

FILE NO. 2-34

DATE: January 14, 1999

**CODE APPLICATION NOTICE**

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**CODE SECTIONS:**

- a. Section 3403 - Additions, Alterations or Repairs, Part 2, Title 24, 2001 California Building Code.
- b. Section 104, Application to Existing Mechanical Systems, Part 4, Title 24, 2001 California Mechanical Code.
- c. Section 101.5, Application to Existing Plumbing Systems, Part 5, Title 24, 2001 California Plumbing Code.

**Section 3403 - Additions, Alterations or Repairs, Part 2, Title 24, 2001 California Building Code**

**Section 3403.2 When Allowed.** Additions, alterations or repairs may be made to any building or structure without requiring the existing building or structure to comply with all the requirements of this code, provided the addition, alteration or repair conforms to that required for a new building or structure. *[For OSHPD 1] the structural additions, alterations or repairs shall meet the requirements of Section 1638A of Chapter 16A of Part 2 of the California Building Code.*

Additions or alterations shall not be made to an existing building or structure that will cause the existing building or structure to be in violation of any of the provisions of this code and such additions or alterations shall not cause the existing building or structure to become unsafe. An unsafe condition shall be deemed to have been created if an addition or alteration will cause the existing building or structure to become structurally unsafe or overloaded, will not provide adequate egress in compliance with the provisions of this code or will obstruct existing exits, will create a fire hazard, will reduce required fire resistance, or will otherwise create conditions dangerous to human life. Any building so altered, which involves a change in use or occupancy, shall not exceed the height, number of stories and area permitted for new buildings. Any building plus new additions shall not exceed the height, number of stories and area specified for new buildings.

*[For OSHPD 1] The following provision and exception language of Section 3403.2 does not apply for structural additions, alterations, repairs or seismic retrofits of hospitals.* Additions or alterations shall not be made to an existing building or structure when such existing building or structure is not in full compliance with the provisions of this code except when such addition or alteration will result in the existing building or structure being no more hazardous based on life safety, fire safety and sanitation, than before such additions or alterations are undertaken. (See also Section 307.11.3 for Group H, Division 6 Occupancies.)

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(Additions or changes indicated by underline; deletions by strikeout)

**Section 104 - Application to Existing Mechanical Systems, Part 4, Title 24, 2001 California Mechanical Code.**

**Section 104.1 Additions, Alterations or Repairs.** Additions, alterations or repairs may be made to any mechanical system without requiring the existing mechanical system to comply with all the requirements of this code, provided the addition, alteration or repair conforms to that required for a new mechanical system. Additions, alterations or repairs shall not cause an existing system to become unsafe or create unhealthy or overloaded conditions.

Minor additions, alterations and repairs to existing mechanical systems may be installed in accordance with the law in effect at the time the original installation was made, when approved by the building official. ~~Defective material or parts shall be replaced or repaired in such a manner as to preserve an approval or a listing.~~

**Section 104.3 Changes in Building Occupancy.** Mechanical systems which are part of any building or structure undergoing a change in use or occupancy, as defined in the Building Code, shall comply with all requirements of this code which may be applicable to the new use or occupancy.

**Section 101.5 - Application to Existing Plumbing Systems, Part 5, Title 24, California Plumbing Code.**

**Section 101.5.1 Additions, Alterations or Repairs.** Additions, alterations or repairs may be made to any plumbing system without requiring the existing plumbing system to comply with all the requirements of this Code, provided the addition, alteration or repair conforms to that required for a new plumbing system. Additions, alterations or repairs shall not cause an existing system to become unsafe, insanitary or overloaded.

**Section 101.5.4 Changes in Building Occupancy.** Plumbing systems which are a part of any building or structure undergoing a change in use or occupancy, as defined in the Building Code, shall comply to all requirements of this Code which may be applicable to the new use or occupancy.

**INTERPRETATION:**

The purpose of this CAN is to provide owners, designers and authorized plan review and enforcement agencies with a consistent method for planning, reviewing and implementing projects on existing buildings and systems. Historically, these types of projects have proven difficult because of the structure of the code, nonspecific requirements for applicability to existing structures and Title 22 requirements to conform to the current code for any alteration affecting the function of a licensed health facility.

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**GENERAL****How to use the Guidelines**

Information is presented as a series of flowcharts which describe the process and a narrative which explains each block on the flowchart. The main document is titled *Health Facility Remodel Flowchart*. It describes the entire process from project inception through construction. Two main points described are a process for pre-design consultation with the Office and how to handle conditions discovered during construction. There are three supporting flowcharts (1) Electrical, (2) Fire and Life Safety and (3) Mechanical, Plumbing, and Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems. These flowcharts are mutually supporting and are meant to be used concurrently to provide an accurate guide for project accomplishment.

Historically, OSHPD has not observed a problem with designers identifying the structural scope of remodels which is why this document does not include structural considerations in the flow charts. However, this CAN may be helpful in determining the scope of work required for non-structural elements, components and systems affected by seismic repairs to existing buildings or structures. As indicated earlier, for OSHPD 1 the structural additions, alterations or repairs shall meet the requirements of Section 1638A of Chapter 16A of Part 2 of the California Building Code. For OSHPD 2 and 3 all projects should be evaluated to insure that they meet the requirements of Chapter 16 of the California Building Code. If a designer has questions regarding the structural considerations on a project, they are encouraged to contact OSHPD.

**Alternate Materials and Methods of Construction**

These guidelines are not intended to prevent the use of an alternate material or method of construction provided OSHPD approves the alternate. The requirements for alternate materials and methods of construction are shown in Section 105.0 of the 2001 California Mechanical Code, Section 301.2 of the 2001 California Plumbing Code, Section 104.2.8 of the 2001 California Building Code, and Section 90-4 of the 2001 California Electrical Code.

**Temporary Installations**

OSHPD recognizes that temporary installations are sometimes required to accommodate phasing of construction or to provide a transitional solution to a problem. Because each temporary installation is unique, OSHPD will review each installation on an individual basis. At the discretion of OSHPD, the facility must submit a letter that describes the type of temporary installation, the reason for the installation, how much time the temporary installation will exist, and any additional information required by OSHPD. OSHPD will use the written information to decide the extent of the plan or field review and the allowance of time for the installation. When appropriate, clients shall notify the Department of Health Services, Licensing and Certification Division or the local fire department.

All required temporary construction must be shown on the plans or reviewed by OSHPD field staff. Temporary construction barriers must comply with Code Application Notice No. 9-8705.4. Temporary services or equipment must be provided and shown on the plans for projects that involve

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**TERMS**

The following terms are utilized in this guideline. Definitions found in the California Building Standards Code apply.

**Change in Function.** A change in activity or service provided within the project limits that does not change the use or occupancy.

**Change of Occupancy/Use.** Change of an occupancy or use defined in Chapter 3 of the California Building Code. (See also Section 3405 California Building Code.)

**Change of Occupant Load.** Includes a change in the number of occupants and/or a change in the type of occupants including those identified or described as ambulatory, nonambulatory, bedridden, restrained, developmentally disabled, inpatient, outpatient, nonpatient, public, staff, adults, children and infants.

