

## Jean Jewell

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**From:** Jean Jewell  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2015 8:16 AM  
**To:** Jean Jewell  
**Subject:** FW: Fire Marshal's Written Comments

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**From:** Romeo Gervais [<mailto:RGervais@cityofboise.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 11:42 AM  
**To:** Mike Morrison  
**Subject:** UWI-W-15-01 Comments

My name is Romeo Gervais, and I am the Deputy Chief Fire Marshal for the City of Boise Fire Department. I am writing concerning the application made by United Water Idaho in Case No. UWI-W-15-01.

Residential sprinkler system installation is regulated by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13D, as adopted by the City of Boise and the State of Idaho. NFPA 13D was specifically developed to provide reasonable levels of life safety while allowing cost effective installations. One item that allows cost savings is the use of single water tap. This single tap supplies both the domestic and fire protection demands. The addition of the ongoing monthly fee for a separate tap negates some of the cost saving measures of this national model standard.

I would recommend United Water allow combined domestic and fire protection services for meter sizes up to 2-inches where used to supply NFPA 13D systems. NFPA 13 and NFPA 13R systems should still require separate dedicated service lines. The fire protection system would be metered and any water used would be billed as part of the normal domestic use. Generally with meters larger than 2-inches, fire protection services should be a separate dedicated service line. The vast majority of NFPA 13D systems can be serviced by either a ¾" or 1" meter based upon the required pressure and flow. If additional justification exists to further restrict the meter sizes to 1" for combination systems, the majority of homes should still be able to take advantage of the combination option.

Meter sizes should not be used to restrict pipe sizes. Often the supply lines are larger than the meter size to improve system hydraulics.

The customer should be able to review and choose from either option; standalone fire protection supply or combined domestic/fire protection supply, as allowed in NFPA 13D.

Regards,

Romeo P. Gervais, P.E



*Romeo P. Gervais, P.E.*  
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