

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Sprinkler Valve Monitoring

Code: 2002 Fire Prevention Code
Section: 903.4

Date: December 2005

Question:

Can a tamper switch for a sprinkler system control valve be replaced with a padlock and chain locking the valve open?

Answer:

No, while locking the valve in the open position is allowed by the code to prevent vandalism, Section 903.4 continues to require valves controlling water within the sprinkler system and the flow switch to be electronically supervised using a tamper switch.

Keywords:

Chain, padlock, supervision