**Current Code.** California Building Standards Codes and referenced standards in effect at the time of application for plan review. (See CAN 1)

**Discovered Condition.** An unknown condition found during construction.

**Essential Electrical System (EES).** This is the system described in California Electrical Code 517-25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44.

**Health Facility.** Any health facility licensed pursuant to Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code under the jurisdiction of the Office.

**Load Capacity.** This term refers to the rated ability of electrical equipment to carry loads calculated in accordance with the requirements of the California Electrical Code.

**Load Capacity Verification.** How one determines and documents load capacity. Refer to California Electrical Code and PIN 3-220.

**Non-Essential Electrical System (Non-EES).** This is normal source system described in California Electrical Code 517-30, 35.

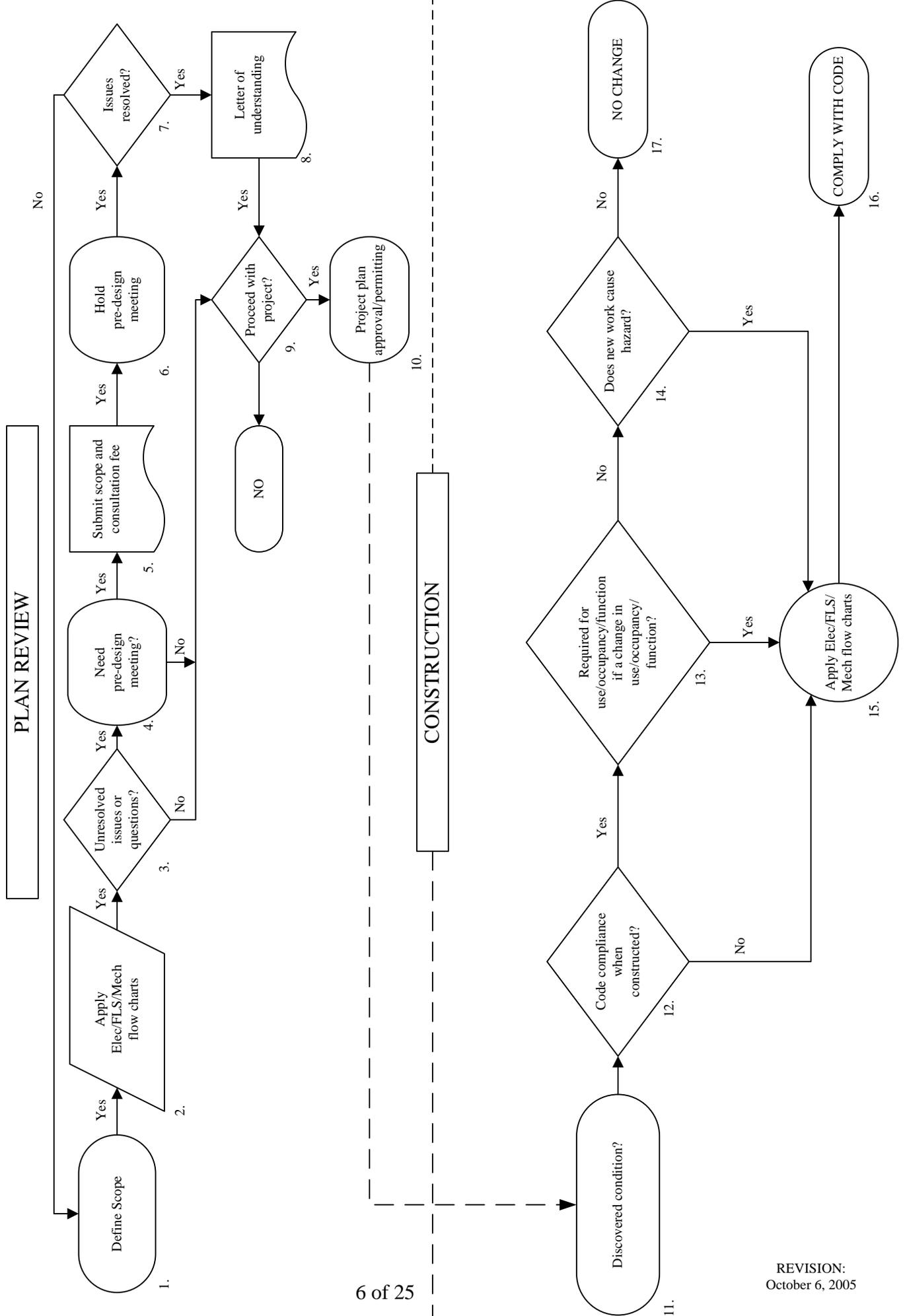
**Panel.** Any panelboard, switchboard, motor control center, distribution panelboard, etc. Transfer switches and transformers are not defined as panels. Refer to California Electrical Code Articles 100 and 384.

**Previous Code.** An applicable code under which an existing condition was constructed or installed. It may be a previous edition of the California Building Standards Codes, the Uniform Building Codes, the Life Safety Code or other nationally recognized standards.

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# HEALTH FACILITY REMODEL FLOW CHART



**NARRATIVE FOR HEALTH FACILITY REMODEL FLOW CHART**

The following comments apply to the Health Facility Remodel Flow Chart. The chart addresses the design and office plan review process on the upper portion and construction issues on the lower portion. The narrative comments are numbered and correspond with the numbered items on the flow chart.

**1. Define Scope.**

- a. It is the responsibility of the project team with their client to initially assess the needs of the facility in determining the project scope.
- b. In developing project scope consideration should be given to:
  1. The project objectives
  2. Analysis and assumptions of existing conditions
  3. Key code assumptions (Title 24 and Title 22)
  4. Applicable OSHPD CANs and PINs
  5. Identify change of function.

**2. Apply Mechanical / Plumbing, Electrical, Fire & Life Safety Remodel Flow Charts.**

Once the project scope is determined, apply Mechanical / Plumbing, Electrical, Fire & Life Safety remodel flow charts to the design alternatives to consider how applicable code requirements may impact the project.

**3. Unresolved or Questioned Issues?**

If the flow charts lead to a clear understanding of the level of compliance and resolutions of project concerns, the project may proceed.

**4. Need Pre-design Meeting?**

If the flow charts do not lead to resolutions of project concerns or if questions regarding particular project issues are not addressed it may be advisable to conduct a pre-design meeting with OSHPD.

**5. Submit Scope & Consultation Fee.**

- a. To take advantage of this service, it is necessary to request, in writing, a consultation pursuant to Section 129835, Health and Safety Code.
- b. Prior to scheduling a pre-design meeting, OSHPD will require the applicant to submit the following:
  1. Meeting Agenda (prepared by the project team) listing major points of discussion
  2. Existing floor plan with impacts on adjacent areas and services
  3. Description / Scope of the remodel (design)
    - (1) Define applicable code sections
    - (2) Define applicable PINs & CANs
    - (3) Possible Program Flexibility, alternate material and methods of construction, and alternate means of protection issues should be listed
  4. Type of construction
  5. Occupancy - existing and proposed with justification
  6. Accessibility considerations, including path of travel

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7. Mechanical / Plumbing /Electrical / Fire and Life Safety considerations
  8. Preliminary exiting plan
  9. Local Zoning / Land use agreements
- c. Fees - OSHPD consultation associated with a pre-design conference shall be billed at an hourly rate to recover actual cost.

