City of Seattle

JOINT DIRECTOR'S RULE

SDCI Director's Rule 07-2026

SFD Administrative Rule 9.06.26

Supersedes: SDCI 7-2014; SFD Rule 9.06.14 **Publication Date**: October 5, 2026
Effective: October 21, 2026 **No. of Pages**: 17

Subject:

Sprinkler Systems and Fire Alarms for Elevator Machine Rooms, Control Rooms, Machinery Spaces, Hoistways and Pits in Existing Buildings.

Code and Section Reference: Seattle Building Code, Seattle Fire Code
Index: Building Code Elevators

Type of Rule: Code Interpretation

Ordinance Authority: SMC 3.06.040

Approved

___(Signature on file)_____
Sam Steele, Interim Director, SDCI Date: October 20,2026

___(Signature on file)_____
Assistant Chief Tim Munnis, Fire Marshal, SFD Date: October 21, 2026

Background:

The purpose of this rule is to clarify the requirements for existing *fire protection systems* installed in elevator machine rooms, control rooms, machinery spaces, the top of hoistways and in pits. This rule identifies the requirements of the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) and Seattle Fire Department (SFD) related to fire sprinklers, initiating devices, and shunt trip testing for these spaces. It includes requirements for existing elevator installations and for the removal of existing fire protection systems during major alterations of elevator systems.

In addition, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A17.1 elevator rules adopted in Chapter 30 of the Seattle Building Code, prohibit automatic fire sprinklers in elevator machine rooms unless they are provided with automatic power disconnect device known as a shunt trip. However, this type of automatic power disconnect device may cause serious problems for firefighting operations.

Note: Seattle's Elevator Code and this rule differ from Washington State's safety regulations and fees for all elevators, dumbwaiters, escalators and other conveyances. For reference:

WAC 296-96-02481: City of Seattle requirements for sprinklers and shunt trips. Within the city limits of Seattle application of water will be manually controlled and elevator shut down will be installed per the current code adopted by the city of Seattle elevator section. See also RCW 70.87.

Rule:

The rule clarifies requirements for existing elevators and the requirements for existing elevators undergoing major alterations (i.e., major modernization).

Note: A major alteration is defined as replacement of the elevator controller and the upgrade of other related elevator equipment.

Part 1: Existing Building General Fire Alarm System Requirements

For buildings with an existing fire alarm system, the fire detection devices associated with the elevator system are required to be connected to and be part of the building fire alarm system. For existing fire alarm systems that cannot accommodate additional fire detection devices required by ASME A17.1 and NFPA 72 for elevator recall, a dedicated function fire alarm system is acceptable. The dedicated function fire alarm system will be monitored by the building fire alarm system as required by NFPA 72.

For buildings not provided with a building fire alarm system, the fire detection devices associated with the elevator system are required to be connected to and be part of a dedicated function fire alarm system for elevator monitoring.

Existing buildings with elevators undergoing major alteration (i.e., modernization) are not required to upgrade an existing fire alarm system to support the functions of the upgraded elevator system when a dedicated-function fire alarm system would support fire detection devices as required by ASME A17.1 and NFPA 72 for elevator recall.

Part 2: Specific Fire Protection Requirements:

Installations, alterations or retrofits (including modernization) of elevator systems or related components and systems in existing buildings shall comply with all applicable codes and with Sections 1-8 as described in DR Section Index below (Sections with actual requirements follow the index):

DR Section Index

SECTION 1: Detection and Alarm requirements in existing buildings with fire sprinkler systems.

SECTION 2: Hoistway sprinkler and Detection requirements in existing elevators with combustible suspension means.

SECTION 3: Existing Buildings with Sprinklered Machine/Control Rooms and/or Pits (Machine/Brake Top of Hoistway).

SECTION 4: Existing Electric Elevators with Unsprinklered Machine/Control Rooms.

SECTION 5: Requirements for removal of Sprinklers from Elevator Hoistway, Machine/Control Rooms and Pits.

SECTION 6: Requirements for Hydraulic Elevators Undergoing Major Alteration (i.e., modernization).

