



## Emergency and Standby Generator Maintenance

Generators which are required by the Fire and/or Building Code to support life safety systems must be maintained in working condition. The California Electrical Code contains provisions for emergency electrical systems in Chapter 7.

Chapter 7 states:

- Systems shall be tested periodically on a schedule and in a manner acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction to ensure the systems are maintained in proper operating condition (700-4 (b)).
- A written record shall be kept on such tests and maintenance. (700-4(d)).
- For further information regarding performance of emergency and standby power systems, see *Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems*, NFPA 110-1993 (ANSI). (700-1).

NFPA 110 divides systems into two types: Level 1 are those where failure of the equipment to perform could result in loss of human life or serious injuries. Level 2 are those where failure of the system to perform is less critical to human life and safety and where it is expected that the authority having jurisdiction will exercise its option to allow a higher degree of flexibility than provided by Level 1. All systems serving a toxic gas system are considered Level 1 systems. Other systems are classified on a case-by-case basis.

NFPA 110, Chapter 6 specifies maintenance and testing for emergency and standby power systems. A copy of this chapter is attached for your reference.

If you have any questions regarding these issues, please call the hazardous materials staff at 925-454-2362.