



State of Utah

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Notice

To: Fire Chiefs, Fire Marshals and the Fire Protection Industry

Question: Can non-NFPA 13 fire suppression systems, water wash systems, use an NFPA-13 system as a water source?

Answer: **No**

Reasoning:

1. Other fire suppression systems fall outside the Scope, Purpose and Application of NFPA 13.
2. Closing the control valve on the fire sprinkler system would not initiate a tamper alarm for other system as required. NFPA 96 10.2.10
3. Activation of the other fire suppression system would activate the alarm on the fire sprinkler system constituting a false alarm. IFC 401.5
4. The 2014 edition of NFPA 96 10.2.9.2 requires: "separate indicating control valves."

Explanation:

The 2011 edition of NFPA 96 is unclear in answering this question. Section 102.8 of the IFC allows the fire code official to use documents published by NFPA as prima facie evidence of the intent of the fire code. The 2014 edition of NFPA 96 clarifies the intent of the NFPA 96 committee on this question. **This means that no connection of other systems may be made to a fire sprinkler system up stream of the control valve, or valves, for the fire sprinkler system.**

NFPA

Dave Hague, Principle Fire Protection Engineer and Raymond Bizal, PE, Southwest Regional Manager, both with NFPA, were asked this question. They indicated that NFPA 13 does not specifically prohibit the connection of other water based fire protection systems to fire sprinkler systems; but, NFPA 96 10.2.9.2 requires: "separate indicating control valves."

Ted Black, Chief Deputy
Utah State Fire Marshal