**6. Hold Pre-design Meeting.**

- a. After OSHPD has had the opportunity to review the submitted information the project team will be contacted to set up the pre-design meeting. It is incumbent on the project team to coordinate required meeting attendees and scheduling, i.e. Project Consultants, OSHPD (plan review and compliance, when necessary), Department of Health Services Licensing and Certification, when necessary, and Facility Representatives.
- b. It is envisioned that meetings will be held at OSHPD offices, but in special circumstances may be held at project team offices or project facilities.
- c. During the meeting the OSHPD staff will respond to the issues and concerns of the project team so they have a better understanding of how the project will proceed through the OSHPD process.

**7. Issues Resolved.**

- a. If the meeting results in resolution of the substantive issues regarding the project it will be recorded in a letter of understanding.
- b. If the meeting does not result in resolution of substantive issues or creates additional questions regarding the project, the project team should reassess the scope in response to the issues and, if necessary, reconvene another meeting with the OSHPD.
- c. Issues that are not satisfactorily resolved in this process may be addressed through the OSHPD appeals process. (See Health and Safety Code, Division 107, Part 7, Chapter 1, Article 5, Section 129925.)

**8. Letter of Understanding.**

- a. Resolutions will be recorded in a letter of understanding. The letter of understanding will be made available to the project team, the facility representative and will be maintained in the OSHPD project file. The intent of the letter is to document a common understanding for the Basis for Design, Basis for Plan Review and Basis for Field Compliance. The letter will be prepared by the design team and signed by the owner, design professional of record, OSHPD regional supervisor, and OSHPD regional compliance officer.
- b. It should be noted that the letter of understanding is only as good as the assumptions presented at the pre-design meeting. Changes in design, program requirements, project delivery or other unforeseen issues may necessitate modifications to the letter of understanding.

**9. Proceed with Project.**

The letter of understanding will be utilized by the Office in its application of this CAN to your project.

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**10. Project Plan Approval and Permitting Process.**

- a. The project should be submitted to the OSHPD for review identifying any of the special conditions (program flexibilities, alternate designs, etc.) as resolved and recorded in letter of understanding.
- b. At completion of plan review / approval process any conditions recorded in letter of understanding should be brought to the attention of the OSHPD Regional Compliance Officer at time of permitting.

**11. Discovered Conditions.**

Existing non-complying conditions are encountered frequently during construction. It must be determined whether non-complying conditions may be allowed to continue or must be corrected in accordance with current building code.

**12. Code Complying when Constructed?**

It must be determined if the discovered condition was in accordance with applicable codes when it was constructed or installed. Sections 101.3.1 and 3401, California Building Code

**13. Required for Use/Occupancy/Function if a change in Use/Occupancy/Function?**

When a change of occupancy, use, or function occurs, it must be determined if the discovered condition is required for the new occupancy, use, or function. Section 3403.2, California Building Code.

**14. Does new work cause Hazard?**

When new construction, elements or systems are provided, it must be determined if they cause an unsafe, unsanitary or hazardous condition or a life safety or fire risk. Section 3403.2, California Building Code.

**15. Apply Electrical, Fire & Life Safety, Mechanical / Plumbing Remodel Flow Charts.****16. Comply with Code.**

Submit a post-approval document in accordance with Section 7-153, Part 1, Title 24, California Building Standards Code.

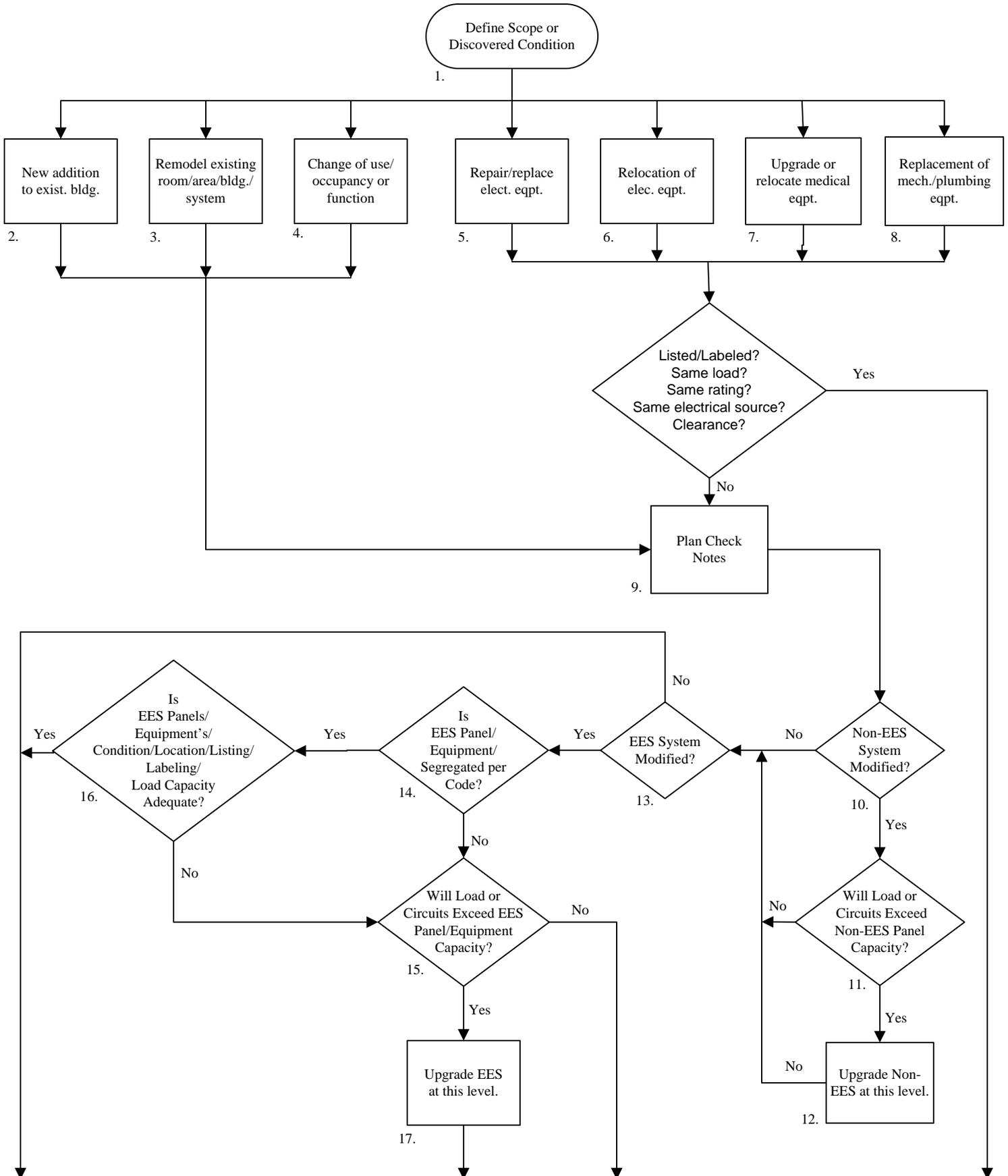
**17. No Change.**

When it is determined that the discovered condition was code complying when constructed or installed, correction is not required as a result of a change in occupancy, use, license, function or an increase in occupant load and new construction, elements or systems do not cause an unsafe, unsanitary or hazardous condition or a life safety or fire risk, no change or correction is required. California Building Code, Sections 101.3.1; 420A.2, Exception 1; 3405, Exception; and 3401.

