



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	07-19-01	Interpretation #	01-013
Topic	Sprinkler Requirements for Exterior Furnace/Water Heater Compartments of Manufactured Housing		
Code Section(s)	§4-6, NFPA Standard #13-D (1996 ed)		
Requested by	Pete Vasquez, Jr. Division of Codes and Standards Department of Housing and Community Development 8911 Folsom Blvd Sacramento, CA 95826		
Prepared by	Hugh Council, Division Chief (916) 445-8200		

SCENARIO: A manufactured housing unit is designed with a 24" x 24" exterior water heater compartment. The compartment is equipped with an exterior access door. Storage cannot be accommodated in the room, as there is only about one inch between the waer heater and the compartment walls.

Can sprinklers be omitted from this space under Section 4-6, Exception #4 of NFPA Standard #13-D?

No. Exception #4 applies to the omission of sprinklers in *concealed spaces*. The room described is a water heater closet, which is easily accessible via a door. We also note that Exception #2 is also not appropriate in this case as the water heater is heat-producing equipment.