SECTION 7: Requirements for Electric Elevators Undergoing Major Alteration (i.e., modernization).

SECTION 8: Requirement for annual shunt trip testing.

APPENDIX A: Historic Seattle Elevator Code and Director's Rule Excerpts

SECTION 1: Detection and Alarm requirements in existing buildings with fire sprinkler systems shall comply with Section 1.

1.1 Smoke detectors (heat detectors are allowed when ambient conditions prohibit smoke detection), shall be installed at each of the following locations in accordance with NFPA 72:

1.1.1 Elevator lobby or floor level served by the elevator

1.1.2 Each elevator machine or control room

1.1.3 Machinery space containing a machine/brake

Upon device activation, the detectors identified in section 1.1.1 through 1.1.3 shall signal to the fire alarm system to initiate Phase I recall or other hoistway protection.

1.2 Where the elevator machine/brake is located at the top of the hoistway or where an existing machine/brake is in the elevator pit area, a 135-degree fixed temperature heat detector(s) shall be located within 18 inches of the machine/brake and sprinkler.

1.3 In buildings having a fire alarm system, the detectors shall report to the fire alarm panel as a separate zone or initiating device identifier for addressable fire alarm systems for each location where an initiating device is located.

1.4 In buildings without a fire alarm system, the detectors shall initiate an audible and visual alarm located at the recall floor near the entrance to the elevators per NFPA 72, Section 21.3.2. The alarm indicator shall have a sign with 1-inch letters in high contrast with the background stating, “ELEVATOR FIRE ALARM”.

SECTION 2: Hoistway sprinkler and detection requirements in existing elevators with combustible suspension means shall comply with Section 2.

2.1 Sprinklers shall be installed at the top and bottom of elevator hoistways where the suspension means are of combustible material such as noncircular elastomeric-coated or polyurethane-coated steel belts. Sprinklers at the top of elevator hoistways shall be of an intermediate temperature classification.

Exception: The sprinklers in the elevator hoistway are not required if the suspension means have an FT-1 rating when tested to the vertical burn test requirements of UL 62, Flexible Cords and Cables, and UL 1581, Reference Standard for Electrical Wires, Cables, and Flexible Cords or have been tested for conformance of the listed requirements by an Accredited Elevator/Escalator Certification Organization (AECO).

2.2 Installation of a fire sprinkler at the top of hoistway requires the installation of a heat detector specifically to initiate recall. A heat detector shall be installed within 18 inches of the machine/brake and fire sprinkler. Each sprinkler head located at the top of the

hoistway and shall initiate recall. This heat detector shall be of a lower temperature and have a faster Response Time Index (RTI) than the associated sprinkler.

2.3 Existing Elevators with Combustible Suspension Means or those without FT-1 rating or AECO Certification are prohibited from installation within the City of Seattle after the effective date of this Director's Rule.

SECTION 3: Existing Buildings with Sprinklered Machine/Control Rooms and/or Pits(Machine/Brake Top of Hoistway) shall comply with Section 3

3.1 Fire sprinkler branch lines in machine rooms or control rooms shall supply fire sprinklers in these spaces only. An approved, manually operated valve with an integral switch shall be installed on the fire sprinkler supply line for each elevator machine. The integral switch shall be connected to the elevator power disconnect device. The valve assembly shall be located on the outside of the room, no higher than 6 feet above the finished floor. The valve assembly shall be normally closed. Opening the valve shall shut off power to the elevators and charge the fire sprinkler piping with water. The power disconnect control device shall remove power from the elevator prior to the application of water.

3.2 Adjacent to the valve assembly, provide a sign stating, "ELEVATOR POWER DISCONNECT AND SPRINKLER ACTIVATION". The sign shall specify which elevator(s) are controlled by the switch. The sign shall be durable and permanent in nature, weather and corrosion resistant if applicable, have high-contrast color and background (i.e. red/white, black/white), and lettering of not less than 0.5 inch high.

