

Permit Requirements Explosive Storage

Kern County Fire Department



Office of the Fire Marshal ~ Fire Prevention

2820 M St. ~ Bakersfield, CA 93301

Telephone (661) 391-3310 ~ Fax (661) 636-0466/67

Website: kerncountyfire.org

Email: fireprevention@kerncountyfire.org <mailto:fireprevention@co.kern.ca.us>



Please include completed Application for Permit (KCFD 200) with submittal

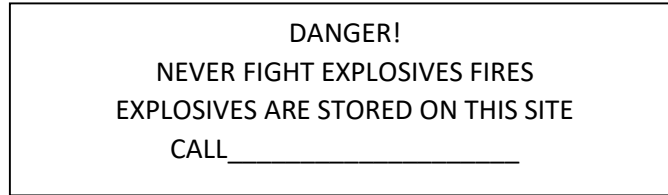
Fee Amount: \$290.00

Fee Code: 2.3

This document is to aid in the construction permitting process including Change of Use/Occupancy for an explosive storage permit within commercial buildings or tenant spaces regarding what should be submitted for the Fire Marshal's Office review. Because every building differs, this guideline is not intended to identify each code requirement applicable, therefore the applicant must follow all appropriate codes adopted by Kern County for the process or construction under review. Other Fire Department operational permits may be required.

1. Permits for Explosive Storage shall be applied for at 2820 M St., Bakersfield, CA 93301.
2. Fee shall be submitted at the time of application submittal. Make check payable to Kern County Fire Department. Visa and MasterCard accepted.
3. Submitted proof of liability insurance in the amount of \$100,000 to the Kern County Fire Department along with the following documentation:
 - a. Current photocopies of all Federal and State explosive and blaster's permits and licenses.
 - b. The amount, type, and class of explosives being stored.
 - c. Magazine construction type and size.
 - d. A photo of the magazine.
 - e. Map of magazines location, water supply, and positions of appropriate signage.
 - f. Submit 3 copies of the site plan (mechanical drawings only).
4. **Construction:** Indoor magazines shall comply with the following construction requirements per **CFC 5604.5.1.2:**
 - a. Construction shall be fire resistant and theft-resistant.
 - b. Exterior shall be painted red.
 - c. Base shall be fitted with wheels, caster, or rollers to facilitate removal from the building in an emergency.
 - d. Lid or door shall be marked with conspicuous white lettering not less than 3 inches (76 mm) high and minimum ½ inch (12.7mm) stroke, reading Explosives—KEEP FIRE AWAY.
 - e. The least horizontal dimension shall not exceed the clear width of the entrance door.
5. **Global Positioning System (GPS)**
Provide Global Positioning System coordinates for explosives storage and/or process areas.
6. **Drainage.** The ground around a magazine shall be graded so that water drains away from a magazine. (**CFC 5604.6.1**)
7. **Signs and Placards:**

- a. The property upon which Type I magazines and outdoor magazines of Types 2, 4, and 5 are located shall be posted with signs stating: EXPLOSIVES-KEEP OFF. These signs shall be of contrasting colors with a minimum letter height of 3 inches (76 mm) with a minimum brushstroke of 1/2 inch (12.7 mm). The signs shall be located to minimize the possibility of a bullet shot at the sign hitting the magazine. **(CFC 5604.6.5)**
- b. At the entrance to explosive material manufacturing and storage sites, all access roads shall be posted with the following warning sign or other approved sign:



The sign shall be weather-resistant with a reflective surface and have lettering not less than 2 inches (51 mm) high. **(CFC 5604.6.5.1)**

8. Signage Specifications:

NFPA 704 Marking System

- a. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) color-coded hazard warning system will be used for placards.
 - b. The numerical hazard rating shall comply with the NFPA hazard-rating index.
 - c. Type 5 magazines containing Division 1.5 blasting agents shall be prominently placarded as required during transportation by DOTn 49 CFR Part 172 and DOTy 27 CFR Part 55.
9. Magazines shall be kept locked except when being inspected or when explosives are being placed therein or being removed. **(CFC 5604.7.1)**
 10. Smoking, matches, flame-producing devices, open flames, firearms, and firearms cartridges shall not be allowed inside of or within 50 feet of magazines. **(CFC 5604.7.2)**
 11. The area located around a magazine shall be kept clear of brush, dried grass, leaves, trash, debris, and similar combustible materials for a distance of 50 feet. **(CFC 5604.7.3)**
 12. Combustible materials shall not be stored within 50 feet of magazines.
 13. Magazines shall be clean, dry, and free of grit, paper, empty packages, and rubbish. **(CFC 5604.8.1)**
 14. Magazines requiring heat shall be heated as prescribed in NFPA 495 by either hot-water radiant heating within the magazine or by indirect warm air heating. **(CFC 5604.6.2)**
 15. Approved electric safety flashlights or safety lanterns may be used, except as provided in NFPA 495. **(CFC 5604.6.3)**
 16. Detonating devices shall be stored in a separate magazine. **(CFC 5604.4)**
 17. Magazines shall not be used for the storage of any metal tools nor any commodity except explosives, blasting agents, and oxidizers used in compounding blasting agents. The quantity of blasting agents and oxidizers shall be included when computing the total quantity of explosives for determining distance requirements. **(CFC 5604.7.6)**
 18. Magazines shall be grounded using a rod of copper; 8 feet length buried either vertically or at an angle with a bonding strap securely attached to the magazine.
 19. **Location and separation of explosive magazines.** Location and separation of magazines shall comply with **CFC Sections 5604.5.1 through 5604.5.3.3**

*Having a security plan is a good business practice for transporters/handlers of explosive materials. An in-place security plan helps ensure the safe storage and use of explosives. Security plan precautions can save lives, avoid possible lawsuits and prevent any accidental or intentional acts that could have serious consequences. In other words, **Security Makes Sense.***

Additional Requirements: _____