

WHERE WELDING MUST BE PERFORMED IN THE FIELD, THE FOLLOWING MITIGATING EFFORTS WILL BE IN FORCE UNTIL THE FIRE EMERGENCY DECLARATION HAS EXPIRED:

- All areas where welding, cutting or grinding operations are being performed will be free of vegetation for at least twenty five feet in all directions;
- Surface around welding area will be wetted down;
- Wind speeds must be no more than 20 miles per hour while performing welding, cutting or grinding operations outside of barriers or enclosures;
- A dedicated fire watch person will attend each welder, cutter, grinder and any activity that causes a spark;
- A minimum of one (1) water pressure fire extinguisher per fire watch person is required;
- Each site will have cellular telephone communications for emergency response;
- All welding, cutting and grinding operations may be performed in a total welding enclosure, or “welding box”, that is sufficiently high to control sparks and includes a fire retardant cover over the top. Winds speeds must not exceed 30 miles per hour while utilizing an enclosure;
  - i. Where welding (above ground and sub-surface) is required in an area where there is a potential for a hazardous atmosphere, barriers will be substituted for total enclosures (e.g. “wind walls”) to prevent sparks from coming in contact with any combustible material;
  - ii. The barriers will be installed to allow ventilation of the work area and ingress and egress to the work area for personnel safety;
  - iii. Sub-surface, or “bell hole”, welding and grinding operations within approved excavations are allowed if all other mitigation efforts are included;
- If an emergency exists where welding has to be performed, the Fire Marshal may issue a temporary exception to the order.