APPLIANCE AIR INTAKE CLEARANCE FROM REGULATOR / OVER PRESSURE RELIEF DEVICE VENT OUTLET

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General Details

There are instances within the CAN/CSA B149.1 Natural gas and Propane Installation Code where further clarity is required regarding minimum clearances. This Directive defines the \textit{minimum} clearance requirement for appliance air supply inlets (combustion air) in order to resolve installation related conflicts in British Columbia.

Specific Details

An \textit{appliance air intake} is not defined in the CAN/CSA B149.1, therefore in British Columbia it \textit{shall} be categorized in two ways, either as \textit{passive} (natural draft combustion air intake) or \textit{fan/blower assisted} (draws air in for combustion).

The BC Safety Authority interprets the \textit{appliance air intake} referenced in table 5.2 to be as \textit{passive} based on past use of the term in relation to Category I or II appliances. Piping systems supplying combustion air to a Category III or IV appliances installed as direct vent 2 pipe installations shall be considered as \textit{fan/blower assisted}. Fan/blower assisted appliance air inlets for both Natural Gas and Propane installations are to be terminated \textit{no less} than 10ft (3m) in any direction from a regulator *relief or over pressure line *relief device outlet.

\textit{*means gas vents to atmosphere}

\textbf{Note:} As described in section 5.5.9 of the CAN/CSA B149.1, if an Overpressure Shut-Off Device / OPCO (Over Pressure Cut Off) that conforms to ANSI Z21.80/CSA 6.22. Is used, the first column in table 5.2 permits an acceptable clearance of 1ft (.3m).

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References:
Safety Standards Act
Gas Safety Regulation
CAN/CSA B149.1 Natural gas and Propane Installation Code

For more information on the British Columbia Safety Authority, please visit our web site at:
www.safetyauthority.ca