June 26, 2012

Information Bulletin 2012-03 (MH)

TO: Manufactured Home Dealers and Manufacturers
Mobilehome Park Owners
Local Building Officials
HCD-Approved Third-Party Agencies
Division Staff
Escrow Companies

SUBJECT: Carbon Monoxide Device Installation in New & Used Manufactured Homes; Amended Ignition Resistant Construction Rules

This Information Bulletin is provided in order to announce new regulations requiring the installation of carbon monoxide devices in all new and existing manufactured homes and mobilehomes and amendments to existing regulations for design and construction of manufactured homes designated for installation in a Wildland-Urban Interface fire hazard area.

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

This new rule provides for the installation of carbon monoxide devices in all new, existing (unsold inventory) and used manufactured homes, mobilehomes and multifamily manufactured homes, subsequent to rules previously established for site-built single-family and multifamily residential dwellings\(^1\), as follows:

- Section R315 applies to the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, California Residential Code installation of CO devices in: 1) New manufactured homes, 2) New and used multifamily manufactured homes\(^2\) containing only two dwelling units, 3) Existing manufactured homes in inventory or on dealer lots, and 4) Used manufactured homes and mobilehomes, if all such units contain fuel-burning appliances or are designed for an attached garage. Effective date is July 1, 2012.

- For new and used multifamily manufactured homes that contain more than two dwelling units, section 420.4 of CCR, Title 24, California Building Code is the required standard for the installation of CO devices in such units. The effective date for new units is July 1, 2012, and January 1, 2013, for existing and used units.

---

\(^1\) SB 183, requires CO devices be installed in site-constructed SFD effective July 1, 2011; and CO devices in leased or rental multi-family dwellings effective January 1, 2013.

\(^2\) Multifamily manufactured homes are defined in CA health and Safety Code section 18008.7, and are units containing more than one dwelling unit, constructed using manufactured housing laws and as amended by that section.
CO Device Enforcement Guidelines

Enforcement of the installation of CO devices by department and local inspection personnel will occur during the following inspection activities:

- Mobilehome Park Maintenance Inspections of mobilehome park rental units
- Manufactured home and mobilehome installation inspections
- Complaints requiring the interior inspection of mobilehomes and manufactured homes
- HCD inspection of HCD-Licensed Dealer lot inventory
- HCD inspection of manufactured home, multifamily manufactured home and mobilehome alterations or conversions involving the unit’s interior.

All CO devices and its instructions must be approved and listed by the State Fire Marshal. Existing dwelling units are permitted to have a battery operated or plug-in with battery back-up installed, unless an alteration or conversion is performed which requires removal of the interior and ceiling finish material that would facilitate hard-wiring and interconnection of the devices.

Ignition Resistant Construction Systems

The department amends CCR Title 25, Chapter 3, Subchapter 2, Article 2.3 in order to allow existing and used manufactured homes not originally constructed with an approved exterior ignition resistant construction system as defined by Article 2.3 to remain as originally constructed, if manufactured prior to September 1, 2008.

Any questions regarding these amendments should be directed to the Manufactured Housing Program staff at (916) 445-3338 or by e-mail to Program Manager Kevin Cimini at kcinini@hcd.ca.gov.

---

Kim Strange
Deputy Director

---

4 CRC section R315.2.2 requires hard-wiring CO devices when certain interior alterations are provided, and the valuation meets or exceeds $1,000.