

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

Notice of Proposed Emergency Action (Second Readoption), pursuant to GOV § 11346.1(b)

“SRA Fire Prevention Fee Exemption (Self-Certification of Home Loss), 2015”

Notice Date: September 9, 2015

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (hereafter “Board”) authorized submission on an Emergency Rule Package, entitled, “SRA Fire Prevention Fee Exemption (Self-Certification of Home Loss), 2015 to provide an exemption from the Fire Prevention Fee for an Owner of a Habitable Structure if it is deemed uninhabitable as a result of natural disaster. This action is being taken in accordance with GOV §§ 11346.1, 11346.5 (2)-(6) and 11349.6. The Board took this action at their regularly scheduled meeting of December 10, 2014. Steps have been taken to make this regulation permanent, however more time is required to complete the regular rulemaking process, therefore, in order to delay expiration of the approved emergency regulation, this proposed emergency action (second readoption) will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law on **September 17, 2015**.

If you wish to comment on the proposed emergency action (second readoption), you must submit the comment directly to the Office of Administrative Law (hereafter “OAL”) within **five (5) calendar** days of OAL’s posting of the proposed emergency action (second readoption) on the OAL web site. You may submit comments on the proposed emergency action (second readoption) to:

Mail:

OAL Reference Attorney
300 Capitol Mall, Suite 1250
Sacramento, California 95814

Fax:

(916) 323-6826

E-mail:

staff@oal.ca.gov.

OAL will accept all comments submitted by the specified deadline.

When you submit a comment to OAL, you must also submit a copy of your comment to the rulemaking agency’s specified contact person provided below.

Mail:

Thembi Borrás
Regulations Coordinator
Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Fax:

(916) 653-0989

E-mail:

public.comments@BOF.ca.gov

This proposed emergency action (second readoption) will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law on September 17, 2015. **The public comment period closes at 5:00 PM on September 22, 2015.**

OAL will confirm that the agency has received the comment. Pursuant to Title 1, California Code of Regulations, Section 55(b)(1) through (4), the comment must state that it is about an emergency regulation and include the topic of the emergency.

Pursuant to 1 CCR § 55, the Board is not required and, in this instance, not likely to respond to comments submitted. However, should the Board choose to respond, it must submit its response to OAL within eight (8) calendar days following the date of submission of the proposed emergency regulation to OAL, unless specific exceptions are applicable.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(a)(2)(A)**, the specific language proposed to be adopted is provided below.

§ 1665.7. Fee Exemptions.

(a)***** *****

(b) An Owner of a Habitable Structure shall be exempt from the Fee if the Habitable Structure is deemed uninhabitable as a result of natural disaster. This Fee exemption shall apply to the year for which the fee is due and one subsequent year if the Habitable Structure has not been repaired or rebuilt. The Owner of the Habitable Structure shall comply with all of the following conditions:

(1) The Owner of the Habitable Structure certifies that the structure is not habitable as a result of a natural disaster (documented on the form identified in (b)(3)).

(2) The Owner of the Habitable Structure either documents that the Habitable Structure passed a defensible space inspection, conducted by the Department or one of its agents, within one (1) year of the date the structure was damaged or destroyed or certifies that clearance as required pursuant to PRC § 4291 and 14 CCR § 1299.03 was in place at the time that the structure was damaged or destroyed as a result of the natural disaster (documented on the form identified in (b)(3)).

(3) The Owner of the Habitable Structure completes the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection form entitled, "REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION FEE DUE TO NATURAL DISASTER" (BOFFP FORM VERSION 1, ADOPTED 12/2014), which is incorporated by reference herein, or the form entitled, "SOLICITAR LA EXENCIÓN DE LA CUOTA DE LA PREVENCION DE INCENDIOS DEBIDO A LOS DESASTRES NATURALS" (BOFFP Version Formulario 1, ADOPTADA 12/2014), which is incorporated by reference herein, and the request is granted.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4111, 4212 and 4213.1, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 4117, 4125, 4127, and 4210 and 4213.1, Public Resources Code.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following is a description of the facts demonstrating the existence of an emergency and the need for immediate action, and demonstrating, by substantial evidence, the need for the proposed emergency action (second readoption) to effectuate the statute being implemented, interpreted, or made specific and to address only the demonstrated emergency.

