valve installed on the domestic plumbing line, after the tee to the fire sprinkler system, to control the domestic plumbing. An example of this required installation configuration can be found in *NFPA 13D* (2016 edtn.) in figure 6.2(c).

Briefly, the purpose of these installation requirements are to allow work to be performed on the domestic portions of the plumbing system without shutting off the protection afforded by the fire sprinkler system. This style of installation may also reduce the amount of stagnant water within the fire sprinkler system, which, if not provided could reduce the home's water quality.

It is the obligation of the design and installation community to review and adjust their designs and installations to conform to local requirements. Additionally, the Department would recommend that all affected stakeholders ensure that their staff members install all fire sprinkler systems per the Department's requirements on each project. Failure to complete installations as required may result in significant project delays and additional project costs.

Installations which do not conform to the Department's requirements will not be approved.

NOTE

This notice is effective February 15, 2018.