

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS**

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**December 6, 2000**

**INFORMATION BULLETIN 00-04 (SHL, MP)**

**TO: City and County Building Officials  
Mobilehome Park Operators**

**SUBJECT: Emergency Standards for Earthquake Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Systems and Residential Excess Flow Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Valves**

On November 14, 2000, the California Building Standards Commission approved the Division of the State Architect's emergency regulations amending the following standards of the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 12, known as the 1998 California Referenced Standards Code. Local enforcement agencies are required to enforce these standards when issuing building permits effective November 20, 2000.

**Standard 12-16-1 California Standard For Earthquake Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Systems** was amended to state: *The American Society of Civil Engineers requirements, "Earthquake-Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Devices, ASCE, 25-97 (Copyright 1998 by ASCE)," shall be the applicable standard used by the Division of the State Architect for the certification of these devices.*

**Standard 12-16-2 California Standard For Residential Excess Flow Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Valves** was amended to repeal the "American Gas Association (AGA) Requirements for Excess Flow Valves No. 3-92 dated January 30, 1996."

The adopted language states: *"CSA U.S. Requirements for Excess Flow Valves No. 3-92," January 6, 2000 shall be the applicable standard used by the Division of the State Architect for certification of these devices.*

Although Standard 12-16-2 is entitled "*California Standards For Residential Excess Flow Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Valves,*" (*emphasis added*) Health and Safety Code Section 19182 states, in part, that the State Architect shall adopt standards governing earthquake sensitive gas shutoff devices for the installation in buildings. The statute is applicable to buildings in general and is not intended to restrict the above standard to "residential" applications.

Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 3, commencing with Section 1920, known as “The Earthquake Protection Law” states, in part, in Section 19203, that any new seismic gas shutoff device shall be certified by the State Architect prior to sale in California. Additionally, Health and Safety Code Section 19204 limits the application to service connections of individual structures to main gas lines, and to connections of appliances to gas lines, and does not apply to devices within gas lines.

Any technical questions regarding the applicability of the engineering quality, design or certification to the aforementioned standards should be referred to Richard Conrad, State Architect, Division of the State Architect’s Office at (916) 324-7180.

Questions regarding the responsibility for enforcing these standards, when issuing residential building permits, should be referred to the State Housing Law Program staff at (916) 445-9471. Questions regarding the applicability of these regulations in a mobilehome park or recreational vehicle park installation should be referred to the Mobilehome Park Program staff at (916) 445-9471.

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