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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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FORMAL INTERPRETATION

TO: Architects, Engineers, Sprinkler Designers
FROM: Jerry W. Jones, Chief Architect *JWJ*
SUBJECT: Sprinkler Protection in Elevator Machine Rooms
ISSUE DATE: June 18, 1993
CODE REFERENCE: ANSI 17.1 : 102.2
ANSI 17.1 : 300.6 (1989)
300.3 (1992)

DISCUSSION: There has been some confusion concerning the requirements of ANSI 17.1:102.2; the requirements outlining how to go about providing automatic sprinkler protection in elevator hoistways, machine rooms, or machinery spaces.

ANSI 17.1:102.2 (C) reads:

- (c) Standard sprinkler protection conforming to the requirements of ANSI/NFPA No. 13 may be installed in these spaces, subject to the following.
- (1) All risers and returns shall be located outside these spaces.
 - (2) Branch lines in the hoistway shall supply sprinklers at not more than one floor level.
 - (3) Shutoff valves shall be provided for each branch line in accessible locations outside these spaces.
 - (4) Means shall be provided to automatically disconnect the main line power supply to the affected elevator prior to the application of water. This means shall not be self-resetting. The activation of sprinklers outside of the hoistway or machine room shall not disconnect the main line power supply (also see Rule 210.5)

4026

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FORMAL INTERPRETATION

Page 2

- (d) Other pipes or ducts conveying gases, vapors, or liquid and not used in connection with the operation of the elevator shall not be installed in any hoistway, machine room, or machinery space.

ANSI 17.1:300.6 pertaining to hydraulic elevators reads:

Electrical equipment, wiring, pipes and ducts shall conform to the requirements of Section 102.

FORMAL INTERPRETATION:

Both hydraulic elevators and electrically powered elevators must comply with ANSI 117.1:102.2(C).

COMMENT: There are many ways to comply with this section of the standard.

The intent of the requirement is to protect the occupants by preventing water flow in the hoistways, machine rooms or machinery spaces until the main line power to the affected elevator(s) is disconnected.

This office will require sprinkler protection of hoistways, machine rooms and/or machinery spaces in buildings protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13. Sprinklers will not be allowed to be omitted from these spaces.

4027