



Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention

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Division:	Fire Prevention	Code Interpretation:	FP-CI-53
Subject:	Water Supply for Hydraulically Calculated Fire Sprinkler Systems	Effective Date:	08/01/2021
Code:	IFC Section 903.3.8.5 and NFPA 13 Section 23.2	Revised Date:	NEW

A. SUBJECT:

Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention has notified industry that effective August 1, 2021, fire hydrant flow tests for sprinkler design will no longer be accepted.

B. CODE REQUIREMENT:

Water supply information is required to be supplied with all hydraulically calculated fire sprinkler systems. IFC Section 903.3.8.5 requires calculations in accordance with NFPA 13. NFPA 13 requires a determination of the water supply capacity.

C. INTERPRETATION:

When determining the water supply capacity and when preparing the hydraulic calculations pursuant to NFPA 13, Section 23.2, the estimated ground elevation, demand conditions and residual pressure data obtained from the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD) shall be deemed acceptable to use in lieu of actual flow test data.

D. RATIONALE:

NFPA 13 requires the fire sprinkler designer to calculate the system back to the water source. Part of the review for hydraulically calculated systems is validating the water supply is adequate to provide sufficient pressure and flow to support the remote area of the sprinkler system. NFPA allows the AHJ to determine the means of determining the available water supply. Through a partnership with the LVVWD, the means for providing sprinkler designers with a hydraulic model to determine the available flow and pressure at a specific point in the public water system is available to all applicants. Based on the availability of this service, the accuracy of this data, and the ongoing water shortages facing Clark County, the hydraulic model provided by the LVVWD will be considered the approved method for determining the available water supply.

Revision History:

POLICY #	TITLE	Effective Date	Revised	Reviewed

Approved by: 

Jerome A. Stueve, P.E., Director, Building & Fire Code Official