



MOBILE FIRE - RESCUE DEPARTMENT FIRE CODE ADMINISTRATION

Professional Engineer Requirement

Effective immediately all fire protection design drawings submitted to the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department Bureau of Fire Prevention for review shall abide by the Alabama State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors' fire protection position statement.

Written by Chairman William Ulrich with the approval and signature of State Fire Marshal Ed Paulk, the letter clarifies the boundaries of NICET certification and the State of Alabama requirement for a professional engineer's seal and signature for fire protection system design.

“While NICET certification meets a requirement it does not replace the requirement for professional licensure. The designing of fire protection systems is engineering and as such must be designed by or under the direct supervision of professional engineers qualified to design fire protection systems. Only fire protection designs that have been signed and sealed by a qualified Alabama licensed professional engineer should be approved for construction.”

It is the position of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors that:

- Contract drawings should include a set of fire protection drawings that are sealed by a licensed professional engineer;
- Fire protection drawings must meet as a minimum the standards as identified in the current editions of the adopted building codes and the National Fire Protection Association standards;
- Supervision by a licensed professional engineer is required relative to the review of fire protection installation shop drawings for compliance with engineer's design and specifications; and
- Field observations by a licensed professional engineer is required relative to the installation of original permitted design

The Fire protection drawings must meet as a minimum the standards as identified in the 2012 International Fire Code, the 2012 International Building Code and the most current National Fire Protection Association standards