



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Public Safety Services



V. J. BELLA
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

November 6, 1996

Richard Bourgeois
Fire & Safety Commodities
P. O. Box 7487
Metairie, LA 70010-7487

RE: Chain Driven Pizza Ovens

Dear Mr. Bourgeois:

This office has reviewed your October 28, 1996 request for clarification regarding suppression system requirements for chain driven pizza ovens and reached the following determination.

NFPA 96 establishes requirements for the protection of cooking equipment producing grease or grease laden vapors, hoods and duct systems. Your specific question concerns the requirement to provide suppression systems to protect chain driven pizza ovens, which produce grease laden vapors. In July 1978, NFPA issued a formal interpretation of the requirements for the 1976 edition of NFPA 96. FI 76-13 answered the question, "Is fire extinguishing equipment required for the protection of a cabinet or sectional oven, duct system, and hood in a pizza restaurant as depicted in NFPA 96 Section 1-3 and 7-1?"

Answer: No, for the cabinet or sectional type oven providing the appliance does not generate grease laden vapors and no for the duct system and hood providing there are no grease generating appliances beneath the same hood.

This interpretation specifically states that if grease laden vapors are not produced then the suppression system is not required. Therefore, it is the determination of this office that open ended chain driven pizza ovens as well as open ended pizza ovens without chain drives shall be required to be protected with a suppression system due to the fact that they are open and the cooking of cheese, sausage, ground meat and various other meat products does in fact produce grease laden vapors. Be advised that this office will accept the protection of the open ends as required for broilers.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Jerry W. Jones
JWJ/HCR/smi

cc: Henry Reed
Pat Slaughter
Review Staff

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