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# ELECTRICAL REMODEL FLOW CHART



**ALL NEW ELEMENTS OF CONSTRUCTION MUST COMPLY WITH CURRENT CODE**

**NARRATIVE FOR THE ELECTRICAL REMODEL FLOW CHART**

This narrative must be used with the Health Facility Remodel Flow Chart for Electrical Systems. The numbers shown on the Flow Chart correspond to the numbers shown below. The purpose of this narrative is to elaborate on the terminology used in the Flow Chart and to show the code requirements that OSHPD will enforce.

**1. Define Scope or Discovered Condition.**

- a. It is the responsibility of the project team with their client to initially assess the needs of the facility in determining the project scope.
- b. In developing project scope consideration should be given to:
  1. The project objectives
  2. Analysis and assumptions of existing conditions
  3. Key code assumptions (Title 24 and Title 22)
  4. Applicable OSHPD CANs and PINs
  5. Identify change of function.

**2. New Addition To Existing Building.**

As the title states, this type of project adds floor space to an existing building. The systems affected by the scope of the project must meet current minimum code requirements. Existing electrical systems, not part of the remodel project scope, but utilized for connection to the systems of the remodel project scope, must be upgraded only if load capacity limits are exceeded as shown in the lower portion of the electrical flow chart.

**3. Remodel of Existing Room/Area/Building/System.**

The electrical systems directly involved in the scope of the project must meet current minimum code requirements. Existing electrical systems, not part of the remodel project scope, but utilized for connection to the systems of the remodel project scope, must be upgraded only if load capacity limits are exceeded as shown in the lower portion of the electrical flow chart.

**4. Change of Use/Occupancy or Function.**

An example of this type of situation would be a change of use from a general acute patient care area to skilled nursing beds or an administration area. Another example would be a change of use from a general acute patient care area to a critical care area or an administration area to a patient care area. As indicated in the lower portion of the electrical flow chart, systems, wiring, panels, devices, etc., within the scope of construction would be required to comply with current code requirements. Existing electrical systems not within the scope of construction, but connected to/supplying systems, wiring, panels, devices, etc., within the scope of construction, would only need to be upgraded if load capacity limits are exceeded.

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**5. Repair/Replace Electrical Equipment.**

This type of project involves repair of existing electrical equipment or replacement of electrical equipment. The repair or replacement of electrical equipment must be accomplished in compliance with Code Application Notice (CAN) 3-110-2. That is, equipment must be listed, labeled, or certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL). The replacement of a specific piece of electrical equipment must be replaced with equipment of the same type, electrical rating and physical size.

Also, the installation of the equipment must comply with current code requirements.

**6. Relocation of Electrical Equipment.**

This type of project involves the simple relocation of electrical equipment. In this type of project, there is no change in the electrical source or load. The reinstalled equipment must meet current code requirements for the installation. The electrical system upstream and/or downstream would not need to be upgraded unless the existing load capacity limits have been exceeded.

**7. Upgrade/Relocate Medical Equipment.**

When medical equipment is upgraded or relocated, the equipment, when finally installed, would be required to meet current code requirements for the actual installation. Also, the requirements of CAN 3-110-2 must be met. That is, equipment when finally installed must be listed, labeled or certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL). As indicated in the lower portion of the electrical flow chart, existing electrical systems not within the scope of construction, but connected to/supplying the medical equipment, would only need to be upgraded if load capacity limits are exceeded.

**8. Replacement of Mechanical/Plumbing Equipment.**

Existing electrical systems serving or monitoring the mechanical equipment must be reinstalled to meet the requirements of current code. Existing electrical systems to be reconnected must be code complying in terms of the type of source and branch. That is, the source must be normal, life safety branch, critical branch, or equipment system, as required by current code. If the EES is a non-segregated EES, the existing electrical system to be reconnected must meet current code requirements for either normal source or emergency source connection. Existing electrical systems serving the replaced mechanical equipment do not require upgrade/segregation unless load capacity limits are exceeded as shown in the lower portion of the electrical flow chart.

**9. Plan Check Notes.**

Load capacity verification shall be provided for panels, panel feeders, and panel feeder overcurrent protective devices at points in the electrical distribution system where modifications occur. A load summary shall be provided per the requirements of OSHPD Policy Intent Notice (PIN) 3-220. For a net load reduction on an affected panel where load is to be added, the requirement for load capacity verification is satisfied. For a net load addition on an affected panel, follow OSHPD PIN 3-220 for the acceptable means of providing load capacity verification. Also, as used herein, the word "panel" is defined as any panelboard, switchboard, motor control center, distribution panelboard, etc. Refer to the

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“Terms” section of this CAN and to PIN 3-220. Submission of verification of compliance with OSHPD PIN 3-220 for affected electrical panels does not relieve the Electrical Engineer from fully complying with Article 220 of the current edition of the California Electrical Code relating to load capacity verification for the electrical system.

All electrical systems, wiring, panels, devices, etc. within the scope of construction shall be code conforming.

**10. Non-EES System Modified?**

This system is typically the normal source system described in CEC 517-35. The non-EES/branch circuit will not be considered as modified if the scope of construction involves only a simple removal of a load or device. Relocation of an existing load or device, or the addition of a load or device, constitutes a modification of the non-EES/branch circuit.

A “yes” answer leads to block #11: “Will loads or circuits exceed non-EES equipment capacity?”. A “no” answer leads to block #13, “EES system modified?”.

**11. Will Load or Circuits Exceed Non-EES Panel Capacity?**

This is the non-EES panel to which load is being added. If load capacity verification per OSHPD PIN 3-220 indicates that this panel will be overloaded by the load addition, the panel, its feeder and feeder overcurrent protective device must be brought into conformance with current code requirements. The next panel electrically upstream towards the source must also undergo load capacity verification per the requirements of OSHPD PIN 3-220. If it is also overloaded, it must also be brought into conformance with current code requirements along with its feeder and feeder overcurrent protective device. It is not the intent of this paragraph to relieve the Electrical Engineer from the responsibility of performing load capacity verification calculations on affected feeders all the way back to the main service entrance or to the terminals of a separately derived system as required by Article 220 of the California Electrical Code.