Fact: Statute PRC § 4213.1 becomes effective as of January 1, 2015.

Fact: Starting March 2, 2015, 10,000 bills per day will be sent to Owners of Habitable Structures.

Fact: Pursuant to PRC § 4213.1(a), the fire prevention fee imposed pursuant to Section 4212 shall be levied upon the owner of a Habitable Structure identified by the Department as located within the state responsibility area, if that person owns the Habitable Structure on July 1 of the year for which the fee is due.

Fact: On average more than 100 Habitable Structures are destroyed each year by wildfires (http://www.fire.ca.gov/downloads/redbooks/2012Redbook/2012_Redbook_Graphics1-10.pdf). The legislature, in implementing the law, estimated up to 500 Habitable Structures per year are destroyed due to natural disaster.

Fact: Any Habitable Structure destroyed after July 1, 2014 (that meets the conditions of statute PRC § 4213.1) is eligible for exemption from the fire prevention fee.

Fact: To be eligible for the Fire Prevention Fee Exemption, the Owner of the Habitable Structure must certify that the structure is not habitable as a result of a natural disaster and either documents that the Habitable Structure passed a defensible space inspection conducted by the Department or by one of its agents within one year of the date the structure was damaged or destroyed or certify that clearance as required under Section 4291 was in place at the time that the structure was damaged or destroyed as a result of a natural disaster.

Fact: Forms, as required by PRC § 4213.1(c), have been prepared by the Board to facilitate this self-certification.

Fact: The timeline associated with regular rulemaking will not allow these forms to be available prior to March 2, 2015.

Fact: The Board was compelled to respond to the passage of this statute immediately. As soon as the law was signed on September 30, 2014, the Board, with its partners, started work on the form.

Promulgation of these regulations is immediate and necessary to assure that Owners of Habitable Structures have the ability to request Exemption from the Fire Prevention Fee, if

their Habitable Structure has been destroyed by natural disaster (after July 1, 2014), to avoid having to receive a bill associated with a Habitable Structure that no longer exists.

Promulgation of this proposed emergency action (second readoption) is only intended to capture the Owners of Habitable Structures that have been destroyed by natural disaster, where the condition of this rulemaking is met, that would receive a bill in 2015. Simultaneously, regular rulemaking is being developed such that permanent rules are in place prior to future billing cycles.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following are the list of each technical, theoretical and empirical study, report, or similar document, if any, upon which the Board relied to make the “emergency” finding:

Historical Wildfire Activity Statistics (Redbooks). 2012.

http://www.fire.ca.gov/downloads/redbooks/2012Redbook/2012_Redbook_Graphics1-10.pdf

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following is the information required by **GOV § 11346.5(a)(2)**, which mandates the reference to the authority(s) under which the regulation is proposed and a reference(s) to the particular code sections or other provisions of law that are being implemented, interpreted, or made specific be provided.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4111, 4212 and 4213.1, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 4117, 4125, 4127 ~~and~~ 4210 and 4213.1, Public Resources Code.

Pursuant to **1 CCR § 20(c)(1)**, two forms are incorporated by reference in these regulations:

1. “REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION FEE DUE TO NATURAL DISASTER” (BOFFP FORM VERSION 1, ADOPTED 12/2014)
2. “SOLICITAR LA EXENCION DE LA CUOTA DE LA PREVENCION DE INCENDIOS DEBIDO A LOS DESASTRES NATURALS” (BOFFP VERSION FORMULARIO 1, ADOPTADA 12/2014)

The Board had available the entire rulemaking file, including all information considered as a basis for this proposed regulation and the forms incorporated by reference above, available for public inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at its office in Sacramento, California.

Pursuant to **1 CCR § 48**, the notice required by Government Code section 11346.1(a) shall contain the following or substantially similar statement:

“Government Code section 11346.1(a)(2) requires that, at least five working days prior to submission of the proposed emergency action to the Office of Administrative Law, the adopting agency provide a notice of the proposed emergency action to every person who has filed a request for notice of regulatory action with the agency. After submission of the proposed emergency to the Office of Administrative Law, the Office of Administrative Law shall allow interested persons five calendar days to submit comments on the proposed emergency regulations as set forth in Government Code section 11349.6.”

