



## POSITION STATEMENT SUMMARY

# Pilot operated pressure reduction valve (PO-PRV) installation

## Position

Effective 5 December 2024, the following is a position of Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW):

Where a pilot operated pressure reduction valve (PO-PRV) is installed within a fire hydrant and/or sprinkler system, the pilot tube must not include any isolating valve that could be left closed and prevent the PO-PRV from operating during fire.

**Note:** FRNSW have encountered a quarter-turn isolating valve on the pilot tube being left in the closed position, rendering the PO-PRV nonoperational during a fire.

Where an isolating valve is identified on the pilot tube of any PO-PRV, FRNSW recommends that:

- the isolating valve be removed from the pilot tube in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard, or
- the isolating valve be locked in the open position and monitored in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard, or
- the PO-PRV be replaced with a pressure reducing valve that does not have any isolating valve on the pilot tube.

**Note:** FRNSW does not support disabling or removing the isolating valve lever; the lever position indicates the valve status (i.e. open or closed) to firefighters and maintenance personnel.

Reference must be made to the FRNSW website to ensure this position is current at the time of use, and this position has not been superseded or revoked.

## Summary

This position statement clarifies that any PO-PRV installed within a fire hydrant or sprinkler system must not include an isolating valve on the pilot tube that could prevent the PO-PRV from operating.

An informative comment identifies that an isolating valve was found in the closed position during a fire, which prevented the PO-PRV from operating and deprived the fire sprinkler system of water.

The position recommends that where such isolating valves are identified, either the valve is removed, locked open and monitored, or the PO-PRV is replaced by one not having an isolating valve.

An informative comment clarifies that FRNSW does not support alternative fixes, such as permanently disabling or removing the valve lever from the isolating valve.

### Fire and Rescue NSW

Community Safety Directorate  
Fire Safety Branch  
1 Amarina Avenue  
Greenacre NSW 2190

Phone +61 (02) 9742 7434  
Email [firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au)  
Web [www.fire.nsw.gov.au/firesafety](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/firesafety)  
LinkedIn [linkedin.com/showcase/frnsw-firesafety](https://linkedin.com/showcase/frnsw-firesafety)

[www.fire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au)

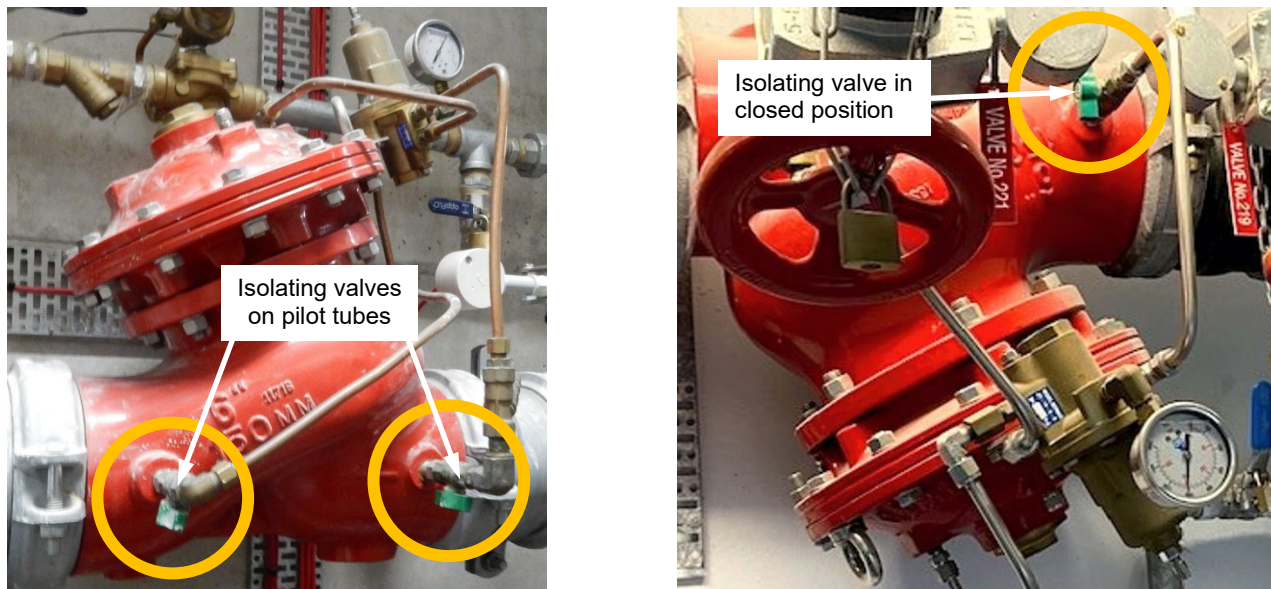


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Figure 1: Examples of isolating valve fitted to PO-PRV pilot tube, including a closed valve



This position statement has been authorised for release by Chief Superintendent Fire Safety, FRNSW.

## Contact us

For further information contact the Fire Safety Branch on (02) 9742 7434 or email [firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:firesafety@fire.nsw.gov.au).