This flowchart covers fire sprinkler protection requirements under the International Building Code (IBC) and NFPA 13. Review for code/standard for detail and commentary.

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Protection at Elevator Machine Room, Machinery Space, Control Space, or Hoistway


Yes

Is elevator traction-type?

Yes

Space dedicated to elevator equipment only?

Yes

Space protected by smoke detection or other automatic fire detection per NFPA 72?

Yes

No

Space does not qualify for NFPA 13 8.15.5.3(1)

No

Space does not qualify for NFPA 13 8.15.5.3(2)

No

Space does not qualify for NFPA 13 8.15.5.3(3)

No

Space does not qualify for NFPA 13 8.15.5.3(4)

Yes

Sprinkler(s) required in space, per NFPA 13 (no excepts exist)

No

Sprinkler(s) allowed to be omitted from space, per NFPA 13 2013-16 8.15.5.3, 2019 9.3.6.3

*Clarification not in NFPA 13 Editions prior to 2013