Pursuant to **1 CCR §50(a)(5)(A)** and **GOV § 11346.1(a)(2)** the Board provided a five working

day notice. The proposed action was, at a minimum, posted on the Board's website (pursuant to **GOV § 11346.4(a)(6)**), sent to the Board mailing list (pursuant to **GOV § 11346.4(a)**) and widely distributed via email (pursuant to **GOV § 11340.85**) at least five working days prior to being submitted to the Office of Administrative Law.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following is the information required by **GOV § 11346.5(a)(3)**:

UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST

Pursuant to PRC § 4111, the Board shall make and enforce such regulations as are necessary and proper for the organization, maintenance, government, and direction of the fire protective system for the prevention and suppression of forest fires which is provided for in this article.

Pursuant to this statutory authority and PRC § 4210, et seq, which was enabled by Assembly Bill X1 29, the Board adopted and OAL approved, in 2012, 14 CCR §§ 1665.1-1665.8 in sequence and in accordance with the provisions of the statute.

Pursuant to PRC § 4111 and PRC § 4213.1 the proposed action of the Board is to adopt amendments to 14 CCR § 1665.7. Fee Exemptions. The effect of the proposed action is to provide Owners of Habitable Structures the ability to request Exemption from the Fire Prevention Fee, if their Habitable Structure has been destroyed by natural disaster to avoid having to receive a bill associated with a Habitable Structure that no longer exists.

This emergency regulatory action became effective on 01/01/15 and was set to expire on 06/30/15. In order to delay expiration of the approved emergency regulation, proposed emergency action (first readoption) was pursued and became effective on 6/30/2015, but which is set to expire on 9/29/2015. Pursuant to **GOV §§ 11346.1(e)** and **11346.1(h)**, steps have been taken to make this regulation permanent, they include:

- Making modifications to the English and Spanish versions of the "Request for Exemption from the Fire Prevention Fee due to Natural Disaster" informed by the use of the form; will make processing the form easier, and include the defensible space requirements pursuant to PRC § 4291 and 14 CCR § 1299.03 and other relevant regulation.
- Revising the Form 399.
- Preparing the 45-Day Notice.
- Having the Initial Hearing on August 26, 2015.
- Adopting the rule text as noticed in the 45-Day Notice at the Initial Hearing.

However, more time is required to complete the regular rulemaking process due primarily to the Form 399 having to be reviewed and signed by the Department of Finance. Therefore, in order to delay expiration of the approved emergency regulation, this proposed emergency action (second readoption), which is the same or substantially equivalent to the approved emergency regulation (pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(h)**), will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law on **September 17, 2015**.

The proposed action does not differ substantially from an existing comparable federal regulation or statute

The proposed regulation is not inconsistent or incompatible with existing state regulations; it amends it, providing a Fee Exemption.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following is the information required by **GOV § 1346.5(a)(4)**. There are no other matters as are prescribed by statute applicable to the specific state agency or to any specific regulation or class of regulations.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following is the information required by **GOV § 11346.5(a)(5)**. The Board finds that the proposed regulation does not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11346.1(b)(2)**, following is the information required by **GOV § 1346.5(a)(6)**. The costs or savings to any State agency are not expected to vary significantly from current levels pursuant to existing regulations (see fiscal effect provided below). The proposed regulation does not impose a reimbursable cost to any local agency or school district (under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500 of Division 4)). There are no other nondiscretionary costs or savings imposed on local agencies. There are no costs or savings in federal funding to the State. Following is the fiscal effect, according to the Senate Appropriations Committee from the August 19, 2014 Bill Analysis

- Unknown revenue loss (SRA Fund) due to the fee relief for natural disasters, potentially in the range of \$20,000 to \$140,000 annually. Any loss in SRA Fund that brings revenues below expenses will have to be backfilled by the General Fund (GF).
- The 2014-15 SRA fees are \$117.33 for structures within a local fire protection district and \$152.33 for structures not within a local district. Assuming between 100 and 500 structures are damaged per year for each type of structure, the revenue loss would range from \$11,733 to \$58,666 for structures within a district and \$15,233 to \$76,165 for structures outside a district.

