



COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

GREG DUPUIS, FIRE CHIEF

300 W. Elm Ave • Coalinga, CA 93210 • Phone (559) 935-1652 • Fax (559) 935-1638

CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT		
FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD		
STANDARD TITLE:	407.003 MANUAL PULL BOX PROTECTIVE COVERS	
STANDARD NUMBER: 407.003	EFFECTIVE DATE: October 26, 2022	REVISION DATE: October 26, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the permissible use and approval criteria for the installation of protective covers on manual pull boxes within the City of Coalinga.

APPLICATION

This policy clarifies the Coalinga Fire Department's (CFD or Department) requirements for the installation of manual pull box protective covers (including for required and voluntary fire alarm systems) and applies to all manual pull box protective cover installations within the City of Coalinga.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

The currently adopted California Fire Code (CFC) specifically permits the use of manual pull box protective covers where their installation has been approved by the fire code official.

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the Department's service delivery area, the Department has determined that the installation of manual pull box protective covers must be in accordance with the following requirements:

1. The installation of manual pull box protective covers in any occupancy is generally permitted when the building is equipped with an approved, automatic fire sprinkler system.
2. As noted in the currently adopted edition of the CFC, protective covers with local alarm signals may only be installed when approved by the Fire Marshal, or designee. Such approval will only be granted after the Department has received an application for a building fire alarm permit.
3. Any approval for the installation of manual pull box protective covers will be conditioned upon the requirement that the site's emergency preparedness documents include documented training of all staff members on the use of manual pull box protective covers.
4. The required training must also include training on the manual activation of the building fire alarm system that is present in the building.



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5. The frequency of the required training noted above must be of such duration and frequency as determined by the CFC, or where not prescribed by the CFC, by the Fire Marshal (or designee).

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

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PROCESS

Prior to the installation of any manual pull box protective cover, the building owner, or installing contractor must first obtain a building fire alarm permit from the Department.

INFORMATION

In the past, concerns were raised regarding the permissible use of pull box protective covers with audible warning devices (i.e., Stopper II, etc.) which are U.L. listed, but not California State Fire Marshal (CSFM) approved. The CSFM's objection to the devices was centered around the audible warning signal emitted by the protective cover. It was believed that the audible warning emitted from the cover may lead occupants to believe that they had activated the building fire alarm system, when in fact, they had only lifted the protective cover of the manual pull box.

DEFINITIONS

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CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code, Current edition.