West Houston Explosion Damage Assessment Summary

FEMA criteria are different for non-flooding events, and primarily deal with the damage to walls, roofs, and foundations as the determinant of damage severity to a structure.

Affected:

Roof intact, possibly missing shingles

Cosmetic damage

Broken screens

Gutter damage

Damage to a porch/carport/other outbuilding

Minor:

Non-structural damage to roof complements including large areas of roof covering and skylights.

Non-structural damage to interior wall components (drywall, insulation)

Non-structural damage to exterior wall complements (missing doors, broken windows, house wrap, etc)

Small vertical cracks in the foundation

Damage to chimney

Major:

Failure or partial failure of structural elements of the roof including rafters, joists, ridges, etc.

Failure or partial failure of structural elements of the walls.

Failure or partial failure of the foundation (crumbling, collapsing, horizontal cracks of > 2" or shifting of the residence on the foundation > 6"

Destroyed:

Complete failure of 2 or more structural components (ex. 2 walls, 1 roof and 1 wall)

Only foundation remains

Imminent threat of collapse.