A “yes” answer directs one to block #12. A “no” answer directs one to block #13.

**12. Upgrade Non-EES At This Level.**

Replace panel, panel feeder, and panel feeder overcurrent protective device per current code requirements. Transformers, transfer switches and other electrical devices which are not panels but which occur at a level in the distribution system where upgrade is required, shall also be upgraded accordingly to meet current code requirements.

**13. EES System Modified?**

This system is the Essential Electrical System described in CEC 517-25, through CEC 517-50. The EES/branch circuit will not be considered as modified if the scope of construction involves only a simple removal of a load or device. Relocation of an existing load or device, or the addition of a load or device, constitutes a modification of the EES/branch circuit.

A “no” answer leads to the box at the lower portion of the flow chart which delivers the reminder that all new elements of construction must comply with the current code.

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A “yes” answer leads one to block #14.

**14. Is EES Panel/Equipment Segregated per Code?**

Is the panel to which load is being added segregated per the requirements of CEC 517-25 and 517-30 through CEC 517-50?

A “yes” answer leads to block #16. A “no” answer leads to block #15.

**15. Will Load or Circuits Exceed EES Panel/Equipment Capacity?**

This is the EES panel to which load is being added. If load capacity verification per OSHPD PIN 3-220 indicates that this panel will be overloaded by the load addition, the panel, its feeder and feeder overcurrent protective device must be brought into conformance with current code requirements. The next panel electrically upstream towards the source must also undergo load capacity verification per the requirements of OSHPD PIN 3-220. If it is also overloaded, it must also be brought into conformance with current code requirements along with its feeder and feeder overcurrent protective device. It is not the intent of this paragraph to relieve the Electrical Engineer from the responsibility of performing load capacity verification calculations on affected feeders all the way back to the main service entrance or to the terminals of a separately derived system as required by Article 220 of the California Electrical Code.

Non-segregated EES panels which are not overloaded do not need to be upgraded. However, new loads added to the panel must be segregated at the branch circuit level. That is, new loads must be connected to an existing or new branch circuit so that all loads on that circuit are either life safety branch loads, critical branch loads, or equipment system loads.

**16. Is EES Panel’s/Equipment’s Condition/Location/Listing/Labeling/Load Capacity Adequate?**

One arrives at this block with a “yes” answer to the question, “Is existing EES panel/equipment segregated per code?” If the EES panel/equipment which is proposed to be connected to electrical systems within the remodel project’s scope of construction is not in proper working condition, is not located properly per current code requirements, is not adequately listed, labeled or certified per the requirements of OSHPD CAN 3-110-2, or does not have adequate load capacity per PIN 3-220, one is directed to block #17 which requires upgrade of the EES at this level.

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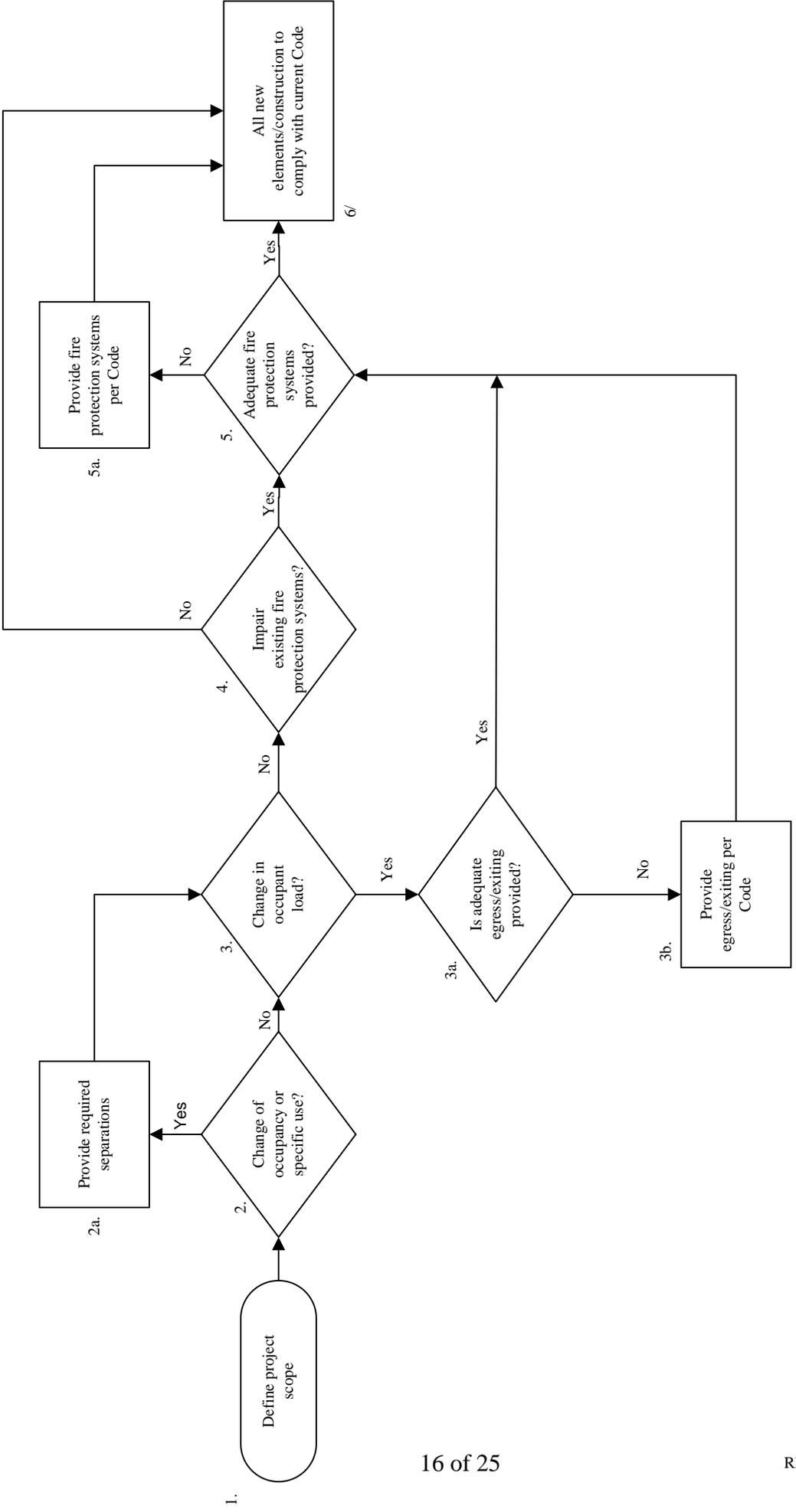
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**17. Upgrade EES At This Level.**

Where an existing segregated or non-segregated EES panel becomes overloaded based on the requirements of OSHPD PIN 3-220, the panel must be replaced with code conforming, segregated panels and panel feeders. If there are life safety branch loads, a life safety branch panel shall be provided with a separate feeder back to the serving panel electrically upstream towards the source. If there are critical branch loads, a critical branch panel shall be provided with a separate feeder back to the serving panel electrically upstream towards the source. If there are equipment system loads, an equipment system panel shall be provided with a separate feeder back to the serving panel electrically upstream towards the source. Existing non-segregated branch circuits not modified within the scope of construction per narrative note #13, will not be required to be segregated. However, non-segregated branch circuits shall not be fed from the life safety branch panel per CEC 517-32. Transformers, transfer switches and other electrical devices which are not panels but which occur at a level in the distribution system where upgrade is required shall also be upgraded to comply with current code requirements.

