Date: April 30, 2014

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Kevin Reinertson
Division Chief, Fire Engineering Division

SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:
Fire Engineering Division Update
Update the SBFS on the following Fire Engineering Issues
  1. Fireworks
  3. Polyurethane Spray Foam Insulation and CPVC
  4. Examining the issues/need of a Fire Sprinkler Fitter Certification Program

Recommended Actions:
Information/Discussion only

Background Information:
  1. Fireworks Update - Discussion/update of current status on the disposal/destruction of seized dangerous and illegal fireworks. (Information/Discussion)

The OSFM has a tentative fireworks disposal plan as follows:

MAY / JUNE
  1) Plan to ship out 18,778 pounds (23 Pallets) from Montebello Staging facility to General Dynamics, Joplin MO. (Upon receiving word of Truck availability)
     Estimated time frame is Mid May.
  2) Burn treatment of 5000 to 7000 pounds at the Devore Staging and Destruction facility.
     Estimated time frame is Mid May to early June. This is dependent upon fire weather, burn bans, and receipt of DTSC permit.

JULY / AUGUST
  1) Continue burn treatment fire weather permitting.
  2) Recon of all staging / storage facilities by late August for accounting of inventory
  3) Prepare materials for second shipment to Joplin, Missouri.
SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

1) Pending available space and personnel, start pick-up from local government.
2) Explore transition of staging/storage to CAL FIRE or California State owned/leased facilities and change of procedure to have seized illegal fireworks brought to those staging areas by authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs).


The Fire Engineering Division, Automatic Extinguishing Systems Program: On April 24, 2014, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 25 Standard for Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems, 2013 California Edition, which is based on the NFPA 25 Standard for Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems, 2011 Edition, completed its second public comment period. The 15-day public comment period was to address some editorial changes. This was to clarify certain sections from the 45-day public comment period.

Just as with the NFPA 25, 2006 California Edition, based on the NFPA 25, 2002 Edition, the NFPA has allowed the OSFM to publish the NFPA 25 2013 California Edition Standard for Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems. In anticipation of the effective date by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), we have worked simultaneously with the publisher and it is anticipated that the final version be available for purchase sometime in July 2014.

3. Polyurethane Spray Foam Insulation and CPVC

The Automatic Extinguishing Systems (AES) Advisory Committee has created a workgroup to address the impact of polyurethane spray foam insulation on Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC). The workgroup met to discuss the issues regarding the installation of CPVC pipe and the Polyurethane Spray Foam Insulation in new and existing residential construction. The purpose of this group is to continue to examine the issues between the installation of Polyurethane Spray Foam Insulation and CPVC, as well as how to best mitigate issues pertaining to the use of the two products. After several meetings, it was determined that an Information Bulletin was needed. With the cooperation of both industries and the workgroup, Information Bulletin 14-004, was developed. The bulletin will be posted on the OSFM website.

4. Examining the issues/need of a Fire Sprinkler Fitter Certification Program

At the request of the AES Advisory Committee, a workgroup was created and tasked with examining the issues of implementing a certification program for individuals who perform the installation and maintenance of fire suppression systems. The goal of the group is to review the issue, “Do we or don't we need a Certification Program in California for the installation and maintenance of fire suppression systems?” If it is determined that a Certification Program is needed, then the workgroup will also develop recommendations to the State Fire Marshal regarding the implementation of a certification program for the installation of fire suppression systems. The group met for the first time in March for a two-day meeting. During this meeting, it was determined that another meeting was needed and it was felt that the workgroup should include a more diverse representation. The next meeting is scheduled for later this month.