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§ 257.0 Scope

(a) General application. Every gas corporation engaged in the storage, terminaling, handling, transfer, vaporization or air-gas mixing of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) within the State of New York shall comply with the rules set forth in this Part. Except where otherwise indicated, it is not intended that these rules be applied retroactively to existing installations or to those under construction as of the effective date of this order insofar as design, fabrication, installation or testing are concerned.

(b) Items to which this Part does not apply. This Part does not apply to:

(1) design and fabrication of pressure vessels covered by the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, section VIII, Pressure Vessels, Division 1 (as described in section 10.3 of this Title);

(2) proprietary items of equipment, apparatus or instruments;

(3) heat exchangers; or

(4) prefabricated units which employ plate and longitudinal welds, as contrasted to pipe.

(c) Waiver. If a waiver of or deviation from the application of any rules prescribed in this Part is indicated because of special facts, application may be made to the Public Service Commission for waiver of or deviation from the rules and regulations in this Part. Each request shall include a full and comprehensive justification for such requested waiver or deviation, together with a proposed alternate rule to be considered for application to the condition(s) requiring the waiver or deviation.

§ 257.1 Compliance with standard code

(a) All LPG facilities within the State of New York are to be constructed, operated and maintained, except as otherwise provided in this Part, in accordance with LP Gases at Utility Gas Plants, 1974 NFPA No. 59 (referred to in this Part as NFPA Code, or as NFPA, followed by a rule or chapter number), published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 470 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA 02210, and such codes, specifications and standards referred to in the NFPA Code. Those provisions of the NFPA Code or associated references that have been indicated to be optional by phraseology, including "should," "preferably," "may" or "such as" (illustrative only), are mandatory in accordance with the intent of the NFPA Code except where an obvious contradiction occurs.

§ 257.2 Definitions

(a) When used in this Part, the terms below shall be defined as follows in lieu of or in addition to the NFPA definitions.

(b) Facilities. For purposes of this Part, the term facilities shall be synonymous with the term systems as defined in NFPA.

§ 257.3 Notification of proposed construction

(a) Initial report. At least 90 days prior to the start of construction or reconstruction of any LPG facility, or portion thereof, each gas corporation shall file with the Albany office of the Gas Division of the New York State Department of Public Service a letter of intent, together with general design data for the proposed facility. The Gas Division shall be promptly notified of any significant change affecting the initial filing which may occur after submission of the initial filing. This requirement is intended to provide notice in those cases where piping alterations, installation of additional LP storage tanks, etc., could affect the safety of the facility. The requirement is not intended to apply to normal maintenance requiring replacement of small sections of existing pipe, etc.

(b) Test notification. At least five days prior to the commencement of any tests required by this Part during construction or reconstruction, the Gas Division shall be given written notice thereof, except in an emergency shorter notice may be given.

(c) Final report. Before any LPG facility is placed into operation, a report shall be filed with the Gas Division certifying that the facility has been constructed and tested in accordance with the requirements of the rules prescribed in this Part, which report shall include a summary of tests made pursuant thereto. Detailed results of all tests shall be available for examination by representatives of the Gas Division.

§ 257.4 General plant considerations

Notwithstanding NFPA, LPG facilities shall meet the following requirements:

(a) Siting. Siting requirements shall be governed by 1974 NFPA-59.

(b) Automatic plants. Automatic plants (i.e., remotely controlled or unmanned while operating) shall be equipped with flame detectors (which will cause the plant to fail-safe) and combustible gas detectors and such other equipment to transmit alarms to the appropriate gas corporation office, and in the event of fire to the local fire department. Heat sensors may be substituted for flame detectors within structures or in any other area where it can be demonstrated that the heat sensor is more effective than a flame detector.

(c) Wall openings. Notwithstanding NFPA 522, wall openings shall be at or near floor level.

(d) Plant entrance and egress. Two separate and distinct entrances must be provided at each plant site to allow for emergency and/or fire fighting equipment to gain emergency access.

(e) Ventilation. All devices associated with calorimeters or calorimixers which may vent gas within the room in which the unit is located shall be vented through piping to the outside atmosphere.

(f) Compressor stations. If compressor stations are involved in the facility they shall meet all of the requirements of section 255.63 of this Title.