3.3 When the elevator machine/control room or the associated sprinkler control valve and associated piping may be exposed to freezing conditions, the fire sprinkler control valve shall be installed in an approved location readily visible and accessible, not higher than 6 feet above the floor, and on the path of travel to the machine room or control room door. Where an access door is provided, the door shall be provided with signage as required in Item 3.2. The access door shall be locked, and the key shall be retained in the lobby elevator key box.

3.4 Elevator power disconnect devices shall comply with items 3.4.1 through 3.4.3.

3.4.1 A shunt trip-type circuit breaker or other approved control device that will remove power to the elevator controller, shall be installed in each elevator machine/control room. In machine rooms containing controllers for more than one elevator, the

disconnect device shall disconnect power to all elevators controlled from that room, either by a master disconnect or by a disconnect for each elevator.

3.4.2 Electrical power for the shunt trip control shall be a dedicated circuit(s) installed in compliance with the Seattle Electrical Code, Article 620.51(F). When the elevator is powered from an Emergency System, Legally Required Standby System, or Optional Standby System, the electrical power for the shunt trip control shall be powered from the same source.

3.4.3 An illuminated visual device shall be installed in the machine room adjacent to each elevator's disconnect to indicate that power is available to the shunt trip activation mechanism. The illuminated devices shall not be located greater than 6 feet above finished floor. In addition, control circuits to shut down elevator power shall be monitored for the presence of operating voltage. Loss of voltage to the control circuit for the disconnecting means shall cause a supervisory signal to be indicated at the fire alarm system control unit in accordance with NFPA 72.

Note: Manually opening the elevator disconnects shall not interrupt or cause a loss of voltage to the shunt trip control circuits.

3.5 Existing fire sprinkler systems shall comply with Sections 3.5.1 through 3.5.7.

3.5.1 An accessible valve or other approved drain system shall be provided outside of the machine/control room to drain the sprinkler system when the control valve has been returned to the closed position. The drain shall be located at the lowest point between the valve and the sprinkler. A separate drain system shall be required for sprinklers located in elevator pits. (see 3.5.6)

3.5.2 All fire sprinkler risers and returns shall be located outside of the machine/control room.

3.5.3 Branch lines in machine rooms or /control rooms shall supply fire sprinklers in these spaces only.

3.5.4 Where provided, sidewall spray fire sprinklers shall be installed at the bottom of each elevator hoistway that contains combustible hydraulic fluids. The fire sprinkler shall be located not more than 24 inches (0.61 m) above the floor of the pit.

3.5.5 Automatic fire sprinklers shall not be located on the car entrance side of pits or interfere with pit access.

3.5.6 A drain valve and plug shall be provided at the lowest point of the automatic fire sprinkler piping in the pit and shall be installed to avoid mechanical damage.

3.5.7 The sprinkler piping shall:

3.5.7.1 enter the hoistway at the floor level of the bottom landing.

3.5.7.2 be wall mounted.

3.5.7.3 have proper clearance to the car, counterweights, pit equipment, and maintain required refuge space for elevator personnel.

3.5.7.4 in walk-in pits, sprinkler piping may enter the pit in an approved manner other than the floor level of the car's lowest landing.

SECTION 4: Existing Elevators with Unsprinklered Machine/Control Rooms shall comply with Section 4

4.1 Automatic fire sprinklers are not required in elevator machine rooms, control rooms, or the hoistways of electric elevators where all the following conditions are met:

4.1.1 The machine room, control room, or hoistway is dedicated to elevator equipment only.

4.1.2 The machine room, control room, or hoistway is protected by smoke or heat detectors, or other automatic fire detection installed in accordance with SBC, 903.3.1.1.1 and NFPA 72.

4.1.3 The machine room, control room, or hoistway is separated from the remainder of the building by walls and floor/ceiling or roof/ceiling assemblies having a fire resistance rating of not less than that specified by the Seattle Building Code.

4.1.4 No materials unrelated to elevator equipment are permitted to be stored in the machine room, control room, or hoistway.

