WATER TANK PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

ISSUE

The purpose of this interim policy is to expand the subject permit exemption to include Exception Number 5 of Section 105.2 of the 2016 California Building Code, and to clarify how the exemption applies to water tanks, rain barrels, and above grade cisterns. Since these clarifications are administrative, justification in accordance with Health and Safety Code Section 18941.5 is not required.

POLICY

Exception Number 3 of Section 106.3 states a building permit is not required for steel tanks not storing hazardous material as defined in the Fire Code supported on a foundation not more than 2 feet (610 mm) above grade when the overall height to diameter or width does not exceed 1-1/2 times the diameter.

The following tanks not storing hazardous material as defined by the Fire Code are also exempt from a permit:

- Water tanks, including cisterns and rain barrels, (constructed of materials other than steel), supported directly on grade when the overall height to diameter or width does not exceed 1-1/2 times the diameter, and the capacity does not exceed 5000 gallons (18925 L).

Supersedes BCM 106.3 Article 4 dated 08-01-18
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