



Robert Lewin, Fire Chief

EXHIBIT 5A GATE REQUIREMENTS

Effective January 1, 2011 all gates for residential and commercial use shall meet Section 503.6 of the 2010 California Fire Code requirements for access:

- All gates shall be set back from the road a minimum of 30 feet from the edge of roadway, and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on the public road. Local ordinance, certain conditions or County Public Works may require a greater setback.
- All gates shall be 2 feet wider on each side of the road/driveway.
- All electric gates shall automatically open with no special knowledge upon exiting.
- All electric gates shall have a KNOX switch for emergency fire department access.
- All electric gates shall have an approved means of emergency operation at all times, either through the use of solar power, battery back-up or fail to the open position upon a power outage.
- Security gates and their emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times.
- Gates designed for automatic operation shall be designed, constructed and installed to comply with the requirements of ASTM F 2200.
- Residential non-electric gates may be secured by a padlock.
- Commercial non-electric gates shall be secured by a KNOX padlock.

The use of a red “Fire Dept Access” box is no longer allowed for either residential or commercial use. CAL FIRE no longer maintains a list of gate codes due to security concerns and the extreme difficulty in maintaining current data. Your request for a Knox switch or padlock must include the address of the location where the product(s) will be installed. Once the order form has been completed, please send it, along with payment directly to the Knox Company.

The KNOX Company will not process CAL FIRE orders without an official KNOX Corporation order form, including an authorized original signature from approved CAL FIRE staff. A signed KNOX form will be sent to you via the U.S. Postal Service and will not be faxed due to security requirements. CAL FIRE orders placed on-line through the Knox website will not be processed.

Once you have received your KNOX gate switch/padlock and it has been installed, please contact the Fire Prevention Office at (805) 543-4244 extension #3429 to schedule an appointment for Cal Fire staff to test the switch/padlock and ensure that it has been installed correctly.



APPROVED KNOX SWITCH



NEVER APPROVED



NO LONGER APPROVED