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FIRE SERVICE BACKFLOW GUIDELINES

The City of North Las Vegas Utilities Department is dedicated to the protection of the City's public potable water system. As part of this protection effort, the Department has established these guidelines for backflow protection at existing and proposed fire service connections. In September 2012, the CNLV Utilities Department became aware of an anti-corrosion chemical additive that may be injected into the fire sprinkler line within a sprinkled building, regardless if antifreeze exists. For this reason, these guidelines were established.

New fire service connections

A reduced pressure detector assembly (RPDA) is required for all new fire service connections, including services to all fire sprinkler systems and on-site fire hydrants.

Modifications, improvements or expansions of existing fire service connections

Any modification, improvement or expansion to existing fire services, including but not limited to sprinkler systems, which are protected with one or more double check detector assemblies (DCDA) will be required to remove and replace the DCDA(s) with RPDA(s).

Improvements that do not include fire service connections

For any building, site or tenant improvement that does not specifically modify the fire system or introduce chemical contaminants into the fire system but could lead to the addition of chemical additives in the future, the following two notes shall be added to both the office and job-site copies of the approved construction plans:

Utilities Fire Backflow Protection Comment:

DCDA(s) currently service this property for fire service. If modifications are being made to the onsite fire sprinkler system, a letter describing the modifications is required for review and approval by the Utilities Department. The Utilities Department may require that the existing DCDA(s) be removed and replaced

with RPDA(s) in order to comply with the requirements established by Nevada Statutes and Administrative Code for protection of the public potable water system.

Utilities Fire Riser Room Placard:

Contractor shall install a placard at the fire sprinkler riser stating "No chemical additives may be injected into the fire sprinkler system at any time." The placard shall be made of sturdy materials with black lettering on red or white background. The placard shall be permanently attached/posted and highly visible at all times.

Routine maintenance to existing fire service connections

Any routine maintenance activities such as the replacement of damaged sprinkler heads will not require changes to the backflow assemblies at this time but the Utilities Fire Riser Room Placard shall be required as noted:

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The Utilities Department reserves the option to require a more stringent requirements and a higher level of protection for all facilities whether proposed, new, or existing.