

STATE OF NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE



SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE
Alice T. Kane

UPDATED BULLETIN 2024-023

November 14, 2024

**TO: ALL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY/CASUALTY INSURERS OF CUSTOMERS
IN THE FORT BAYARD AND SANTA RITA CONSOLIDATED FIRE SERVICE
PROTECTION AREAS**

**RE: NOTICES REGARDING UNFAVORABLE CHANGES TO PUBLIC
PROTECTION CLASSIFICATIONS AS REQUIRED BY INSURANCE CODE
§59A-18-33, NMSA 1978**

This Bulletin shall expire two years after the date it is issued by the Office of Superintendent of Insurance (the OSI) unless otherwise earlier rescinded or revoked.

This Bulletin is issued as required by general OSI Bulletin No. 2024-022.

The OSI has been notified by ISO, a rating/advisory organization, about a recent Public Protection Classification (PPC) survey involving the consolidation of the fire service protection areas (FSPA) of Fort Bayard and Santa Rita. As a result of the consolidation, policyholders protected by Fort Bayard FSPA (hydrated areas) are moving from class 4/4x to 5 and policyholders protected by newly created Fort Bayard Fire Department Supply (FDS) area (non-hydrated, hauled water areas) will be moving from 4x to 6/10. Santa Rita FSPA will no longer exist.

Although some areas will have a less favorable classification following the consolidation, many policyholders will improve classification.

The change was published by ISO effective October 1, 2024, but ISO intends to make the change effective February 1, 2025.

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Within ninety days of the date of this Bulletin, all residential property/casualty Insurers of customers in the Fort Bayard and Santa Rita consolidated FSPAs must provide written notice to its policyholder-customers that includes this language, or language of similar meaning:

NOTICE OF A CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY'S PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATION THAT MAY IMPACT YOUR PROPERTY INSURANCE PREMIUM

We provide you with residential property insurance. One of the many factors that impacts the availability of, or the premium payments charged for, residential property insurance is the public protection classification (PPC) score that applies to your community and the surrounding community. A PPC score is based on an evaluation of four major things which include, (1) Emergency Communication Systems, (2) Fire Department, (3) Water Supply and (4) Community Risk Reduction. Your community's PPC score is set by a rating/advisory organization.

The New Mexico Office of Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) was recently notified by your rating/advisory organization of changes in the PPC score for your community. Because the changes may increase or decrease the amount you pay for your property insurance with our company, or impact whether we will renew your coverage, the OSI directed us to inform you about the changes. We are giving you this notice within ninety days after the OSI notified us about the change.

If you have any questions related to the change in your community's PPC score, or if your community wishes to improve its classification, you should contact a local government representative, such as the fire chief or a county commissioner and ask their help in developing a community improvement plan. If a community improvement plan is made, the rating/advisory organization that sets the PPC score for your community can evaluate that improvement plan and might be able to postpone publication of a downgraded PPC score. Please keep us informed whether you accept the PPC score change, or if your community will be seeking a community improvement plan.

Should you have any questions relating to this bulletin please contact Melissa Robertson, Property & Casualty Bureau Chief at 505-670-2704 or Melissa.Robertson@osi.nm.gov.

ISSUED this 14th day of November 2024.



ALICE T. KANE
Superintendent of Insurance