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### Walkways and Guard Rails

This bulletin has been jointly developed by Safety Services and the Gas Technical Council to inform designers, vendors, builders, contractors and owners of the minimum requirements to ensure safe installation of gas appliances in Alberta. Under the **Safety Codes Act** it is the responsibility of the owner, vendor, contractor, and user to ensure that the installation and operation of equipment comply with the Act and are in accordance with the **CSA-B149.1-2010 "Natural Gas and Propane Installation Code"**. The installation of gas appliances and equipment shall comply with the requirements listed below.

The Natural gas and propane installation code identifies the requirements for the installation of gas fired appliances and that the installation also provides adequate access to the appliance for servicing.

The installation of gas fired appliances on rooftops of buildings has created challenges to industry and safety codes officers' in applying the current gas code to ensure safe access to appliances when installed on a sloped roof.

4.14.6 When an appliance is installed on the roof,

(a) the appliance shall be installed on a well-drained surface. When water stands on the roof, either at the appliance or in the passageways to the appliance, or when the roof is sloped or has a water seal, a suitable antiskid walkway shall be provided. Such a walkway shall be located adjacent to the appliance and control panels, and when the appliance is located on a sloped roof, the walkway shall extend from the appliance to the point of access and be equipped with guardrails so that the appliance can be safely accessed and serviced.

- Be advised that it is reasonable to consider the degrees of a roofs slope within the application of code clause 4.14.6(a)
- An appliance installed on the roof that has a slope equal to or greater than 4° (7%, ~1 in 12), will fall within the scope of clause 4.14.6(a) and require a suitable antiskid walkway and guardrails.
- All other code requirements shall be required to ensure proper accessibility of rooftop appliances are maintained for installing, servicing, and inspection, such as but not limited to:
  - B149.1-10 4.14 Accessibility, 6.25 Rooftop gas piping and tubing.
  - Alberta Building Code