

Department of Veterans Affairs State Veterans Home Survey Report

This survey report and the information contained herein, resulted from the State Veterans Home (SVH) Survey as a Summary Statement of Deficiencies. (Each Deficiency Must be Preceded by Full Regulatory or applicable Life Safety Code Identifying Information.) Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations Part 51 is applied for SVHs applicable by level of care.

General Information:

Facility Name: Minnesota Veterans Home – Luverne

Location: 1300 N Kniss, Luverne, MN 56156

Onsite / Virtual: Onsite

Dates of Survey: 8/19/24 – 8/22/24

NH / DOM / ADHC: NH

Survey Class: Annual

Total Available Beds: 85

Census on First Day of Survey: 56

VA Regulation Deficiency	Findings
	<p>Initial Comments:</p> <p>A VA Annual Survey was conducted from August 19, 2024, through August 22, 2024, at the Minnesota Veterans Home - Luverne. The survey revealed the facility was not in compliance with Title 38 CFR Part 51 Federal Requirements for State Veterans Homes.</p>
<p>§51.200(b) Emergency Power.</p> <p>(1) An emergency electrical power system must be provided to supply power adequate for illumination of all exit signs and lighting for the means of egress, fire alarm and medical gas alarms, emergency communication systems, and generator task illumination.</p> <p>(2) The system must be the appropriate type essential electrical system in accordance with the applicable provisions of NFPA 101, Life Safety Code and NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code.</p> <p>(3) When electrical life support devices</p>	<p>Based on records review, observation, and interview, the facility failed to properly inspect and test all components of the emergency generator as required by the code. The deficient practice affected eight (8) of eight (8) smoke compartments, staff, and all residents. The facility had the capacity for 85 beds with a census of 56 on the first day of survey.</p> <p>The findings include:</p> <p>Record review, on 8/21/24, at 12:52 p.m., of the monthly emergency generator inspection and testing records dating back 12 months prior to the survey revealed the facility failed to perform specific gravity or conductance testing during monthly generator inspections, as required by section 8.3.7.1 of NFPA 110, Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems.</p> <p>An interview, on 8/21/24, at 12:55 p.m., with Maintenance Staff A revealed the facility previously replaced their generator batteries with sealed, "maintenance free" type batteries and</p>

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<p>are used, an emergency electrical power system must also be provided for devices in accordance with NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code.</p> <p>(4) The source of power must be an on-site emergency standby generator of sufficient size to serve the connected load or other approved sources in accordance with NFPA 101, Life Safety Code and NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code.</p> <p>Level of Harm – No Actual Harm, with potential for more than minimal harm`</p> <p>Residents Affected – Many</p>	<p>were unaware of any monthly testing requirements for these batteries.</p> <p>Observation during the facility tour, on 8/21/24, at 1:00 p.m., revealed one (1) 1000-Kilowatt emergency generator containing two (2) Maintenance free type, lead acid batteries.</p> <p>The census of 56 was verified by Administrative Staff A on 8/20/24, at 9:00 a.m. The findings were acknowledged by Administrative Staff A and verified by Maintenance Staff B during the LSC exit interview on 8/21/24, at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>Actual NFPA Standard: NFPA 101, Life Safety Code (2012) 19.5 Building Services. 19.5.1 Utilities. 19.5.1.1 Utilities shall comply with the provisions of Section 9.1. 9.1.3 Emergency Generators and Standby Power Systems. Where required for compliance with this Code, emergency generators and standby power systems shall comply with 9.1.3.1 and 9.1.3.2. 9.1.3.1 Emergency generators and standby power systems shall be installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 110, Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems.</p> <p>Actual NFPA Standard: NFPA 110, Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems (2010) 8.3.7.1 Maintenance of lead-acid batteries shall include the monthly testing and recording of electrolyte specific gravity. Battery conductance testing shall be permitted in lieu of the testing of specific gravity when applicable or warranted.</p>
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