

SEC. 96.1.5601.2. EXPLOSIVES AND FIREWORKS-APPLICABILITY.

Section 5601.2 is added to the California Fire Code to read:

Sec. 5601.2 Applicability. This section shall apply to the manufacture, possession, storage, sale, transportation and use of explosives and blasting agents and to any blasting operation in the unincorporated area of the County. The Sheriff is the Issuing Officer for purposes of this section. The Sheriff may delegate the duties of Issuing Officer at her or his discretion. Additionally, as may be appropriate based on circumstances, the Issuing Officer may enter into memoranda of agreement with non-County fire agencies whereby such non-County agency will assume the duties of issuing a permit or permits required by this Chapter. The Issuing Officer shall determine whether a blast is a major blast or a minor blast under this section. A minor blast is subject to all conditions of this section except the inspection requirements.

Sec. 5601.2.1 Definitions. The following terms are defined in section 202:

BLASTER.

BLASTING AGENT.

BLASTING OPERATION.

BLASTING PERMIT.

BLAST SITE.

EXPLOSIVES PERMIT.

INSPECTOR.

MAJOR BLASTING.

MINOR BLASTING.

Sec. 5601.2.2. Application. Application for a permit required by this section shall be in the form required by the Issuing Officer.

Sec. 5601.2.3 Permit requirements. No person shall conduct blasting in the unincorporated area of the County without an explosives permit issued under this chapter. A person applying for an explosives permit shall, in addition to demonstrating compliance with fire safety requirements, shall also comply with all County requirements for any building permits, grading permits, use permits, encroachment permits and all other entitlements to use property, including zoning requirements and any determination under the Zoning Ordinance of nonconforming status. The applicant shall be responsible for providing proof of all necessary approvals when requested by the Issuing Officer.

Sec. 5601.2.4 Permit conditions. The Issuing Officer may impose conditions and procedures as are deemed reasonably necessary to protect the public health and safety based upon the facts and circumstances of a particular blasting operation. The permit conditions shall be in writing. Failure to comply with any permit condition is grounds for revocation of the permit. A blaster may request the Issuing Officer release the blaster from any permit condition if circumstances have changed that make the condition no longer applicable. In addition to complying with the County blasting regulations, a blaster shall also comply with blasting

regulations of neighboring jurisdictions, for any blasting operations outside of the unincorporated area of the County conducted in conjunction with a project within the unincorporated areas of the County.

Sec. 5601.2.5 Insurance and indemnification required. As an additional condition for obtaining an explosives permit the applicant shall submit: (1) a certificate of insurance evidencing that the blaster has obtained a general liability insurance policy which includes coverage for explosion, collapse and underground property damage from an insurer satisfactory to the Issuing Officer, that is in effect for the period covered by the permit, written on an "occurrence" basis, in an amount of not less than \$500,000 per each occurrence, naming the County and the FAHJ as an additional insured and providing that the policy will not be canceled or terminated without 30 days prior written notice to the County and (2) an agreement signed by the blaster agreeing to defend, indemnify and hold the County and its agents, officers and employees harmless from any claims or actions arising from the issuance of the permit or any blasting activity conducted under the permit.

Sec. 5601.2.6 Blasting hours. Blasting shall only be allowed Monday through Saturday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or ½ hour before sunset, whichever occurs first, unless special circumstances warrant another time or day and the Issuing Officer grants approval of the change in time or day.

Sec. 5601.2.7 Additional operational requirements. The owner of any property in the unincorporated area of the County on which any blasting is intended to occur, shall give, or cause to be given, a one-time notice in writing, for any proposed blasting to the local fire agency and dispatch center and to all residences, including mobilehomes, and businesses within 600 feet of any potential major blast location or 300 feet from any potential minor blast location. The notice shall be given not less than 24 hours, but not more than one week, before a blasting operation and shall be in a form approved by the Issuing Officer. The minimum 24-hour notice requirement may be reduced to a lesser period but not less than one hour if the Issuing Officer determines that special circumstances warrant the reduction in time. Adequate precautions shall be taken to reasonably safeguard persons and property before, during and after blasting operations. These precautions shall include:

