



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:	FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS PRE-PIPE INSP.	
STANDARD NUMBER: 405.003	EFFECTIVE DATE: March 15, 2022	REVISION DATE: March 15, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Coalinga Fire Department's (CFD or Department) requirements regarding required fire sprinkler system control valve access and permissible fire sprinkler system control valve installation locations.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all fire sprinkler system installations within the City of Coalinga and contract service areas. These requirements apply to both required and voluntarily installed systems.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13, §8.16.1.1.7, requires that all fire sprinkler system control valves be located in an accessible location. "Accessibility" in this case is defined, determined, and approved by the Fire Marshal (or designee).

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the Department's diverse service delivery area, and after careful deliberation, the Department has determined the following locations may provide acceptable access (in order of preference):

1. Post indicator valves (PIV) installed on the underground fire service supply to the building at a minimum of forty (40) feet (or the height of the adjacent building wall – whichever is greater) from the building.
2. Wall PIV on a building's exterior wall, in an approved location.
3. Riser control valve(s) located in a mechanical room, electrical room, or stairway enclosure with a direct exterior access door.
4. Riser control valve(s) located in an exterior riser chase with approved door(s) or side-hinged access panel(s) as noted below.
5. Access panels for each fire sprinkler system are required to be as noted below, however, the required access panel size may be required to be increased at the sole discretion of the Fire Marshal (or designee):



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- a. For all NFPA 13 systems, a minimum thirty-six-inch by thirty-six-inch (36” x 36”) access panel shall be provided.
- b. For all NFPA 13R systems, a minimum eighteen-inch by twenty-four-inch (18” x 24”) access panel shall be provided.
- c. In every case, an access panel must be of sufficient size to service and replace all riser components. The judgement of sufficient size will be at the sole discretion of the Fire Marshal (or designee).
- d. Riser control valves located inside buildings must be located within five (5’) feet of an approved, exterior access door which conforms to the requirements of the California Fire Code (CFC) §1010.1.1. Access doors (or panels) to these locations must be labeled with an approved, permanent and durable sign, which reads: “Fire Sprinkler Control Valve Inside.”
- e. Where access to the fire sprinkler system control valve is via a locked door, etc., a Knox box must be provided in an approved location. The Knox box location must be in accordance with CFD policy #403.006.
- f. An alternate, equivalent form of access may be permitted where approved by the Fire Marshal (or designee).

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

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PROCESS

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INFORMATION

These requirements serve to provide ready and safe access to fire sprinkler system components for Department personnel.

DEFINITIONS

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CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code

Section 1010.1.1, Size of Doors

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13

§8.16.1.1.7, Control Valve Accessibility

CFD policy #403.006