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C-16 STAMP

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## Fire Prevention Bureau

2400 Conejo Spectrum St, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320 Office: (805) 389-9738 Fax: (805) 388-4356

## **MEMORANDUM 25-901**

DATE: 12-7-2025

TO: C-16 Fire Sprinkler Contractors

FROM: Alan Dearden, Senior Fire Inspector

SUBJECT: Cross-Contamination Control for NFPA 13D Fire Sprinkler Systems

RETAIN UNTIL: 1-1-2026

Effective immediately, all NFPA 13D fire sprinkler systems shall provide cross-contamination control per the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board, Cross-Contamination Control Policy Handbook, the County of Ventura Water and Sanitation Department, and/or the water purveyor's requirements for the property served whichever is most restrictive.

All new NFPA 13D systems shall require a backflow prevention assembly that meets the following requirements:

- Double Check Valve BPA (DC) Sizes: 1" through 2"
   Only permitted for low hazard services in residential single-family dwellings for sole feed to its non-chemical based fire protection sprinkler system and when installed immediately downstream of the domestic service meter.
- "Low Hazard Cross-Connection"
   Means a cross-connection that has been found to not pose a threat to the potability or safety of
   the public water supply but may adversely affect the aesthetic quality of the potable water
   supply. Materials entering the public water supply through a low hazard cross-connection are
   pollutants or non-health hazards.
- 3. Backflow Prevention Assembly (BPA)
  Shall comply with lead-free requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, containing less than or equal to 0.25% lead (Pb) in wetted surfaces as determined by its weighted average, NSF/ANSI 61 & 372 compliant, and conforming to AWWA C510 or C511 as applicable.

Additionally, the assembly shall be from one of the below listed manufacturers and be listed on the latest edition of University of Southern California (USC) Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research "List of Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies", (web site link provided for convenience: https://fccchr.usc.edu/list.html.)

## Approved Manufacturers:

- Ames
- Febco
- Watts
- Wilkins
- Zurn

The State Water Resource Control Board, Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook allows the use of a passive purge sprinkler system (Exhibit 1) if it meets all the criteria of Chapter 3, Article 2, Section 3.2.2(e)(3):

- (3) A BPA is not necessary for a low hazard fire protection system on a residential user premises if the following criteria are satisfied:
  - (A) the user premises has only one service connection to the PWS;
  - (B) a single service line onto the user premises exists that subsequently splits on the property for domestic flow and fire protection system flow, such that the fire protection system may be isolated from the rest of the user premises;
  - (C) a single, water industry standard, water meter is provided to measure combined domestic flow and fire protection system flow;
  - (D) the fire protection system is constructed of piping materials certified as meeting NSF/ANSI Standard 61; and
  - (E) the fire protection system's piping is looped within the structure and is connected to one of more routinely used fixtures (such as a water closet) to prevent stagnant water.

A passive purge sprinkler system is not permitted on properties required to have a dedicated fire sprinkler underground by the water purveyor serving the project site. Additional guidance will be posted on our website as it becomes available.

## EXHIBIT 1

