



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Napa County Fire Department
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 2019

SUBJECT: New Permit Applications Containing Electric Fire Pumps

In light of the recent Public Safety Power Shutdown (PSPS) and the requirements of 2016 NFPA 20, Napa County Fire Marshal's Office will not approve new applications containing an electric fire pump for areas affected by the PSPS unless they are provided with an approved backup power source.

This memorandum does not apply to NFPA 13D systems or fire permits submitted prior to 10/16/19.

This memorandum does apply to "Use permit" or "Building Permit" submitted prior to 10/16/19 if the Fire Permits have not been submitted yet.

Be advised that where a "diesel generator" is used in conjunction with an "electric fire pump", all of the code for a "diesel fire pump" shall apply to the system (this concept applies to all types alternative power sources). Please consult NFPA 13, 20 and 25 for additional information.

For properties not effected by the PSPS, a letter from the electric service provided stating "service interruptions of greater than 10 hours have not effected the property or area within the last 12 months" will be required prior to plan approval.

The following has been extracted from NPFA 20:

2016 NFPA 20, Section 9.3.2* "Other Sources. Except for an arrangement described in 9.3.3, at least one alternate source of power shall be provided where the normal source is not reliable."

2016 NFPA 20 A.9.3.2 "A reliable power source possesses the following characteristics:

(1) The source power plant has not experienced any shutdowns longer than 10 continuous hours in the year prior to plan submittal. NFPA 25 requires special undertakings (i.e., fire watches) when a water-based fire protection system is taken out of service for longer than 10 hours. If the normal source power plant has been intentionally shut down for longer than 10 hours in the past, it is reasonable to require a backup source of power."