SECTION 5: Requirements for removal of Sprinklers from Elevator Hoistway, Machine/Control Rooms and in Pits.

5.1 Submit a Seattle Fire Department (SFD) Request to Decommission Fire Protection System Form

5. 2 Obtain decommissioning approval from SFD & SDCI

5. 3 Removal of sprinklers from hydraulic elevators spaces shall comply with Section 6

5. 4 Removal of sprinklers from electric elevators shall comply with Section 7

Note: Existing elevators without Phase I Emergency Recall Operation by Fire Alarm Initiating Devices are exempt from removal requirements and the existing sprinklers and fire alarm initiating devices shall remain in place.

SECTION 6: Hydraulic Elevators Undergoing Major Alteration (i.e., modernization) shall comply with Section 5 & 6.

6.1 Where hydraulic elevators undergo a major alteration, including modernization, the following existing devices, controls, and piping shall be removed:

6.1.1 Sprinklers and all branch piping from machine/control room and pit.

6.1.2 Fire alarm initiating devices from pit.

6.1.3 Shunt trip power disconnect control device, solenoid valve/key switch, light and associated pipe and wiring.

6.1.4 Signage associated with shunt trip device.

6.2 Penetrations associated with removal of piping shall be repaired to maintain fire rating as required by the Seattle Building Code.

Note: All parts of systems mentioned above shall be fully removed. Partial removal or decommissioning in place is prohibited.

SECTION 7: Electric Elevators Undergoing Major Alteration (i.e., modernization) shall comply with Section 5 & 7.

7.1 Where electric elevators undergo a major alteration, including modernization, the following existing devices, controls, and piping shall be removed:

7.1.1 Sprinklers and all branch piping from top of hoistway, machine/control room and pit.
7.1.2 Fire alarm initiating devices from top of hoistway and pit
7.1.3 Shunt trip disconnect, solenoid valve/key switch and associated pipe and wiring.
7.1.4 Shunt trip power disconnect control device, solenoid valve/key switch, light and associated pipe and wiring.
7.1.5 Signage associated with shunt trip device.

7.2 Penetrations associated with removal of piping shall be repaired to maintain fire ratings as required by the Seattle Building Code.

Note: All parts of systems mentioned above shall be fully removed. Partial removal or decommissioning in place is prohibited.

SECTION 8: Annual Testing of Shunt Trip Devices.

8.1 Annual testing of shunt trip devices shall be performed in accordance with SBC Section 3028.6.

8.1.2 Testing of the shunt trip devices on elevator installations approved after 11/15/2024 shall be in accordance with Section 3028.6 of the edition of the Seattle Building Code in effect at the time of installation.
8.1.3 Testing of the shunt trip device on installations approved prior to 11/15/2024 shall be consistent with the requirements of Seattle Building Code or Director's Rule in effect at the time of the installation. (See Appendix A for a list of the applicable requirements by code edition and Director's Rule).

Appendix A: Historic Seattle Elevator Code and Director's Rule Excerpts

A101 Shunt Trip Testing Requirements

A101.1 Excerpt from 1985 Seattle Building Code-Effective 7/9/1988

...(5) Means shall be provided to automatically disconnect the main line power supply to the affected elevator prior to the application of water. This means shall not be self-resetting. The activation of sprinklers outside of the hoistway or machine room shall not disconnect the main line power supply (also see 1984 ASME A17.1, Rule 210.5).

Exceptions:

1. For new elevator installations automatic sprinklers located in an elevator machine room or top of hoistway may be shut off at a solenoid or flow control, fail-open, valve located outside of the machine room when:

   A. There are switches adjacent to the machine room entrance, and at the fire alarm panel that interrupts all elevator power other than emergency lighting, fire alarm and emergency communications.
   B. There are switches alongside the power interrupt switches that open the automatic sprinkler valve. Switches provided under Items A and B shall be under the control of the fire department.
   C. If the machine room is vented directly to the outside of the building, the vent shall be enclosed within one-hour fire-resistive construction, or as required for shafts, where it passes through occupied floors.