Where an existing segregated EES panel has adequate load capacity for the proposed new load, but is not in proper working condition, is not located properly per current code requirements, or is not listed, labeled, or certified per OSHPD CAN 3-110-2, it shall be brought into conformance with current code requirements.

# FIRE & LIFE SAFETY REMODEL FLOW CHART



**NARRATIVE FOR FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY REMODEL FLOW CHART**

This narrative must be used with the Health Facility Remodel Flow Chart for Fire and Life Safety Systems. The numbers shown on the Flow Chart correspond to the numbers shown below. The purpose of this narrative is to elaborate on the terminology used in the Flow Chart and to show the code requirements that OSHPD will enforce.

**1. Define Scope**

- a. It is the responsibility of the project team with their client to initially assess the needs of the facility in determining the project scope.
- b. In developing project scope consideration should be given to:
  1. The project objectives
  2. Analysis and assumptions of existing conditions
  3. Key code assumptions (Title 24 and Title 22)
  4. Applicable OSHPD CANs and PINs
  5. Identify change of function.

**2. Change of occupancy or specific use?**

Based upon the scope, it must be determined if a change of occupancy or a change of a specific use will occur as a result of the project. A change of occupancy or a change of specific use is a change in an occupancy or a specific use identified in Chapter 3 or Table 3C of the California Building Code. Section 301, California Building Code

**2a. Provide required separations.**

Occupancy separations in accordance with Chapter 3 of the California Building Standards Code or an approved alternate means of protection must be provided when separations are required by Section 302.1 or Section 308.8 of the California Building Code. Section 3405, California Building Code

**3. Change in occupant load?**

Each project must be evaluated for a change in occupant load. A change in occupant load may occur when there is a change of occupancy, use, or an increase in area. Section 1003.2.2, California Building Code

**3a. Is adequate egress/exiting provided?**

When changes of occupancy, specific use, or change in area occur which create a change in occupant load, it must be determined if adequate egress is provided. Adequate egress is provided when maximum travel distance is not exceeded and the minimum width, number of exits, distance between exits and fire rated separations are provided in accordance with Chapter 10 of the California Building Code or an approved alternate means of protection is provided. Section 3403.2, California Building Code.

Egress cannot be considered as adequate if not in compliance with provisions of current or previous code.

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**3b. Provide egress/exiting per Code.**

If determined that adequate egress is not provided, egress must be provided in accordance with Chapter 10 of the California Building Code.

**4. Impair existing fire protection systems**

It must be determined if the project causes or creates a deficiency in the existing fire protection systems including fire dampers, fire/smoke dampers, smoke control, fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems.

**5. Adequate fire protection systems provided?**

Projects must be evaluated for adequate fire dampers, smoke/fire dampers, and fire protection systems including smoke control, fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems.

See Chapters 3, 7, and 9 of the California Building Code or an approved alternate means of protection.

Fire protection systems are considered to be adequate when they are in compliance with the current California Building Standards Code or are in compliance with the applicable code when they were installed.

**5a. Provide fire protection systems per Code.**

If determined that adequate fire protection systems are not provided, systems must be provided in accordance with the California Building Standards Code or an approved alternate means of protection.

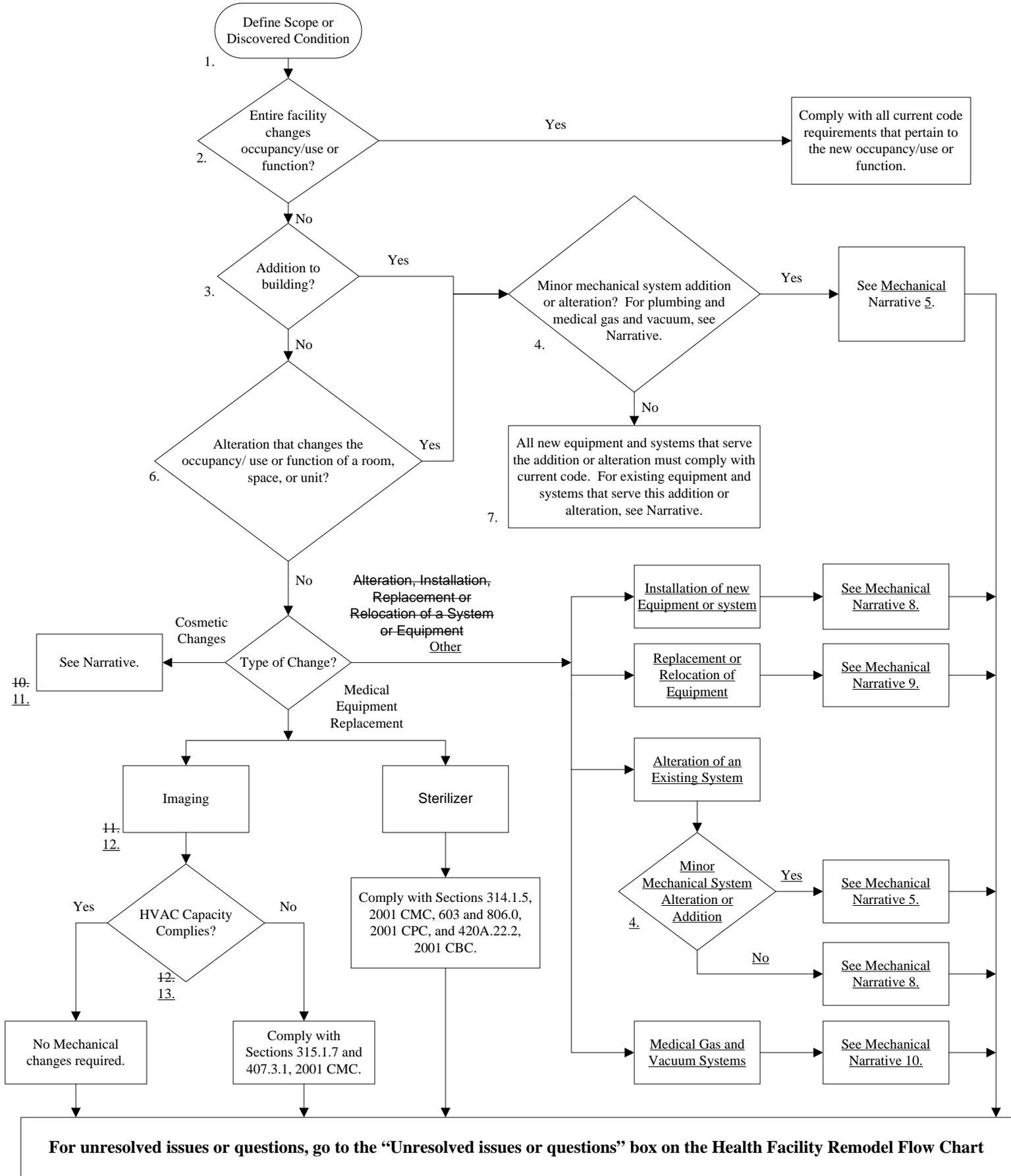
**6. All new elements/construction to comply with current Code.**

All new construction, elements and systems associated with remodel projects must comply with the California Building Standards Code. Such compliance may include an approved alternate means of protection.

