



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

E-6X

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Reuse of Water Damaged Equipment

INTRODUCTION

Gas appliances and electrical equipment subjected to water damage can be extremely dangerous if reenergized without proper reconditioning. Equipment exposed to water through flooding or fire fighting activities may be degraded due to moisture, debris lodged in the equipment, or contamination from chemicals, sewage, oil, or sediment. This can effect the integrity and performance of the equipment.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Gas appliances, stoves, forced air units, wall heaters, etc. are required to be recertified after any reconditioning due to exposure to water. Recertification of the equipment must be done by either a licensed HVAC or plumbing contractor or factory certified personnel.

Some components of electrical systems can be reconditioned by trained personnel or qualified electricians. Other components may not be reconditioned and must be replaced.

Items which may possibly be reconditioned:

- I. Panelboards and switchboards
- II. Motors

Items which must be replaced

- I. Wire and cable products, "Romex", may be reenergized only after the insulation resistance test with a megohmmeter is performed. Any non-complying wire or cable **must be replaced.**
- II. Molded case circuit breakers.
- III. Fuses
- IV. Transformers
- V. Motor control equipment
- VI. Receptacles and switches.
- VII. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters
- VIII. Surge protectors

- IX. Lighting fixtures and ballasts
- X. Equipment in signaling, protection, alarms, and communication systems.
- XI. Wire and cable that is listed for 'dry location only'

Further information may be obtained by contacting manufacturers associations, i.e. NEMA, AGA, ARI, etc. ANSI provides standards for the reconditioning and repair of some types of equipment.

REFERENCES

1998 California Electrical Code Section 110-7
1998 California Plumbing Code Section 101.5.3
1998 California Mechanical Code Section 104.2
