



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
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JOEL A. MIELE, SR., P.E., Commissioner

SATISH K. BABBAR, R.A.  
Assistant Commissioner  
Technical Affairs  
(212) 312-8324

July 6, 1995

Mr. William D. Rice  
Life/Fire Safety Management  
12 Joan Avenue  
Centereach, New York 11720

Re: Clarification of RS 18 - Rule 211.3b Smoke Detectors

Dear Mr. Rice:

This is in reply to your letter dated June 14, 1995 for the above reference subject.

Please be advised that elevator lobby cross zoning smoke detectors, as required by Rule 211.3b of Reference Standard RS 18-1, are to prevent false alarm and unnecessary elevator recall that may cause panic, disturbance and an uncomfortable type of atmosphere.

It is for this reason, Reference Standard RS 18-1 has been modified under BSA Cal. #11-91-BCR to mandate the cross zoning smoke detectors when required in all new buildings, in existing buildings where major elevator alteration work is filed, and in existing buildings where a new fire alarm system having a Fire Command Station is installed.

In conclusion, where cross zoning smoke detectors are required to be installed under the above described conditions, a single smoke detector required prior to the above mentioned BSA number shall not be installed.

I hope the above clarifies your concern.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Babbar, R.A.

SKB/MM/gt

cc: R. Visconti, R.A., Assistant Commissioner