
GUIDELINES

Original Issue Date: **4/14**

Model: **20RESB**

Market: **Residential/Light Commercial**

Subject: **New Installation Guidelines for Kohler Power Systems Stationary Air-Cooled 20RESB Generators**

The National Fire Protection Association (“NFPA”) develops, publishes, and disseminates codes and standards intended to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other risks, including NFPA 37, which establishes criteria minimizing the hazards of fire during the installation and operation of stationary combustion engines. Section 4.1.4 of NFPA 37 addresses the spacing of an enclosed engine-generator set from a structure or wall:

NFPA 37, Section 4.1.4 Engines Located Outdoors. Engines and their weatherproof housings if provided, that are installed outdoors shall be located at least 1.5m (5 ft) from openings in walls and at least 1.5m (5 ft) from structures having combustible walls. A minimum separation shall not be required where either of the following condition exists:

1) The adjacent wall of the structure has a fire resistance rating of at least 1 hour.

2) The weatherproof enclosure is constructed of noncombustible materials and it has been demonstrated that a fire within the enclosure will not ignite combustible materials outside the enclosure.

Annex A: A.4.1.4(2) Means of demonstrating compliance are by means of full-scale fire tests or by calculation procedures, such as those given in NFPA 555, Guide on the Methods for Evaluating Potential Room Flashover.

Kohler designed and engineered the Kohler 20RESB Generator to include an enclosure constructed of non-combustible materials and be compliant with NFPA 37, Section 4.1.4 (2). Kohler contracted with an independent testing laboratory that ran full scale fire tests to verify that the Kohler 20RESB Generator complies with this standard. The results and conclusions from the independent testing laboratory indicated that any fire within the 20RESB Generator enclosure would not pose an ignition risk to nearby combustibles or structures.

The minimum required distance of the Kohler 20RESB Generator from a structure is dependent on state and local codes. However, based on this testing and the requirements of NFPA 37, Sec 4.1.4, the minimum installation distance should not, under any circumstance, be less than 457mm (18 in) from the back side of the 20RESB Generator to a stationary wall or building. Additional installation requirements are provided in the Kohler 20RESB Generator Installation Manual, and must be reviewed prior to installation.

Generator exhaust contains DEADLY carbon monoxide gas. Carbon monoxide can cause severe nausea, fainting, or death. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, tasteless, nonirritating gas that can cause death if inhaled for even a short time. Avoid breathing exhaust fumes when working on or near the 20RESB Generator. Never operate a Kohler 20RESB Generator inside a building. Do not install a Kohler 20RESB Generator where exhaust gas could seep inside or be drawn into a potentially occupied building through windows, air intake vents, or other openings.

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