



COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

GREG DUPUIS, FIRE CHIEF

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CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT		
FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD		
STANDARD TITLE:	405.013 INSPECTORS TEST VALVES & AIR VENTS	
STANDARD NUMBER: 405.013	EFFECTIVE DATE: October 26, 2022	REVISION DATE: October 26, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Coalinga Fire Department's (CFD or Department) requirements related to the design and installation of inspector's test valves and air vents for fire sprinkler systems.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all buildings equipped with a fire sprinkler system within the Department's service area, including contract service areas. These requirements apply to both required and voluntary fire sprinkler systems.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

As noted in the currently adopted California Fire Code (CFC), the fire code official has the authority to formulate policies they deem necessary based upon local conditions related to fire sprinkler system installations.

Inspectors test valves installed as noted in the currently adopted version of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13 - Automatic Sprinkler Systems, are a more realistic and accurate test of the required five-minute alarm actuation requirements, and are a convenient method to bleed trapped air from a fire sprinkler system

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

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:

1. Every automatic fire sprinkler system is required to have an inspector's test valve/connection and air vent installed as noted in the currently adopted version NFPA13. Both the test connection and air vent must be shown on the plans as required by Fire Prevention Manual, Section 401.011, Fire Sprinkler Plan Specifications.
2. The inspector's test valve must be located at the end of the most hydraulically remote branch line, or other approved location, not more than seven (7') feet from the finished floor.



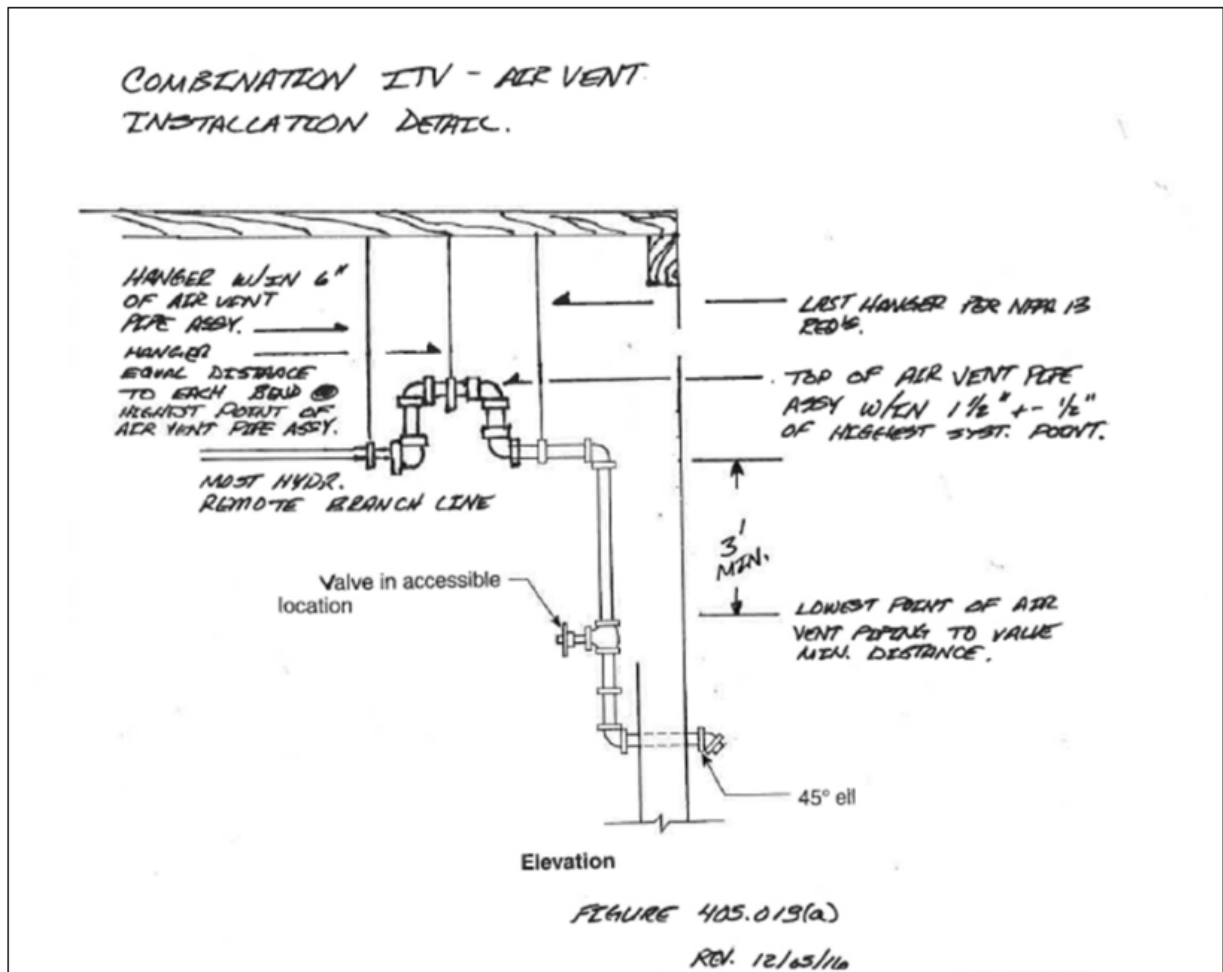
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- Where approved and installed above a ceiling, the inspector's test valve must have an approved sign installed in accordance with Fire Prevention Manual, Section 402.016, Fire Department Required Signage.
- When used in combination, the inspector's test valve and air vent piping assembly must be installed as noted in figure 405.013(a) below:



- Inspector's test valves for all group "R" occupancies must be placed in an approved location which does not require entry into a dwelling or dwelling unit to operate the valve.



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PROCESS

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INFORMATION

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DEFINITIONS

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CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code (CFC), Current edition

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13

Automatic Sprinkler Systems, Current edition

Fire Prevention Manual

Section 401.011, Fire Sprinkler Plan Specifications

Section 402.016, Fire Department Required Signage

Section 405.013, Location of Inspector's Test Valve