§ 257.5 Piping systems and components

(a) Pipe labeling. All plant piping shall be identified by color coding, printing or labeling. "Scheme for Identification of Piping Systems, ANSI A13.1-1956" may be used. Any existing corporation system may be used.

(b) Welding and welding inspection. (1) Notwithstanding NFPA, the quality of 100 percent if practical but not less than 90 percent of the shop and field welds in all piping four inches in diameter or greater carrying lpg, flammable liquids, or all piping six inches in diameter or greater carrying flammable gas shall be checked by nondestructive inspection. Welds must meet requirements of the "1973 Edition of API Standard 1104, Standard for Welding Pipelines and Related Facilities" except for subsection 6.9 for the depth of undercutting to the root bead. Such undercutting shall not exceed two inches in length, or one sixth of the length of the weld, whichever is smaller. Nondestructive inspection may consist of radiographic examination, magnetic particle testing or ultrasonic. Other methods of nondestructive inspection may be used with prior approval of the Gas Division.

(2) When pipe carrying lpg or flammable liquids has a nominal diameter of less than four inches, or when pipe carrying flammable gas has a nominal diameter of less than six inches, or when the construction project involves such a limited number of welds that nondestructive inspection would be impractical and the pipe is intended to operate at 40

percent or less of the specified minimum yield strength, then paragraph (1) of this subdivision is not mandatory, provided the welding is inspected visually and approved by a person qualified to inspect welding.

(3) In addition to the nondestructive inspection requirements outlined in this subdivision, there shall be continual control of the quality of welding by qualified personnel.

(4) Each gas corporation constructing an lpg facility shall have written welding procedures and welder testing procedures for field welding conforming to "*API 1104" (1973 edition). All welders employed to make welds shall be qualified under the welder testing procedure.

(c) Pressure testing. (1) Piping with a maximum operating pressure up to 100 PSIG shall be tested with a calibrated indicating or recording gauge that will indicate two PSIG increments or less, at 150 percent of the maximum operating pressure, or 90 PSIG, whichever is greater for a minimum period of 15 minutes for piping two inches and smaller, and one hour for piping over two inches in diameter. The test medium may be air, inert gas or water.

(2) Piping with a maximum operating pressure 100 PSIG and higher shall be tested with a calibrated indicating or recording gauge that will indicate five PSIG increments or less for a minimum period of 30 minutes for lines two inches and smaller; one hour for lines three inches or four inches in diameter; four hours for lines over four inches or any size operating above 20 percent SMYS. Piping shall be tested with a calibrated indicating or recording gauge at 150 percent of the maximum operating pressure or 90 percent of SMYS whichever is less. The test medium may be air, inert gas, or water unless the maximum operating pressure is in excess of 20 percent SMYS in which case the test medium must be water.

(3) Due consideration and care shall be observed due to effects of changes in ambient and test medium temperature in the case of above-ground or exposed piping.

(d) Valve operators. Powered operators shall be provided on emergency shut-off valves eight inches and larger in size. Means for manual operation shall also be provided.

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§ 257.6 Instrumentation and electrical services

(a) Provision shall be made for the continued operation, in an emergency, of those systems which are required to be operative for the fail-safe or safe-standby condition of the plant.

(b) Electric power supply. Secondary standby electric power supply either from a second feed or on-site power shall be provided in new and existing plants adequate to maintain service to facilities such as, but not limited to, fire detection and protection systems, vital instrumentation, and emergency controls in order to insure a fail-safe or safe standby condition at all times.

(c) Fail-safe alternate. Where a gas corporation can demonstrate that a plant will shut down in a fail-safe condition in the event of power failure, the requirement in subdivision (a) of this section for secondary standby electric power supply is not mandatory.

§ 257.7 Corrosion control

(a) Programs. A program for the cathodic protection of each existing lpg facility must be submitted by each operating gas corporation to the Albany office of the Gas Division of the New York State Public Service Commission within 60 days after the effective date of this code. This program is to state the methodology to be used, procedures involved, and schedule for completing cathodic protection on all systems in lpg facilities.

§ 257.8 Fire protection and safety

(a) Transfer precautions. Prior to bringing a tank car or tank vehicle into the transfer area, the atmosphere in the area shall be monitored with a combustible gas detector to insure that no flammable concentration of combustible gas is present.

