



**INDIANAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
Fire & Life Safety Division  
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The Indianapolis Fire Department, Fire and Life Safety Division is writing this letter to appeal the Indiana State Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission ruling regarding variance number 14-12-46, Manley Finish Grading Inc., located at 370 S. Mitthoeffer Road, Indianapolis IN.

In accordance with InFC 2008, Section 508.5.1, a fire hydrant is required to be located within 400' of all areas for new non-sprinklered buildings. The Project Designer filed for and was granted a variance. This variance was not on the agenda released by the Commission that day therefore; IFD was not present to voice their concerns to the Commission.

The following issues are of concern to IFD:

- This building is classified as an S-1 and is used for storage and maintenance of landscaping equipment and supplies. This potentially may involve questionable amounts of chemicals and/or gasoline which could increase the hazard.
  - The potential fire load is unknown at any given time.
  - Manpower will double as it takes additional time for initial water supply operations.
  - Due to the long hose lay of 1,048' and 1,315' in either direction to a hydrant; it will take an addition 5-8 minutes to get water on a working fire. IFD carries either a 1000' or 600' of 5" hose line depending on the apparatus as the municipal water system in our district has a hydrant every 500' in most areas.
  - Currently IFD has an ISO rating of 2 which is very beneficial to our community with regards to insurance rates for homeowners/businesses. By increasing our travel distance to hydrants, we run the potential of raising rates to those in our fire district.
  - Authorization to omit the required hydrant was never given by IFD's Plans Review or the IFD Fire and Life Safety Division.
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Therefore, we ask that the Indiana State Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission revoke variance number 14-12-46 based on code InFC 2008, Section 508.5.1 as well as the aforementioned factors listed above.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Courtney Gordon, Chief

*Courtney Gordon*

Fire Marshal  
Indianapolis Fire Department