

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 1, 19

TO: All Borough Superintendents

FROM: Edwin Fruchtman, P.E., Commissioner

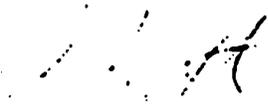
SUBJECT: Fire Protection Systems- Building Code Interpretations

1. C26-1702.16 (b) (1) and C26-1702.16 (b) (2) - Water Supply to Standpipe Fire Pumps - Standpipe Fire Pumps must either have two sources of water supply, or a suction tank augmenting the single source, where permitted.
2. C26-1703.8 (a) - Classification of Water Supplies for Sprinkler and Standpipe Fire Pumps can be used as a sprinkler supply provided the pumps comply with the applicable provisions of Sections C26-1702.15 and C26-1702.16. (Except that no enclosures shall be required.) The electric power to the motor shall be taken from the street side of the house service switch.
3. RS 17-2 Section 2-4.3 and Table 2-2.1 (a) - Water Supply Required for Sprinkler systems. Buildings that are predominantly light hazard may have a light hazard water supply provided the ordinary hazard areas are designed for ordinary hazard requirements.
4. RS 17-2 Section 2-4.3 and 2-5.3 & Chapter 8, High Rise Buildings. Combined standpipe and sprinkler systems can be used in E, F, G, H and J Occupancies provided the automatic fire pump, if used, is provided with emergency power that is automatic switching.
5. C26-1700.1, C26-1701.2 (a) Existing Sprinklers. When altering or extending an existing system, the extension must be made to comply with the present code. Existing undersized piping can remain, provided additional heads are not added to it.
6. C26-1703.9 (c) Sources of Water Supply - It is acceptable to use the domestic water supply in multiple dwellings only for sprinklers in corridors and in refuse chutes, and in other limited areas. The domestic water may be supplied by direct public water connection or equipment and pumps approved for water supply in accordance with Reference Standard RS-16.
7. C26-1703.9 (c) - Limit on Number of Sprinklers Connected to the Domestic Water Supply - No more than 10 heads can be connected to a plumbing riser supplying other than sprinkler heads, and no more than 20 heads can be connected to a sprinkler riser supplying only sprinkler heads in any fire section separated by 2 hour enclosures from adjoining fire sections.

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8. RS- 17-1, Section 4 (c) - Filling of Tanks for Standpipe Systems- A fire standpipe reserve tank can only be filled by direct public water connection or separate fill pumps, or a fire standpipe reserve tank can be filled by direct public water connection, separate fill pump and direct connection to equipment or pumps used to supply domestic water systems in accordance with Reference Standard RS-16.


Irwin Fruchtman, P.E.
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