Switches provided under items A and B shall be under the control of the fire department.

A101.2 Excerpt from 1991 Seattle Building Code-Effective 1/9/1992

...(5) Means shall be provided to automatically disconnect the main line power supply to the affected elevator prior to the application of water. This means shall not be self-resetting. The activation of sprinklers outside of the hoistway or machine room shall not disconnect the main line power supply

A. Power for the disconnect control circuit shall be derived from the elevator power main disconnecting means. The disconnect control device shall be located in the elevator equipment room and shall be easily identifiable.

B. Power shall not be interrupted to the elevator emergency lighting, machine room, alarm and communications.

C. For new high rise elevator installations, automatic sprinklers located in an elevator machine room or top of hoistway shall be shut off at a solenoid fail-open valve, located outside of the machine room.

1. Key switches adjacent to the machine room entrance and at the fire alarm panel shall interrupt all elevator power and operate the sprinkler control.

2. Key switches shall be under the control of the fire department.
3. Key switches shall be labeled “Elevator Disconnect and Sprinkler Activation” by a permanently attached sign in 1/4” letters.
4. All wiring shall be according to the National Electrical Code.

D. In other than high-rise buildings, an approved shut-off with a built-in tamper switch shall be connected to the elevator automatic power disconnect control device. The valve shall be located outside and next to the machine room door and not be higher than 6’ above the floor level. The valve shall be normally closed. Activation shall cause the sprinkler lines to be charged and the automatic power disconnect control device to activate. Signage shall be provided as per Sec. 5122 (c) (5) C.3.

A101.3 Excerpt from SFD Rule 10.17/DCLU Director’s Rule 3988 effective 8/1/1988

...B. CONTROL OF SPRINKLER WATERFLOW:

3. IN HIGHRISE BUILDINGS:

Activation of the key switch will interrupt the power to the coils of the shunt trip breaker and the solenoid valve.

The switch will be under SFD control and located outside and adjacent to the machine room door· and not higher than 6’ above the floor level and at the fire alarm panel.

In Highrise and Other Than Highrise Buildings:

Each supply line at different floor levels requires a separate switch.

Power shall not be interrupted to the elevator emergency lighting, alarm and communications.

4. In other than high-rise buildings, the following alternate method of water control is acceptable (5122(5)(3)): An approved shut-off valve with a built-in tamper switch shall be connected to the elevator shunt trip, which will trip and disconnect main power before the sprinkler lines are charged. Each supply line at different floor levels requires a separate valve and the valve will be located outside and adjacent to the machine room door, and not higher than 61 above the floor level.

A101.4 Excerpt from DCLU[1] Director's Rule 21-97—Effective Date 6/1/1998

....B. CONTROL OF SPRINKLER WATER FLOW

1. HIGH RISE BUILDINGS

a. The sprinkler supply line to each elevator machine room shall be provided with a shutoff valve. A solenoid valve shall also be installed on the sprinkler supply line which shall be normally closed when under power, preventing water from entering the machine room sprinkler piping. Power for the solenoid shall not be supplied from the elevator disconnect circuits.

b. A shunt switch or other disconnect control device which will disconnect power to the elevators shall be installed in each elevator machine room. Power for the disconnect control circuits shall be derived from the elevator main disconnecting means. In machine rooms containing controllers for more than one elevator, the disconnect device shall disconnect power to all elevators controlled from that room, either by a master disconnect or by a disconnect for each elevator.

c. The sprinkler supply shut off valve arid the elevator disconnect device shall be controlled by a key switch located outside the machine room. The switch shall be easily accessible and located outside of and next to the machine room door not higher than 6 feet above the floor. A duplicate key switch shall be installed in the fire alarm control center near the elevator status panel. The key switches shall shut off operating power to all elevators controlled from that machine room and shall open the solenoid valve on the sprinkler system.

d. The key switches at the machine rooms and in the fire alarm control center shall be permanently labeled, ''ELEVATOR POWER DISCONNECT AND SPRINKLER ACTIVATION" in ¼ inch letters. The label shall specify which