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# MECHANICAL, PLUMBING, AND MEDICAL GAS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS REMODEL FLOW CHART



**NARRATIVE FOR MECHANICAL, PLUMBING, AND MEDICAL GAS  
AND VACUUM SYSTEMS REMODEL FLOW CHART**

This narrative must be used with the Health Facility Remodel Flow Chart for Mechanical, Plumbing, and Medical Gas and Vacuum Systems. The numbers shown on the Flow Chart correspond to the numbers shown below. The purpose of this narrative is to elaborate on the terminology used in the Flow Chart and to show the code requirements that OSHPD will enforce.

At the discretion of OSHPD, the design professional may be requested to submit design calculations or measurements to verify that the existing systems and equipment can achieve code compliance.

Note: See the Fire and Life Safety Flow Chart and Narrative for fire damper, smoke damper, and fire sprinkler system requirements.

**1. Define Scope.**

- a. It is the responsibility of the project team with their client to initially assess the needs of the facility in determining the project scope.
- b. In developing project scope consideration should be given to:
  1. The project objectives
  2. Verification and analysis of existing conditions
  3. Key code assumptions (Title 24 and Title 22)
  4. Applicable OSHPD CANs and PINs
  5. Identify change of function. Specific functions are identified in Chapter 4A, 2001 CBC. Identify rooms with CMC Table 4-A nomenclature.

**2. The following are examples of an entire facility changing function:**

- a. Acute care hospital changes to a skilled nursing facility.
- b. Skilled nursing facility changes to an acute care hospital.
- c. Skilled nursing facility changes to an intermediate care facility.

**3. For definition of building “addition” see definition in Section 202 California Building Code.**

**4. OSHPD will use the following criteria as guidelines for deciding if an addition or alteration to an existing mechanical system will be considered as minor:**

- a. The project does not involve a room or area shown in Table 315, California Mechanical Code (CMC).
- b. The project does not involve a Cardiac Catheterization Lab, Cystoscopy, Angiography, emergency operating room, Positive Pressure Isolation Room, or a Negative Pressure Isolation Room.
- c. The building addition or altered space does not contain more than 2000 cfm of supply, return, or exhaust air.

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(Additions or changes indicated by underline; deletions by strikeout)

- d. The project does not use more than 10% of the connected existing mechanical system capacity. Mechanical systems include air handling and distribution systems, hot water systems, chilled water systems, steam, etc. If existing mechanical systems are used to serve the building addition, the addition must not cause the capacity of the existing systems to be exceeded.
- e. The project involves only balancing of air or water systems.

The design professional should communicate with OSHPD for determining if an addition or alteration to an existing mechanical system will be considered as minor in accordance with the above guidelines.

The 2001 California Plumbing Code (CPC) does not have a section for **minor** additions or alterations to plumbing systems. Additions or alterations may be made to any plumbing system without requiring the existing plumbing system to comply with all the requirements of the California Plumbing Code, provided the addition or alteration conforms to that required for a new plumbing system. Additions or alterations must not cause an existing system to become unsafe, insanitary or overloaded. See Section 101.5.1, 2001 CPC.

The 1999 edition of NFPA 99 does not have a section for **minor** additions or alterations to medical gas and vacuum systems. See item ~~9~~ 10 of this narrative.

5. **Minor additions or alterations** to existing **mechanical** systems may be installed in accordance with the code in effect at the time the original installation was made. The design professional is responsible for giving OSHPD sufficient information to decide if the original installation complies with the code in effect at the time of the installation. If existing mechanical systems are used to serve the building addition, the addition must not cause the capacity of the existing systems to be exceeded. Measures must be taken to assure that the modifications within the project boundaries do not impact airflow to spaces outside the project boundaries. Plans must contain specific information and procedures to define the measures required.
6. **For definition of “alteration”** see definition in Section 202 California Building Standards Code. Specific functions are identified in Chapter 4A, 2001 CBC. Identify rooms with CMC Table 4-A nomenclature.
7. **All existing mechanical and plumbing equipment and systems** located within the scope of the project must comply with all current code requirements. For existing equipment or systems that serve the addition or alteration and are not located within the project boundaries, OSHPD will enforce the following code requirements:
  - a. Air-Handling Units, Fan Coil Units, Forced-Air-Type Central Furnaces and exhaust fans.
    1. Filter efficiency, filter location, and filter gages. Section 408, CMC.
    2. Pressure relationship and ventilation requirements for areas within the project boundaries. Section 407.3.1, CMC. Measures must be taken to assure that the modifications within the project boundaries do not impact airflow to spaces outside the project boundaries. Plans must contain specific information and procedures to define the measures required.

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(Additions or changes indicated by underline; deletions by strikeout)

3. Emergency electrical power for equipment serving areas or rooms in Table 315, CMC when required by Section 316, CMC.
  4. Indoor temperature and humidity requirements, Section 315, CMC.
  5. Automatic shutoff for smoke control. Section 609, CMC.
  6. Use of corridor or space above ceiling as a plenum. Sections 407.4.1.3 and 407.4.1.4, CMC.
  - b. All other types of existing mechanical, plumbing, and medical gas and vacuum equipment and systems.
    1. If the existing equipment or system has sufficient capacity to serve the addition or alteration, OSHPD will allow the equipment or system to remain as installed. Equipment or systems that do not have sufficient capacity must be replaced or supplemented.
  - c. See item ~~9~~ 10 for additional medical gas and vacuum system requirements.
  - d. All services/systems and utilities serving building additions shall comply with CBC 420A.4.0.
- 8. For alterations to existing mechanical or plumbing equipment or systems, or the installation of new equipment, fixtures, or systems, OSHPD will require the alterations or installation to comply with current code within the project boundary. Mechanical alterations must not cause an existing system to become unsafe or create unhealthy or overloaded conditions. Measures must be taken to assure that the modifications within the project boundaries do not impact airflow to spaces outside the project boundaries. Plans must contain specific information and procedures to define the measures required. Plumbing alterations must not cause an existing system to become unsafe, insanitary or overloaded.**
- 9. For the replacement or relocation of mechanical or plumbing systems or equipment, OSHPD will enforce the following code requirements:**
- a. Air-Handling Units, Fan Coil Units, and Forced-Air-Type Central Furnaces.
    - 1a. Filter efficiency, filter location, and filter gages. Section 408.0, CMC. (OSHPD 1, 3 and 4)
    - 1b. Filter efficiency, filter location, and filter gages. Section 408.0, CMC, except where two filter banks are required in Table 4-C, filter bank No. 1 (30% filter) shall be optional. (OSHPD 2)
    2. Condensate drain. Section 310, CMC; and Chapter 8, CPC.
    3. Clearances and access. Sections 304 and 305, CMC.
    4. Emergency electrical power. Section 316, CMC (OSHPD 1 and 4 only).
    5. Outdoor air intake location. Sections 407.2, 414, and 906.6, CMC; and Section 906.2, CPC.
    6. Indoor temperature and humidity requirements. Section 315, CMC.
    7. Automatic shutoff for smoke control. Section 609, CMC.
    8. Air Balance. Comply with Narrative ~~13~~ 14.
    9. Outdoor air changes and total air changes. Table 4-A, CMC.
    10. Fan operation. Section 407.1.1, CMC.
    11. Use of corridor or space above ceiling as a plenum. Sections 407.4.1.3 and 407.4.1.4, CMC.

