



**North Collier Fire Control and Rescue District
Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) Guidelines for Successful Review or Inspection**

Article Number	FAL 20-08
Effective Date	February 1, 2020
Subject	Timing of Flow Switches
Objective	Clarify Acceptable Flow Switch Time Settings

BACKGROUND

69A-3.012(h) and (ss) adopted NFPA 72 and NFPA 13 refer to water flow alarms and their timing:

- NFPA 13-6.9.1 "...an audible alarm on the premises within 5 minutes after such flow begins..."
- NFPA 72-17.12.2 "Activation of the initiating device shall occur within 90 seconds of waterflow at the alarm-initiating device..."

The intent of a fire alarm system is to provide for early detection and notification to occupants and/or emergency forces and fire sprinkler systems to provide a reasonable degree of protection of life and property. NFPA 1-1.3.3 and 101-1.7 provide guidance for resolving conflicts between NFPA 1/101 and referenced documents and/or general and specific requirements. Generally, the most restrictive requirement applies, exceptions excluded.

POLICY/PROCEDURE

The requirement of NFPA 72-17.12.2 for setting flow switch timing to 90 seconds shall be applicable to fire alarm systems monitoring fire sprinkler systems.

CODE REFERENCES

NFPA 72-17.12.2; NFPA 13-6.9.1; NFPA 1-1.3.3; NFPA 101-1.7