Pursuant to **GOV § 11349(f) and 1 CCR §12**, following is the information required by **1 CCR §12, an Explanation for why the Proposed Action Duplicates and/or Rephrases Statute and Existing Rules.**

The regulation repeats or rephrases in whole or in part a state statute, specifically PRC § 4213.1 because it is necessary to satisfy the “clarity” standard of Government Code Section 11349.1(a)(3). Repeating and rephrasing the statute provides context for the introduction of the new form, incorporated by reference, that an Owner of a Habitable Structure needs to complete to qualify for the Fee Exemption if their Habitable Structure is deemed uninhabitable as a result of natural disaster. It would be cumbersome to require an Owner of a Habitable Structure to have to cross reference the statute. In addition the rephrased statute provides the necessary introduction.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF EACH ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL (pursuant to GC § 11346.2(b)(1)) AND THE RATIONALE FOR THE AGENCY'S DETERMINATION THAT EACH ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL IS REASONABLY NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE(S) OF THE STATUTE(S) OR OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW THAT THE ACTION IS IMPLEMENTING, INTERPRETING OR MAKING SPECIFIC AND TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM FOR WHICH IT IS PROPOSED (pursuant to GC §§ 11346.2(b)(1) and 11349(a) and 1 CCR § 10(b)). *Note: For each adoption, amendment, or repeal provide the problem, purpose and necessity.*

The problem has been that since the fee was enacted, Owners of Habitable Structures that have been destroyed by natural disaster have had no way to request an Exemption from the Fire Prevention Fee. Consequently, the public outcry associated with Owners of Habitable Structures receiving bills after their Habitable Structures were destroyed, especially after the Clover fire, has been significant. In response to the public's concerns, the legislature passed AB 2048 which offers a remedy to this problem and which is the basis for this proposed action. To avoid future offense and criticism and to facilitate proper accounting of Habitable Structures to be assessed, the Board is submitting this proposed action as an emergency.

Regarding legislative intent (the purpose), following are relevant quotes from the author:

From the 6/20/2014 Bill Analysis: According to the author, "AB 2048 will clarify certain definitions in current statute along with other clarifying changes including bringing the existing 20% penalty in line with the 10% standard penalty charged by Board of Equalization. Most importantly it will allow for a homeowner who loses their home due to a natural disaster to be able to file with the Department to be exempt from paying the fee if their home is deemed uninhabitable. This is very important not only to people in my District where there were 68+ homes lost in the Clover Fire, but to all homeowners across the state."

From 06/06/14 Bill Analysis: According to the author, this bill will clarify the statute and help homeowners seek much needed relief from the fee after a catastrophic fire or other natural disaster while posing minimal fiscal impact.

CAL FIRE is in support and states that the proposed definitions of "person" and "habitable structure" will help alleviate some of the original bill's implementation issues. In addition, the bill simplifies the appeals process. It says that existing law does not exempt structures damaged or destroyed by natural disaster, even if the bill for the fee arrives months after the structure has been damaged.

The Board finds that the broad objective of the regulation is to provide temporary relief in the wake of a traumatic event, the loss of one's home. The specific benefit, all be it small in comparison to the loss, is to provide reprieve of a fee.

Adopt 14 CCR §1665.7 (b) provides an Exemption from the Fire Prevention Fee for an Owner of a Habitable Structure if it is deemed uninhabitable as a result of natural disaster if they comply with certain conditions. It also specifies the duration and condition of the reprieve from the Fire Prevention Fee.

Adopt 14 CCR §1665.7 (b)(1) requires that the Owner of the Habitable Structure certify that the structure is not habitable as a result of a natural disaster and

Adopt 14 CCR §1665.7 (b)(2) requires that the Owner of the Habitable Structure either documents that the Habitable Structure passed a defensible space inspection, conducted by the Department or one of its agents, within one (1) year of the date the structure was damaged or destroyed or certifies that clearance as required pursuant to PRC § 4291 was in place at the time that the structure was damaged or destroyed as a result of the natural disaster.

