



Florida Division of State Fire Marshal

The Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association,
"Organization" (§633.026)

Informal Interpretation Request

Date: 10/20/25

NFPA Document Number:

Paragraph Reference: Chapter

Explain how the Petitioner's substantial interests are being affected by the question below:

Granite is a telecommunications carrier licensed by the Federal Communications Commission and the Florida Public Service Commission. One of Granite's services is the EPIK service, which replaces analog "plain old telephone service ("POTS") lines using patented technology (U.S. Patent No. 10,986,555). Like the POTS lines it replaces, the EPIK service operates entirely on the telecommunication side of the protected premises communications terminal block without any modifications to the existing fire alarm system.

The EPIK service meets all the requirements and qualification criteria for a managed facilities-based voice network ("MFVN") under NFPA 72 and Florida Administrative Code, § 69A-48.008. Documentation demonstrating the EPIK service's compliance with these requirements is included with this Petition.

Granite's substantial interests are being affected by the below question because a Local Fire Official—the Fort Myers Fire Department—has directed Granite to seek approval from the State Fire Marshal's Office. The Local Fire Official also stated that his office will not make a determination until the State Fire Marshal's Office does so. In the meantime, the Local Fire Official is not permitting Granite customers to use the EPIK service in its jurisdiction. Documentation reflecting Granite's communications with the Local Fire Official is included with this Petition.

Granite wishes to confirm that the EPIK service may be offered to its customers in Florida who wish to avoid the rising costs and declining reliability of traditional analog POTS lines by using the EPIK service to replace traditional analog POTS lines for us in transmitting signals from fire alarm control units.

Enter the Petitioner's question concerning an interpretation of the FFPC:

Given that the Granite EPIK service meets all the requirements and qualification criteria for an MFVN under NFPA 72 and Florida Administrative Code, § 69A-48.008, can the EPIK service be used to replace traditional analog POTS lines for us in transmitting signals from fire alarm control units without any further requirements (such as a permit from a local fire official or state fire marshal

Rulings herein expressed are not the formal position of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office

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approval of the applicable equipment)?

Answer: No

The submitted documentation appears to meet the requirements of NFPA 72 and 69A-48, making the EPIK service a suitable replacement for traditional analog POTS lines. However, the local jurisdiction and AHJ may have specific permitting requirements or questions. The contractor must address these to ensure that the jurisdiction and AHJ can assess compliance with the installation of the system for supervising station fire alarm service.

Note: See NFPA 1 1.12.8 for AHJ authority relating to permits and alterations to fire alarm systems.

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Region 1 - Delegate: Byron Bennett, North Bay Fire Control District
Alternate: William (Michael) Hall, Marianna Fire Rescue

Region 2 - Delegate: Jason R. Greisl, Tallahassee Fire
Alternate: Vacant

Region 3 - Delegate: James Groff, Jacksonville F. R. (Committee Chair)
Alternate: Silver Chip Ware

Region 4 - Delegate: Taylor Riley, Lakeland Fire Rescue
Alternate: Karl Thompson

Region 5 - Delegate: Anthony Apfelbeck, Altamonte Springs Building Department
Alternate: Christina Diaz, Seminole County Fire Department

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Region 6 - Delegate: Robert Salvaggio, Cape Coral Fire Rescue
Alternate: Vacant

Region 7 - Delegate: (Kenneth) Sean Brown, Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue & Emergency Services
Alternate: Rebecca Geimer Tamarac Fire Rescue



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