1. The blaster shall retain an inspector to inspect all structures, including mobilehomes, within 300 feet of the blast site before blasting operations, unless inspection is waived by the owner and/or occupant. The inspector shall obtain permission of the owner and/or occupant before conducting the inspection. The inspection shall be only for the purpose of determining the existence of any visible or reasonably recognizable preexisting defects or damages in any structure. Waiver of inspection shall be in writing signed by the owner and/or occupant. Refusal to allow inspection shall also constitute a waiver. The inspector shall notify the owner and/or occupant of the consequences of refusing an inspection shall include a refusal in the summary report filed with the Issuing Officer. The blaster shall request an inspector conduct post-blast inspections upon receipt of a written complaint of property damage if the complaint is made within 60 days of completion of blasting operations. If the blaster has knowledge of alleged property damage independent of the written complaint, the blaster shall also retain an inspector to conduct a post-blast inspection.

2. An inspector shall complete and sign pre-blast inspection reports identifying all findings and inspection waivers. The blaster shall retain the inspection reports for three years from the date of the blasting and upon a complaint of alleged damage the blaster shall immediately file a copy of the report with the Issuing Officer and provide a copy to the complainant. If there is a change in the blasting contractor after blasting has commenced on a project, a re-inspection shall be conducted in accordance with the preceding paragraph before the new blasting contractor undertakes any additional blasting.

3. The blaster shall retain an inspector to conduct a post-blast inspection of any structure for which a written complaint alleging blast damage has been received. A written report of the inspection shall be immediately filed with the Issuing Officer and provided to any person who made a complaint for damages.

4. The blaster shall allow any representative of the Issuing Officer to inspect the blast site and blast materials or explosives at any reasonable time.

5. If the blaster wants a representative of the Issuing Officer to witness a blasting operation the blaster shall make a request with the Issuing Officer at least 12 hours before the blast. The blaster shall confirm the request for a witness with the Issuing Officer at least one hour before the blast. The blaster shall be responsible for any cost incurred by the Issuing Officer in having a representative witness the blast.

6. The blaster shall notify the Issuing Officer on the day of a scheduled blasting operation not less than one hour before blasting.

7. All major blasting operations shall be monitored by an approved seismograph located at the nearest structure within 600 feet of the blasting operation. All daily seismograph reports shall be maintained by the blaster for three years from the blasting.

Sec. 5601.2.8 Seizure of illegal items. The Issuing Officer may seize at the owner's expense, all explosives, ammunition or blasting agents, which are illegally manufactured, sold, offered or exposed for sale, delivered, stored, possessed or transported in violation of this chapter.

Sec. 5601.2.9 Violations for false or misleading information. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter for any person to provide false or misleading information or documentation to the County or any of its officers or employees or to any fire department, fire protection district, fire company or legally formed volunteer fire department, or its officers or employees in the unincorporated area of the County, having jurisdiction over any aspect of the explosives or blasting permit process or blasting operations.

Sec. 5601.2.10 Fees. A person applying to the Issuing Officer to be approved as a blaster or inspector, as defined in this section, shall pay an application fee to the Issuing Officer. A person applying for an explosives permit under this section shall pay the fee established by the Issuing Officer with the application. The amount of any fee required by this chapter shall be determined by the Issuing Officer on the basis of the full costs involved in processing an application.
(Added by Ord. No. 10337 (N.S.), effective 6-19-14)

SEC. 96.1.5608.1. FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

Section 5608.1 of the California Fire Code is revised to read:

Sec. 5608.1 General. Outdoor fireworks displays, use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience and pyrotechnic special effects in motion picture, television, theatrical and group entertainment productions shall comply with California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Chapter 6 and County Code sections 32.101 et seq. The Fire Warden is the Issuing Officer for any fireworks permit required by this Chapter. The Fire Warden may delegate the duties of Issuing Officer at her or his discretion. Additionally, as may be appropriate based on circumstances, the Issuing Officer may enter into memoranda of agreement with non-County fire agencies whereby such non-County agency will assume the duties of issuing a permit or permits required by this Chapter.

Sec. 5608.1.1 Scope. The possession, manufacture, sale, storage, use and display of fireworks are prohibited in the unincorporated area of the County except as provided in County Code sections 32.101 et seq.

(Added by Ord. No. 10337 (N.S.), effective 6-19-14)