



# HARRIS COUNTY FIRE CODE

## CODEWORD



The Codeword is used to clarify provisions of the Harris County Fire Code. The sole intent is to make clear acceptable practice.

**Issue Date:** October 13, 2009

**Subject:** Standby Power for Fire Pumps

**Question:** Is a standby power supply required on all fire pumps?

**Answer:** The IFC 2006 does not require standby power for all fire pump installations.

Harris County requires that all fire pump installations be supplied with reliable power as outlined in NFPA 20, Chapter 9.2.

Standby power is required for fire pump installations in all buildings three (3) stories and above, and **Critical Facilities** (as defined below), and when required by the Building Official after consideration of occupancy conditions.

“Critical Facilities” means those facilities essential to the preservation of life and property, including, but not limited to schools, nursing homes, hospitals, police, fire and emergency response installations, facilities used for the storage of critical records, and commercial installations which produce, use or store hazardous materials or hazardous waste as referenced in the Harris County Fire Code’s High-Hazard Group (Group H) of the 2006 International Fire Code.

Standby power is also required for pump installations in facilities containing Class 4 High-Hazard commodities and Group A, B, and C, plastics.

Building Official

Harris County, Texas

Fire Marshal

Harris County, Texas