Adopt 14 CCR § 1665.7 (b)(3) requires that the Owner of the Habitable Structure completes the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection form entitled, "REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE FIRE PREVENTION FEE DUE TO NATURAL DISASTER" (BOFFP FORM VERSION 1, ADOPTED 12/2014) or the form entitled, "SOLICITAR LA EXENCION DE LA CUOTA DE LA PREVENCION DE INCENDIOS DEBIDO A LOS DESASTRES NATURALS" (BOFFP VERSION FORMULARIO 1, ADOPTADA 12/2014) and the request is granted. These forms have been incorporated by reference.

1 **Board of Forestry and Fire Protection**

2 **“SRA Fire Prevention Fee Exemption (Self-Certification of Home Loss), 2015”**

3 **Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR):**

4 **Division 1.5, Chapter 13**

5 **Amend:**

6 **§ 1665.7. Fee Exemptions.**

7 (a)***** *****

8 (b) An Owner of a Habitable Structure shall be exempt from the Fee if the Habitable
9 Structure is deemed uninhabitable as a result of natural disaster. This Fee exemption
10 shall apply to the year for which the fee is due and one subsequent year if the Habitable
11 Structure has not been repaired or rebuilt. The Owner of the Habitable Structure shall
12 comply with all of the following conditions:

13 (1) The Owner of the Habitable Structure certifies that the structure is not
14 habitable as a result of a natural disaster (documented on the form identified in (b)(3)).

15 (2) The Owner of the Habitable Structure either documents that the Habitable
16 Structure passed a defensible space inspection, conducted by the Department or one of
17 its agents, within one (1) year of the date the structure was damaged or destroyed or
18 certifies that clearance as required pursuant to PRC § 4291 and 14 CCR § 1299.03 was
19 in place at the time that the structure was damaged or destroyed as a result of the
20 natural disaster (documented on the form identified in (b)(3)).

21 (3) The Owner of the Habitable Structure completes the Board of Forestry and
22 Fire Protection form entitled, “REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM THE FIRE
23 PREVENTION FEE DUE TO NATURAL DISASTER” (BOFFP FORM VERSION 1,
24 ADOPTED 12/2014), which is incorporated by reference herein, or the form entitled,
25 “SOLICITAR LA EXENCIÓN DE LA CUOTA DE LA PREVENCION DE INCENDIOS

1 DEBIDO A LOS DESASTRES NATURALS” (BOFFP Version Formulario 1, ADOPTADA
2 12/2014), which is incorporated by reference herein, and the request is granted.

3 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4111, 4212 and 4213.1, Public Resources Code.

4 Reference: Sections 4117, 4125, 4127, ~~and~~ 4210 and 4213.1, Public Resources Code.

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Under PRC, § 4211 the following definitions apply:

"Owner of a habitable structure" means the person that is the owner of record of a habitable structure in the county tax assessor rolls or as recorded in the records of the Department of Housing and Community Development on July 1 of the state fiscal year for which the fee is due.

"Habitable Structure" means a building that contains one or more dwelling units or that can be occupied for residential use. Buildings occupied for residential use include single family homes, multi-dwelling structures, mobile and manufactured homes, and condominiums. Habitable structures do not include commercial, industrial, or incidental buildings such as detached garages, barns, outdoor sanitation facilities, and sheds.

"Person" means an individual, trust, joint stock company, business concern, or corporation, including, but not limited to, a government corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association. "Person" also includes any city, county, city and county, district, commission, the state or any department, agency, or political subdivision thereof, any interstate body, and the United States and its agencies and instrumentalities to the extent permitted by law.

Under PRC § 4291 and 14 CCR § 1299.03, a person who owns a habitable structure must maintain defensible space. By signing and submitting this document, you are certifying that all of the actions required pursuant to PRC § 4291 and 14 CCR § 1299.03 were completed within one year prior to the structure becoming uninhabitable.



