

BULLETIN 04-2016

May, 2016

**TO: LICENSED GAS CONTRACTORS
 LICENSED GAS FITTERS
 SUPPLY HOUSE**

SUBJECT: INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

VENTING APPLIANCES USING EXHAUST HOODS

The practice of permitting an exhaust hood to act as the venting of appliances that require venting is now restricted to only those appliances located directly under the exhaust hood.

The past practice of locating an appliance adjacently and venting this appliance horizontally by cutting into, or terminating the vent under, an exhaust hood will no longer be permitted.

NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUES

The following is a list of recurring non-compliance issues that are in need of immediate attention by the industry:

- Leaks – particularly in New Home construction.
Contractors must be aware that it is paramount in any project that it be leak free. Clause 6.22 in CSA B149.1-15 is clear that both tests - an AIR TEST prior to the connection of the appliances (6.22.2), and a DIAL or MANOMETER TEST after purging (6.22.3) are required on all piping installations, additions and/or alterations. Carelessness in not ensuring a gas piping system is leak free is a serious infraction of public safety due to the explosive hazard.
- Unvented Gas Appliances and Loose Venting Systems
Contractors are reminded that the majority of unvented gas appliances are not permitted to be installed in a residential space, or a space otherwise occupied, or in communication with an occupied space. Examples of unvented gas appliances not permitted in an occupied space include fuel-burning portable heaters, BBQ's, refrigerators, and lamps – but specifically exclude residential gas ranges. Carelessness in the installation of unapproved unvented appliances, or not ensuring that appliance venting systems are securely completed, is a serious infraction of public safety due to the hazard of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Clearance to Combustibles – especially for Gas Ranges and Fireplaces
Contractors are responsible for ensuring that all gas appliances – especially ranges and fireplaces - meet their specific manufacturer's requirements for clearance to combustibles prior to connection to a fuel source. Carelessness in the installation of appliances, without sufficient clearance to combustible material, is a serious infraction of public safety due to the fire hazard.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The following is a list of recurring administrative issues that are in need of immediate attention by the industry:

- Defects and Re-inspections

Contractors are responsible for ensuring that all defects – regardless of their severity – are addressed within 30 days of notification. Defects not addressed within the 30 days are subject to Bond Action and an accompanying \$125 fee. SaskPower Gas Inspections has the right to apply fees where, in our opinion, additional costs have been incurred in the inspection and ultimate clearing of a permit. This may include leaks, uncompleted venting, clearances to combustibles, repetitive defects, failed air tests, and defects found not to be completed after the signed Correction Notice has been returned.

- Plan Reviews

Contractors are reminded that all systems exceeding 200 ft. of underground piping, and all systems having an input rating exceeding 5,000,000 BTU per hour, are subject to a Plan Review by SaskPower Gas Inspections prior to commencement. These requirements were communicated to the industry in our Fee Schedule announced in Bulletin 02-2013 dated May 2013, and Plan Reviews announced in Bulletin 03-2013 dated July 2013.

All Plan Reviews shall be submitted via mail, fax or email (preferred) to:

Douglas Hird, Senior Engineer, Gas Codes & Standards
#177-1621 Albert Street
Regina, SK S4P 0S1

Phone: (306) 566-2592
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Thank you for your co-operation in the matters of public safety.



Syed Asif Ali, P. Eng.
Chief Gas Inspector

May, 2016