



# Collier County Fire Prevention and Protection Code POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL



**ARTICLE NUMBER:** WH 11-1

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 3, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Water Heater Change out Permit Requirements

**OBJECTIVE:** To provide clarification for when a Fire plan review and inspection is required

## **BACKGROUND:**

There seems to be some confusion as to when a water heater change-out is subject to Fire review and inspection. Since the water heater replacements take place within buildings subject to the firesafety code they are subject to fire plan review and inspections as per Florida Statute 553.79(2).

## **POLICY/PROCEDURE:**

Fire plan review and inspections are required for all water heater replacements in any commercial building or in any common area of a multi-family building (3 or more living units). Common area is any area not within a dwelling unit as defined in the 2007 Florida Fire Prevention Code, NFPA 101 section 3.3.55.2.

We will not require fire plan review or fire inspections for water heater replacements totally within and serving only one living unit. The building department has agreed to notify the fire district if they observe any new wall penetrations, so that the district could verify fire ratings and protection.

## **Inspections :**

1. Penetrations of rated assemblies.

This has been our policy since August 2011.

## **CODE REFERENCES:**

Florida Statute 553.79(2) prohibits the Building Official from issuing a permit for construction, erection, alteration, modification, repair, or demolition of any building until the appropriate firesafety inspector certified pursuant to s. 633.081 has reviewed the plans and specifications required by the Florida Building Code, or local amendment thereto, for such proposal and found that the plans comply with the Florida Fire Prevention Code and the Life Safety Code. Any building or structure which is not subject to a firesafety code shall not be required to have its plans reviewed by the firesafety inspector. Any building or structure that is exempt from the local building permit process may not be required to have its plans reviewed by the local building code administrator.



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## **ATTACHMENTS:**

None.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Big Corkscrew Island Fire District; East Naples Fire District; Golden Gate Fire District; Immokalee Fire District; Isle of Capri Fire District; North Naples Fire District; Ochopee Fire District; City of Marco Island Fire Department; Building Director, Collier County Community Development; Chief Inspectors, Collier County Community Development; Collier County Community Development Records; Collier Building Industry Association (CBIA); Subscribers