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- b. Steam and Hot Water Boilers.
  - 1. All requirements in Chapter 10, CMC.
  - 2. Room size. Section 304, CMC.
  - 3. Number of boilers. Section 314, CMC.
  - 4. Emergency electrical power. Section 316, CMC.
  - 5. Section 1007.7, CBC.
  - 6. Temperature requirements. Section 314, CMC.
  - 7. Combustion air requirements. Chapter 7, CMC.
- c. Refrigeration Systems.
  - 1. All requirements in Chapter 11, CMC.
- d. Exhaust Fans.
  - 1. Exhaust fan location. Section 407.1.2, CMC.
  - 2. Exhaust fan operation. Section 407.1.1, CMC.
  - 3. All requirements in Chapter 5, CMC.
  - 4. Emergency electrical power. Section 316, CMC.
  - 5. Exhaust discharge. Minimum 25' clearance from outside air intakes. Section 407.2.1 CMC.
  - 6. Air balance. Comply with Narrative ~~13~~ 14.
- e. Evaporative Coolers.
  - 1. All requirements in Section 403-405, CMC.
- f. Plumbing Fixture.
  - 1. All requirements in Table 4-2, CPC.
  - 2. Shower and bathtub valves. Section 420.0, CPC.
  - 3. All requirements in Chapter 4, CPC.
  - 4. Sections 311, and 316.2, CPC.
  - 5. Sterilization. Section 609.9 CPC.
- g. Water Heater.
  - 1. All requirements in Chapter 5, 2001 CPC.
  - 2. All requirements in Sections 612.1, 612.2, 612.4, and 612.5, 2001 CPC.
- h. Fuel Storage Tanks.
  - 1. Comply with Policy Intent Notice (PIN) 2.

**9. 10. For the replacement, relocation or alteration to medical gas or vacuum systems or equipment, OSHPD will enforce the code requirements shown below. The cited code sections are from the 1999 edition of NFPA 99.**

- a. For alterations of existing systems, OSHPD will require all new work within the project boundaries to comply with NFPA 99. The existing systems may have their use continued, if the systems do not present a distinct hazard to life. See Sections 4-1 and 1-2, NFPA 99 and the corresponding Sections in the "Health Facilities Handbook," Fourth Edition, published by the National Fire Protection Association. Testing of systems, including existing systems breached by project work, must comply with Section 4-3.4, 1999 NFPA 99.
- b. **Medical Air Compressor Replacement.** Comply with NFPA 99, Figure 4-3.1.1.9 and applicable code sections.
- c. **Medical Vacuum Pump Replacement.** Comply with NFPA 99, Figure 4-3.2.1.10 and applicable code sections.

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- d. **Medical Gas Cylinder Manifold/Controls Replacement.** Comply with NFPA 99, Figure 4-3.1.1.5 or 4-3.1.1.6 and applicable code sections.
- e. **Bulk Medical Gas System Alteration or Replacement.** Comply with NFPA 99, Figure 4-3.1.1.7 and applicable code sections; and 1996 edition of NFPA 50.
- f. **Medical Gas Cylinder Storage Alteration.** Comply with Section 410, 2001 CBC; and Section 7404, 2001 California Fire Code.

~~10~~ **11. Cosmetic Change.** A cosmetic change is a superficial or decorative change to a room. A cosmetic change must not change the function, area, or volume of the room. Examples of cosmetic changes are: replacement and/or relocation of diffusers, registers, or grilles; painting; new wall coverings; new floor finishes; and similar work.

**The FREER Manual contains requirements** for most projects considered cosmetic changes. For cosmetic changes that are not in the FREER Manual contact OSHPD mechanical staff. For cosmetic changes that involve the replacement of diffusers, or grilles, the room must comply with Section 407.3.1, 2001 CMC.

~~11~~ **12. Examples of imaging equipment are:** X-ray equipment, Gamma Camera, CT Scanner, and MRI.

~~12~~ **13. The design professional must provide** sufficient information to OSHPD to show the existing HVAC system can maintain the proper room temperature required by Section 315.1.7, CMC. OSHPD recommends the design architect or engineer determine that the HVAC system is capable of maintaining the room environmental conditions within the parameters recommended by the imaging equipment manufacturer. The final air balance in the space must comply with CMC 407.3.1. Where changes in airflow are necessary, measures must be taken to assure that the modifications within the project boundaries do not impact airflow to spaces outside the project boundaries. Plans must contain specific information and procedures to define the measures required.

~~13~~ **14. Air Balance.** For projects involving the replacement of a supply, return or exhaust fan, the air distribution system shall be rebalanced in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. For acute care hospitals (OSHPD 1). The supply, return and exhaust airflows in the entire area served by the replaced unit shall be rebalanced to comply with CMC Table 4-A. Rebalancing shall not be required for fans serving entirely non-patient care areas.
- b. For skilled nursing facilities, licensed clinics and correctional treatment centers (OSHPD 2, 3 and 4). Rebalancing the air distribution systems is not required if:
  - 1. There is no change to the system design airflow.
  - 2. There is no change to the air distribution system.
  - 3. The replaced fan system does not serve an operating room, cardiac cath lab, intensive care area, recovery room, nursery, negative pressure isolation room or a positive pressure isolation room.If any of these conditions are not met, then the entire air distribution system shall be rebalanced as described in Item ~~13a.~~ 14a above.
- c. General requirements: When rebalancing is required, the entire area served by the supply, return or exhaust fan(s) being replaced shall be rebalanced. Mechanical plans

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shall contain all necessary information to demonstrate design airflows in areas served by the equipment will comply with the ventilation and air balance requirements in CMC Table 4-A. Plans shall include room name and number, and room volume of each room served by the unit. If the actual room name does not match an area designation in CMC Table 4-A, then an equivalent CMC Table 4-A room designation based upon the functional use of the space shall be provided on the plans. Adjacent rooms or spaces not served from the replaced unit that have their airflow or air balance impacted must also comply with Table 4-A for both ventilation and air balance.

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