[1] Department of Community and Land Development, Seattle Washington. Predecessor to Department of Construction and Inspections.

elevators are controlled by the switch.

e. Operation of elevator power disconnect circuits shall not interrupt power to the elevator emergency lighting, machine room lighting, fire alarm system, or communications.

f. When a main elevator disconnect is turned off to an individual car, the key switch shall continue to operate all other elevator disconnects and the sprinkler supply shut off valve for the same machine room.

g. A City elevator standard key box containing the key to the keyswitch and the elevator machine room door shall be installed outside of each main machine room door. (Ace Key No. 39504). NOTE: If the Ace key lock is used for the switch, no key box is required.

2. OTHER THAN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

a. An approved, manually operated valve with an integral switch shall be installed on the sprinkler supply line for each elevator machine room. The switch shall be connected to the elevator power disconnect device. The valve shall be easily accessible and located outside of and next to the machine room door not higher than 6’ feet above the floor. The valve shall be normally closed. Opening the valve shall charge the sprinkler lines with water and shall shut off power to the elevators.

b. The sprinkler valve shall be permanently labeled in ¼ inch letters, “ELEVATOR POWER DISCONNECT AND SPRINKLER ACTIVATION".

A101.5 Excerpt from DPD[2] Director's Rule 17-2005

SFD Administrative Rule 9.08.5—Effective Date 10/17/2005

...2. CONTROL OF SPRINKLER WATER FLOW

2.1 HIGH RISE BUILDINGS

2.1.1 A sprinkler supply line to each elevator machine room shall be provided.

2.1.2 A solenoid Valve shall be installed on the sprinkler supply line and shall be in an accessible location outside the machine room. The solenoid valve shall be of the normally open type and shall be energized under normal conditions to prevent water from entering the machine room sprinkler piping.

2.1.3 A shunt trip-type circuit breaker or other approved control device that will remove power to the elevator controller, shall be installed in each elevator machine room. In machine rooms containing controllers for more than one elevator, the disconnect device shall disconnect power to all elevators controlled from that room, either by a master disconnect or by a disconnect for each elevator.

Note: Ground-fault circuit breakers have not been tested and approved for this purpose and are not acceptable.

2.1.4 Electrical power for the shunt-trip control shall be dedicated circuit(s) from the Emergency system and installed in compliance with the Seattle Electrical Code. See article 620.51(E).

2.1.5 The sprinkler supply solenoid valve and the elevator shunt trip disconnect device shall be controlled by a key switch located outside the machine room. The switch shall be easily accessible and located outside of and next to the machine room door not higher than 6 feet above the floor.

The key switch shall be a two-position switch with the key removable in both positions

[2] Department of Planning and Development Seattle, Washington. Predecessor of Department of Construction and Inspections.

and have normally open and closed set of electrical contacts. When in the normal position, the closed contacts of the key switch shall supply power to the solenoid valve, thus preventing water flow to the machine room sprinkler system.

When the key is turned to the on position, two functions will occur. The normally open contact of the key switch will close and apply power to the shunt trip device(s) and disconnect all power to the elevators. This will also open the normally closed contact that was supplying power the solenoid valve and allow water flow to the machine room sprinkler system. A duplicate key switch shall be installed in the fire alarm control center near the elevator status panel. The key switches shall shut off operating power to all elevator controlled from that machine room and shall open the solenoid valve on the sprinkler system.

2.1.6 The key switches at the machine rooms and in the fire alarm control center shall be permanently labeled, "ELEVATOR POWER DISCONNECT AND SPRINKLER ACTIVATION" in¼ inch letters. The label shall specify which elevators are controlled by the switch.

2.1.7 Operation of elevator power disconnect circuits shall not interrupt power to the elevator emergency lighting, machine room lighting, fire alarm system, or communications.

2.1 .8 When an individual elevator disconnect is turned to the off position, the shunt trip key switch shall continue to function for all other elevator shunt trip disconnects and sprinkler supply solenoid valves supplying the machine room.

