



ROCHESTER

Minnesota

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BUILDING SAFETY DEPARTMENT
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Temporary Use of Gas Requirements

Effective April 1, 2013, Minnesota Energy Resources (MER) will no longer provide installation inspections, testing, and/or authorization of the temporary use of gas for buildings under construction. This has prompted a change in the manner which the Rochester Building Safety Department authorizes the temporary use of fuel-gas.

At the time a new service line is installed, MER will install a gas meter which will be equipped with a capped customer shut-off valve on the downstream side of the meter set. The customer shut-off valve will be equipped with a tag which identifies that the person who energizes the downstream piping system is responsible for inspections and testing.

Prior to initial operation, all piping systems (including those portions of the permanent fuel-gas piping system energized for temporary use) must be pressure tested and inspected by the Building Safety Department to determine that the materials, design, fabrication, and installation practices comply with the requirements of Minnesota Fuel-gas Code (MFGC) Chapter 4. This inspection will be conducted under the scope of work contained within the construction project fuel-gas piping permit. Utilization of a temporary or permanent fuel-gas piping system prior to authorization from the Building Safety Department is prohibited in accordance with MFGC Section 406.1.

Prior to operation of a fuel-gas piping system, customers which desire to provide temporary heat for buildings under construction must obtain a fuel-gas piping permit and schedule an inspection with the Rochester Building Safety Department.

No piping serving temporary fuel-gas operations shall be concealed or left to lie unprotected on the ground. Flexible hoses serving temporary fuel-gas operations shall be approved and listed for their intended use. Flexible hose shall be supported at least every ten (10) feet. All piping shall be air pressure tested for not less than one-half hour. The test pressure to be used shall be no less than one and one-half times the proposed maximum working pressure, but not less than twenty-five (25) psig, irrespective of design pressure. Recirculating and non-recirculating direct-fired industrial air heaters shall be installed and operated in accordance with the MFGC Code and the manufacturer's installation instructions. Outside air passing through or over the burners of recirculating and/or non-recirculating direct-fired industrial air heaters shall be screened or filtered to prevent leaves, papers, or other objects from being picked up from the outside, ignited, and discharged in the heated space. Those portions of a permanent or temporary fuel-gas piping system which contain corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST piping) must be bonded to the electrical service grounding electrode system prior to operation.

Questions relating to the temporary use of gas may be directed to the Building Safety Department at 507-328-2600 or buildingsafety@rochestermn.gov.