

**Agenda  
Item  
VII.C.**

**State of Oregon**

**Board memo**

**Building Codes Division**

**May 22, 2008**

**To:** Electrical and Elevator Board

**From:** Matthew Barber, Policy Analyst

**Subject:** Exception to engineering requirements for design of fire protection systems

**Action requested:**

Provide the Division with advice regarding the attached proposed rule.

**History:**

The Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) sought and received an internal letter of advice from an Assistant Attorney General at the Oregon Department of Justice, which concluded that the design of fire protection systems must be performed under the supervision and control of a registered Oregon architect or professional engineer. OSBEELS is in the process of developing an article that clarifies when a registered architect or professional engineer is required to design a fire protection system and the timing for enforcement.

Oregon Revised Statute 479.860 allows the department to exempt electrical licenses from the engineer law. The Division is proposing the attached rule to add general journeyman electrician and class "A" limited energy technician licensees to the engineering exception. The Division will adopt this exception after consulting with OSBEELS and the Electrical and Elevator Board.

Engineering Exemptions  
Draft Rules  
5-9-08

**OAR 918-261-XXXX**

**Exemption from engineering requirements for design of fire protection systems**

**(1) As used in this rule, “fire protection system” has the meaning given that term in OAR 918-305-0110.**

**(2) A general journeyman or class “A” limited energy technician licensee employed by a licensed electrical contractor may design, plan and lay out the electrical portions of a fire protection system for the contractor’s customer. Fire protection system design documents, including but not limited to electrical drawings, prepared by a general journeyman or class “A” limited energy technician licensee under this subsection are exempt from ORS 671.025 and do not require the stamp of an Oregon registered architect or professional engineer.**

**(3) General journeyman and class “A” limited energy technician licensees are not subject to any requirements for an additional license, permit, certificate or registration when engaging in the design, planning or laying out of the electrical portions of fire protection systems as authorized by this rule.**

**Stat. Auth.: ORS 479.860**

**Stats. Implemented: ORS 479.860**

**Hist.: New**