



COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

GREG DUPUIS, FIRE CHIEF

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CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT		
FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD		
STANDARD TITLE:	402.011 OUTSIDE COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE REQUIREMENTS (LARGE PILES)	
STANDARD NUMBER: 402.011	EFFECTIVE DATE: 1 October 2022	REVISION DATE: 1 October 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the requirements for outdoor combustible storage, as required by ~~Coalinga Municipal Code (FMC), Section 10-50315.4.3., Additional Requirements for Outside Storage.~~

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all combustible materials that require an operational permit, including those materials regulated elsewhere in the *California Fire Code (CFC)*, except where specific requirements are provided in the *CFC*. An operational permit is required when the pile exceeds 4,999 square feet of exterior storage as outlined in the *FMC*.

Exterior storage of combustible materials includes but is not limited to: idle pallets; plastic or wooden finished products; baled material; loose, free-flowing and/or bulk storage; or similar materials.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

General Requirements (all storage within the scope of this policy)

1. The method of stacking will be in a stable, orderly, and regular manner.
2. The site will be maintained clear of combustible vegetation.
3. Storage areas will be surrounded with an approved fence. The fence will be a minimum of six (6) feet in height.
4. Fire lanes will be a minimum of twenty (20) feet in width, within two hundred (200) feet of all portions of a regulated pile perimeter, and with an approved all weather surface capable of supporting fire department apparatus. A site plan identifying approved access roads will be submitted as a condition of approval.
5. Designated marking boundaries for stacking limits with posts (in paved yards, parking lot striping may be used) must be visible and maintained. Each method



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of designation will be approved by the Fire Marshal, or designee.

- Storage yards will be provided with fire hydrants spaced a maximum distance of five hundred (500) feet from all portions of a pile perimeter. A minimum fire flow of 1,500 gpm is required. Existing sites without available public water mains will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
- Pile height, location, etc., are subject to the most restrictive requirement, which may be Planning and Development Department land use requirements (Zoning).

Pallet and Bin Box Storage (regardless of material)

- Exterior idle bin box and pallet storage piles will be arranged in accordance with the current edition of *NFPA 1*, Section 34.11.3., Outdoor Storage.

Baled Storage (regardless of material)

- Maximum height of storage will not exceed twenty (20) feet.
- Maximum pile dimensions will not exceed fifty (50) feet by two hundred and fifty (250) feet.
- Minimum separation between baled storage piles will be ten (10) feet.
- Storage subject to this policy will not be located within ten (10) feet of any property line or building.
- A pile breakdown in an approved location with a minimum clear area of one hundred twenty (120) feet by ninety (90) feet will be provided.

Loose, Free-Flowing and/or Bulk Storage (regardless of material)

- Maximum height of storage will not exceed twenty (20) feet.



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2. Maximum pile dimensions will not exceed fifty (50) feet by two hundred and fifty (250) feet.
3. Minimum separation between storage piles will be ten (10) feet.
4. Storage subject to this policy will not be located within ten (10) feet of any property line or building.
5. A pile breakdown in an approved location with a minimum clear area of one hundred twenty (120) feet by ninety (90) feet will be provided.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

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PROCESS

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INFORMATION

These materials present a severe fire hazard due to their characteristics. This policy provides the minimum criteria for safe outdoor storage of these materials. Farming operations are exempt from this policy.

DEFINITIONS

Large pile - an exterior storage pile that exceeds 4,999 square feet. Small

pile - an exterior storage pile that is 4,999 square feet or less.

CROSS REFERENCES



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California Fire Code

Chapter 3, General Requirements

Chapter 28, Lumber Yards and Agro-Industrial, Solid Biomass and Woodworking Facilities

Chapter 34, Tire Rebuilding and Tire Storage

Coalinga Municipal Code

~~Section 10-50315.4.3, Additional Requirements for Outside Storage~~

Fire Prevention Manual

Section 402.011A Outside Combustible Storage Requirements (Small Piles)

NFPA 1

Section 34.11.3, Outdoor Storage