ARTICLE 86A — REQUIREMENTS FOR WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE FIRE AREAS

SECTION 8601A — GENERAL

8601A.1 Scope. *The mitigation of conditions where a wildfire burning in vegetative fuels may readily transmit fire to buildings and threaten to destroy life, overwhelm fire suppression capabilities, or result in large property losses shall comply with Article 86A and Article 86B.*

8601A.2 Purpose. *The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards to increase the ability of a building to resist the intrusion of flame or burning embers being projected by a vegetation fire and contributes to a systematic reduction in conflagration losses through the use of performance and prescriptive requirements.*

SECTION 8602A — DEFINITIONS

8602A.1 General. *For the purpose of Article 86A and Article 86B, certain terms are defined as follows:*

CDF DIRECTOR *means the Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.*

FIRE PROTECTION PLAN *is a document prepared for a specific project or development proposed for a Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area. It describes ways to minimize and mitigate potential for loss from wildfire exposure.*

The Fire Protection Plan shall be in accordance with this Article. When required by the enforcing agency for the purposes of granting modifications, a fire protection plan shall be submitted. Only locally adopted ordinances that have been filed with the California Building Standards Commission in accordance with Section 101.14 or the Department of Housing and Community Development in accordance with Section 101.15 shall apply.

FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES *are geographical areas designated pursuant to California Public Resources Codes Section 4201 through 4204 and classified as Very High, High, or Moderate in State Responsibility Areas or as Local Agency Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones designated pursuant to California Government Code Sections 51175 through 51189.*

The California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 1280 entitles the maps of these geographical areas as "Maps of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the State Responsibility Area of California."

LOCAL AGENCY VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE *means an area designated by a local agency upon the recommendation of the CDF Director pursuant to Government Code Sections 51177(c), 51178 and 5118 that is not a state responsibility area and where a local agency, city, county, city and county, or district is responsible for fire protection.*

STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA *means lands that are classified by the Board of Forestry pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 4125 where the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing forest fires is primarily the responsibility of the state.*

WILDFIRE *is any uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels that threatens to destroy life, property, or resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 4103 and 4104.*

WILDFIRE EXPOSURE *is one or a combination of radiant heat, convective heat, direct flame contact and burning embers being projected by vegetation fire to a structure and its immediate environment.*

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE FIRE AREA *is a geographical area identified by the state as a "Fire Hazard Severity Zone" in accordance with the Public Resources Code Sections 4201 through 4204 and Government Code Sections 51175 through 51189, or other areas designated by the enforcing agency to be at a significant risk from wildfires. See Article 86B for the applicable referenced Sections of the Government Code and the Public Resources Code.*

SECTION 8603A — PLANS [RESERVED]

SECTION 8604A — FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES

8604A.1 General. *Lands in the state are classified by the CDF Director in accordance with the severity of wildfire hazard expected to prevail in those areas and the responsibility for fire protection, so that measures may be identified which will reduce the potential for losses to life, property, and resources from wildfire.*

8604A.2 Classifications. *The CDF Director classifies lands into fire hazard severity zones in accordance with California Public Resources Code Sections 4201 through 4204 for State Responsibility Areas and in accordance with Government Code Sections 51176 through 51189 for areas where a local agency is responsible for fire protection.*

SECTION 8605A— WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE FIRE AREA

8605A.1 General. *Construction methods and requirements to mitigate wildfire exposure shall be applied within geographical areas where a wildfire burning in vegetative fuels may readily transmit fire to buildings and threaten to destroy life, overwhelm fire suppression capabilities, or result in large property losses.*

8605A.2 Construction Methods and Requirements within Established Limits. *Within the limits established by law, construction methods intended to mitigate wildfire exposure shall comply with the California Building Code Chapter 7A, Article 86A, and Article 86B.*

8605A.3 Establishment of Limits. *The establishment of limits for the Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area's required construction methods shall be designated pursuant to the California Public Resources Code for State Responsibility areas or by a local agency following a finding supported by substantial evidence in the record that the requirements of this Section are necessary for effective fire protection within the area.*

SECTION 8606A — VEGETATION MANAGEMENT [RESERVED]

SECTION 8607A — DEFENSIBLE SPACE [RESERVED]

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ARTICLE 86B — MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION METHODS FOR EXTEROIR WILDFIRE EXPOSURE

SECTION 8601B — SCOPE, PURPOSE AND APPLICATION

8601B.1 Scope. *This Article applies to building materials, systems and/or assemblies used in the exterior design and construction of new buildings located within a Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area as defined in Article 86A.*

8601B.2 Purpose. *The purpose of this Article is to establish minimum standards for the protection of life and property by increasing the ability of a building located in any Fire Hazard Severity Zone within State Responsibility Areas or any Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area to resist the intrusion of flame or burning embers projected by a vegetation fire and contributes to a systematic reduction in conflagration losses.*

8601B.3 Application. *New buildings located in any Fire Hazard Severity Zone within State Responsibility Areas or any Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area designated by the enforcing agency for which an application for a building permit is submitted on or after December 1, 2005, shall comply with the following Sections:*

1. ***8604B.1 Roofing***
2. ***8604B.2 Attic Ventilation***

8601B.4 Alternates for materials, design, tests, and methods of construction. *The enforcing agency is permitted to modify the provisions of this chapter for site-specific conditions in accordance with the California Building Code Section 104.2.7. When required by the enforcing agency for the purposes of granting modifications, a fire protection plan shall be submitted in accordance with the Articles 86A and 86B.*

SECTION 8602B — DEFINITIONS

8602B.1 *For the purposes of this Article, certain terms are defined in Article 86A.*

SECTION 8603B — STANDARDS OF QUALITY [RESERVED]

SECTION 8604B – MATERIALS, SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION

8604B.1 Roofing.

8604B.1.1 General. *Roofs shall comply with the requirements of Article 86B and the California Building Code, Chapter 15. Roofs shall have a roofing assembly installed in accordance with its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions.*

8604B.1.2 Roof Coverings. *Where the roof profile allows a space between the roof covering and roof decking, the spaces shall be constructed to prevent the intrusion of flames and embers, be fire-stopped with approved materials or have one layer of No. 72 ASTM cap sheet installed over the combustible decking.*

8604B1.3 Roof Valleys. *When provided, valley flashings shall be not less than 0.016-inch (0.41 mm) (No. 28 galvanized sheet gage) corrosion-resistant metal installed over a minimum 36 inches (914 mm) wide underlayment consisting of one layer of No. 72 ASTM cap sheet running the full length of the valley.*

8604B.1.4 Roof Gutters. *Roof gutters shall be provided with the means to prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris in the gutter.*

8604B.2 Attic Ventilation.

8604B.2.1 General. *When required by the California Building Code, Chapter 15, roof and attic vents shall resist the intrusion of flame and embers into the attic area of the structure, or shall be protected by corrosion resistant, non-combustible wire mesh with ¼ inch (6 mm) openings or its equivalent.*

8604B.2.2 Eave or Cornice Vents. *Vents shall not be installed in eaves and cornices.*

> ***EXCEPTION:*** *Eave and cornice vents may be used provided they resist the intrusion of flame and burning embers into the attic area of the structure.*

8604B.3 Exterior walls. [RESERVED]

8604B.4 Decking, Floors and Underfloor Protection. [RESERVED]

SECTION 8605B — ANCILLARY BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES [RESERVED]