2.1.9 A City elevator standard key box containing the key to the key switch and the elevator machine room door shall be installed outside of each main machine room door. (Ace Key No. 39504). NOTE: If the Ace key lock is used for the switch, no key box is required.

2.2. OTHER THAN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

2.2.1 An approved, manually operated valve with an integral switch shall be installed on the sprinkler supply line for each elevator machine room. The switch shall be connected to the elevator power disconnect device. The valve shall be easily accessible and located outside of and next to the machine room door not higher

than 6 feet above the floor. The valve shall be normally closed. Opening the valve shall shut off power to the elevator and charge the sprinkler lines with water.

2.2.2 The sprinkler valve shall be permanently labeled in ¼ inch letters,"ELEVATOR POWER DISCONNECT AND SPRINKLER ACTIVATION".

2.2.3 When the location of the elevator machine room and/or the associated sprinkler control system may be exposed to freezing conditions, the sprinkler control system shall be installed using the method as required for high rise buildings (Section 2.1).

Electrical power for the solenoid valve and the shunt trip control shall be a dedicated circuit(s) installed in compliance with the Seattle Electrical Code, article 620;51 (E). When the elevator(s) is powered from a standby power source, the electrical power for the solenoid valve shall be powered from the same source.

A101.6 Excerpt from Joint Ruling-DPD Director's Rule 7-2014

SFD Administrative Rule 9.06.14—Effective Date 8/12/2014

...3. Requirements for Sprinklered Machine Rooms and Control Rooms.

Buildings with sprinklered machine rooms or control rooms are required to comply with Section 3.

3.1 A sprinkler supply line to each elevator machine room and control room shall be provided. An approved, manually operated valve with an integral switch shall be installed on the sprinkler supply line for each elevator machine room. The switch shall be connected to the elevator power disconnect device. The valve shall be easily accessible and located outside of and next to the machine room door not higher than 6 feet above the floor. The valve shall be normally closed. Opening the valve shall shut off power to the elevators and charge the sprinkler lines with water. The power disconnect control device shall remove power from the elevator before water begins to flow in the sprinkler system.

3.2 The sprinkler valve shall be permanently labeled in letters at least 1 inch in size in high contrast with the background, "ELEVATOR POWER DISCONNECT AND SPRINKLER ACTIVATION". The label shall specify which elevators are controlled by the switch.

3.3 When the elevator machine room, control room or the associated sprinkler control valve and associated piping may be exposed to freezing conditions, the sprinkler control valve shall be installed in an approved location that is readily visible and accessible, not higher than 6 feet above the floor, and on the path of travel to the machine room or control room door.

3.4 Elevator power disconnect devices shall comply with items 3.4.1 through 3.4.4.

3.4.1 A shunt trip-type circuit breaker or other approved control device that will remove power to the elevator controller, shall be installed in each elevator machine room and control room. In machine rooms and control rooms containing controllers for more than one elevator, the disconnect device shall disconnect power to all elevators controlled from that room, either by a master disconnect or by a disconnect for each elevator.

Note: Ground-fault circuit breakers have not been tested and approved for this purpose and are not acceptable.

3.4.2 Electrical power for the shunt trip control shall be a dedicated circuit(s) installed in compliance with the Seattle Electrical Code, article 620.51 (E). When the elevator(s) is powered from a standby power source, the electrical POV/er for the shunt trip control shall be powered from the same source.

3.4.3 Operation of elevator power disconnect circuits shall not interrupt power to the elevator emergency lighting, machine room, control room, or machinery space lighting, fire alarm system, or communications.

3.4.4 An illuminated visual device must be installed in the machine room adjacent to each elevator's disconnect to indicate that power is available to the shunt trip activation mechanism. In addition, control circuits to shut down elevator power shall be monitored for the presence of operating voltage. Loss of voltage to the control circuit for the disconnecting means shall cause a supervisory signal to be· indicated at the fire alarm system control unit in accordance with NFPA 72.

Note: Manually opening the elevator disconnects shall not interrupt or cause a loss of voltage to the shunt trip control circuits