SOLICITAR LA EXENCIÓN DE LA CUOTA DE LA PREVENCIÓN DE INCENDIOS DEBIDO A LOS DESASTRES NATURALES BOFFP Version Formulario1, ADOPTADA 12/2014

Fecha de Solicitud

RE ADOPT

Este formulario es una solicitud de exención de la cuota de Prevención de Incendios de acuerdo al Código de Recursos Públicos.(PRC), § 4213.1 Este formulario completo deberá ser enviada a : **Fire Prevention Fee Service Center, Attn: Exemptions, P.O. Box 2254, Suisun City, CA, 94585.** Si recibe una factura por el Cargo de Prevención de Incendios, y su estructura ya no es habitable y es por causa a un desastre natural, por favor envíe este formulario.Su solicitud será revisada por Cal Fire y la extencion se concederá en su propio caso. Usted no tiene que pagar la cuota por adelantado, pero se recomienda que si se rechaza su solicitud, usted puede imponer intereses y multas. Si no está seguro si usted califica para una exención, se le aconseja que pagar la cuota. Si la solicitud es aprobada, el Consejo Estatal de Impuestos le devolverá la cuota que usted pagó. Si usted tiene alguna pregunta sobre este formulario, por favor llame al Centro de Servicios de Prevención de Incendios a: 1-888-310-6447. **Al firmar, usted certifica bajo pena de perjurio, usted es el dueño de la propiedad descrita en el punto 4 y 4a, y que ha cumplido con la obligación que exige el Código de Recursos Publicos, (PRC) § 4291 para esta propiedad como se describe en la página 2. Por favor llene el siguiente formulario completo**

2. Nombre del Propietario de la Estructura Habitable (vea la página siguiente para la definición de propietario)

3. Numero de teléfono

4. Dirección Física de la Propiedad

4a. Numero de Parcela o Numero de Etiqueta

5. Presente Dirección de Correo

6. La fecha del Incidente que causó daños en la estructura

Un desastre natural es un evento adverso como consecuencia de procesos naturales de la tierra.

6a. Tipo de Incidente (Marque todo lo que aplica)

- Incendios Forestales Terremoto Tsunami Marejada Inundacion Huracan corrimiento de tierras
- Fuerte Tormenta Tornada Vientos Fuertes

Otro (por favor especifique) _____

7. Descripción de los daños (Por Favor describa por que la estructura no es adecuado por ser habitado, y la duracion del tiempo para reparar)

8. Por la presente certifico bajo pena de perjurio bajo las leyes del Estado de California, que todas las acciones para el cumplimiento de el Códijo de Recursos Públicos, (PRC) § 4291 se terminaron alrededor de mi estructura habitable en el año calendario anterior _____ en cual tiempo debido a un desastre natural, mi estructura se convirtió inhabitable.

Fecha

Firma

Bajo Código Recursos Públicos, (PRC) § 4211 se aplican las siguientes definiciones:

"El dueño de una estructura" significa que la persona que es el dueño del registro de una estructura habitable en el Asesor de Impuestos del condado o según como se registra en el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo de la Comunidad el 1 de Julio del año Fiscal estatal en que la cuota es debido..

"Estructura Habitable" significa un edificio que contiene una o más unidades de vivienda o que puede ser ocupado para uso residencial. Los edificios ocupados para uso residencial incluyen viviendas unifamiliares, las estructuras de viviendas, casas móviles y prefabricadas, y condominios. Estructuras habitables no incluyen edificios comerciales, industriales, o accesorios, tales como garajes separados, graneros, servicios de saneamiento al aire libre, y cobertizos.

"Persona" significa un individuo, la confianza, compañía de valores colectivos, empresa comercial o corporación, incluyendo, pero no limitado a, una corporación del gobierno, sociedad, sociedad de responsabilidad limitada, o asociación. "Persona", también incluye cualquier ciudad, condado, ciudad y condado, distrito, comisión, el estado o cualquier departamento, agencia o subdivisión política del mismo, cualquier organismo interestatal, y Estados Unidos y sus agencias y instrumentalidades en la medida permitida por ley.

Bajo el Código de Recursos Públicos, (PRC) § 4291 y 14CCR § 1299.03, una persona que es el dueño de una estructura habitable debe mantener un espacio defendible mediante la firma y presentación de este documento, usted certifica que todas las acciones siguientes se completaron requerida de conformidad con PRC § 4291 y 14CCR § 1299.03 del año anterior a la estructura de convertirse en inhabitables.