(b) Annual operating test. An operating test of the plant shall be made at least once each calendar year with a maximum interval of 15 months and a minimum interval of six months between operating periods. The Gas Division shall be notified at least five days in advance of such a test to allow sufficient time for the Gas Division staff to witness the test. Compliance with this requirement can be achieved for those plants which, through system need, must be operated at least once during the annual cycle. If a company does achieve compliance in this manner, no prior notice is required.

(c) Combustible storage. Provision shall be made for the safe storage of test equipment associated with calorimeters or calorimixers, such as standard natural gas cylinders or other combustibles, so that their storage and maintenance effectively separates such flammables from sources of ignition.

§ 257.9 Operating and maintenance procedures

(a) Because of many variables, it is not possible to prescribe a detailed set of operating and maintenance procedures that will encompass all cases. However, each gas corporation shall develop operating and maintenance procedures based on the provisions of this Part, its experience and its knowledge of its facilities and conditions under which they are operated. The procedures shall encompass routine operations and maintenance, and operations and maintenance safety procedures.

(b) Each gas corporation shall file with the Gas Division its written procedures for maintaining compliance with the operations and maintenance safety provisions of this Part. Revisions to these written procedures shall be submitted to the Gas Division at least 30 days prior to the effective date thereof.

(c) Each gas corporation shall have the written routine operating and maintenance procedures available at the lpg facility for inspection by staff members of the Gas Division.

(d) Repairs or operations not covered by available procedures and which are deemed critical shall be reviewed by responsible personnel and criteria shall be written covering such things as isolation, purging, weather, communications, security and safety requirements, etc. prior to the start of the operation.

(e) Each gas corporation shall satisfactorily conform with the filed procedures.

(f) Operating and maintenance safety procedures shall be those involving the safety of the facility, employees and the general public. They shall specify equipment, piping, valves and other components to be inspected or tested, the time schedules of such inspections or tests, and the program to remedy deficiencies or failures uncovered.

(g) Items such as, but not limited to, the following should be included:

- (1) Fire protection system;
- (2) Operating signal devices;
- (3) Relief valve inspection;

(i) All servicing and replacement of Rego valves shall be done by a two-person team, with the second person responsible for verifying that each step is taken in the procedure being performed.

- (4) Structural inspection;
- (5) Functional inspection;
- (6) Pumps and compressors;
- (7) Valves and operators;
- (8) Standby electrical system inspection;
- (9) Communication equipment;
- (10) Housekeeping;
- (11) Leakage surveys; and
- (12) lpg transfer operations.

(h) Procedures shall be developed to notify servicemen, emergency crews and other involved employees when lpg is being distributed. All such employees shall be trained in the properties of lpg or mixtures with other gases, the changes of the lower explosive limit and specific gravity and effects of such changes.

§ 257.10 Odorization of gas

(a) Prior to the introduction of lpg, or such gas mixed with natural gas, SNG, LNG or other gases into a transmission line or distribution main, the gas shall be odorized in conformance with section 255.90 of this Title. This odorization rate shall be adjusted as necessary to compensate for changes in the lower explosive limit of such mixtures.

§ 257.11 Emergencies

(a) Emergency plans. Each gas corporation shall set up an emergency plan to be implemented in the event of facility failures or other emergencies, acquaint appropriate maintenance and operating employees with the applicable portions of the plan and establish liaison with appropriate public officials with respect to this plan. The plan shall be periodically reviewed with all involved parties. A copy of this plan shall be filed with the Gas Division and all revisions thereto shall be also filed so as to maintain the currency of that copy.

(b) Reports of accidents. Each gas corporation shall report all accidents where lpg facilities may be involved as a causal injury or death to any person or damage to property, which would cause public concern because of coverage by news media. All such accidents shall be immediately reported by telephone to the Gas Division through its emergency notification system. The written account of the accident shall be submitted to the Gas Division within 20 days. This report shall set forth in a satisfactory manner the chronological sequence of events related to the accident including a detailed description of the:

- (1) accident;
- (2) response, action and investigation by the gas corporation; and
- (3) results and findings of the gas corporation.

(c) Emergency lists. Each gas corporation shall file during January of each year with the Gas Division and the municipality within which its lpg facilities are located, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of responsible officials of said gas corporation who may be contacted in the event of an emergency. In the event of any changes therein within the year, immediate notification thereof shall be given to the Gas Division and the municipality.