



# Washington State Building Code Council

*Improving the built environment by promoting health, safety and welfare*

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## STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 16-06

**CODE:** 2015 International Fire Code

**SECTION:** Section 916/Alerting systems

The State amendment to Section 916 for Alerting Systems includes NFPA 72 references, but some do not exist, and the others are not referencing the right sections. The referenced sections are not in the 2010 or 2013 edition. An edition year is not included in the amendment language.

**QUESTION:** There does not appear to be any charging language to require the alerting system specified in Section 916. Is it the responsibility of the local fire marshal to require these systems?

**ANSWER:** **No. The alerting system is not required to necessarily be a separate system. Section 916 gives some specific parameters that need to be incorporated into whatever system is to be used to meet the emergency evacuation requirements specified in Section 405.**

**The code sections referenced in Section 916 Alerting Systems are from the 2007 edition of NFPA 72. NFPA 72 has been reorganized and the code references no longer apply. Below is the current references (NFPA 72 2013 edition)**

	NFPA 72 (2007 ed.)	NFPA 72 (2013 ed.)
Power Supplies	Section 4.4.1	Section 10.6
Combination Systems	Section 6.8.4	Section 23.8.4
General Requirements (Audible Characteristics)	Section 7.4.1	Section 18.4.1

**SUPERSEDES:** None

**REQUESTED BY:** Whatcom County