

MEEKS BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

LPG & NATURAL GAS ORDINANCE 94-1

June 15, 1994

APPROVED BY THE
EL DORADO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
8/30/94

MEEKS BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
ORDINANCE NO. 94-1

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE
INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MEEKS BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:
1. This ordinance is hereby adopted by the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District for the purpose of adopting regulations which govern the installation and maintenance of Liquified Petroleum and Natural Gas, and from the date on which this ordinance shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District in word and figures as follows:

LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS INSTALLATIONS

1.1 PURPOSE

To supplement UFC Article 32, N.F.P.A. 54, and C.P.C.

**1.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF LIMITS IN WHICH STORAGE OF LIQUIFIED
PETROLEUM GAS IS RESTRICTED**

The limits referred to in Section 82.104.(b) of the UFC, in which storage of liquified petroleum gas is restricted, are hereby established to include all land areas within the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District as follows: Heavily populated areas, principal business district, or congested commercial areas.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to this chapter:

- A. **INSTALLATION** shall mean a storage tank designed for the containment of liquified petroleum gas, or meter assembly regulating natural gas, for use by a customer for residential, commercial, or industrial purposes, together with appurtenant pipes, risers, gauges, and related equipment.
- B. **LPG** - Liquified petroleum gas.

- C. **SUPPLIER** shall mean any person or business which sells, at retail, LPG or any company which supplies natural gas, for residential, commercial or industrial use.
- D. **INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE** (shall only apply to LPG installations) shall mean the service shall be considered to be interrupted whenever service is discontinued because of hazardous condition, change in size or type of service, whenever the tank, meter, regulator(s), valve or other exterior service supply components are removed, replaced, or repaired, whenever the service is relocated, whenever the building, tank piping or components are damaged to the extent that the servicing utility, fire or building department considers the service to be potentially hazardous.

Normal refilling of an empty or partially empty tank, and routine maintenance of interior appliances shall not be considered as an interruption of service.

1.4 **REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW INSTALLATIONS**

The requirements of this chapter shall apply to all new installations.

- A. Requirements for LPG installations.
 - (1) A permit shall be obtained as required by UFC Section 4.108.1.1
 - (2) Two stage regulator systems shall be installed on all LPG installations in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. All first stage regulators and connecting pigtails shall be installed under a protective valve cover on tank. All regulators installed under this cover shall be listed and approved for this use and position of mounting. A connector providing flexibility shall be used to connect the first stage regulator to the main service valve on the tank. All copper pigtails shall be internally tinned and use only forged flare nuts.
 - (3) The riser from the yard piping shall be minimum of schedule 40 and shall be located not more than three inches (3") horizontally from the walls of the tank, and swing joints will be used above and below tank level to provide for tank movement (street elbows shall not be used). An approved flexible alternative is preferred in lieu of ridged steel

pipe for the tank riser. This shall include but not be limited to plastic (PE), copper tubing, stainless steel. ALL FLEXIBLE MATERIAL USED FOR THE TANK RISER SHALL BE SHEATHED IN AN APPROVED STEEL COVER FOR PROTECTION. As swing joints are eliminated in an approved flexible alternative, sufficient slack must be maintained to allow for tank movement and/or expansion and contraction of the alternative material.

All plastic pipe shall be buried at least 18" below finished grade. An electrically continuous corrosion resistant tracer wire (min. AWG 14) or tape shall be buried with the plastic pipe to facilitate locating. One end shall be brought above the ground at the building wall or riser and the other end shall be brought above ground at the tank.

- (4) The second stage regulator and riser pipe shall be installed on the gable end of the building, as close as practical to the building wall, unless this is not feasible due to structural or topographical constraints. An approved gas shut-off valve rated for a minimum of 125 PSI shall be installed immediately prior to the second stage regulator. An approved sign or other identifier shall be installed directly above the gas shut-off valve, on the building in a visible location within three feet (3') of the eaves of the roof, or roof line if no eaves are present. If the second stage regulator or a combination first/second stage regulator is used at the tank, than an approved gas shut-off valve shall be located at the building.
- (5) A protective cover shall be installed over the second stage regulator and meter (if installed) at the building. The minimum design for the protective cover shall be equal to, or greater than, the Building Design Load (determined by the building department), and shall be securely supported to the ground or diagonally to the building wall. When supported to the ground, the footing for the supports shall be founded six inches (6") below finished grade. Pre-cast concrete piers may be used in lieu of poured footings, provided they are placed on stable soil.

If second stage regulator/meter assemblies could be subject to vehicle damage, then minimum of three inch (3") steel crash post filled with concrete shall be installed for protection.

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Observation and inspection, if any, by the District shall not constitute an approval of the work of installation of the aforementioned protective cover, nor shall it be deemed to create any liability or responsibility on the part of the District for the design or construction of the protective cover, nor to any third party or entity whatsoever.

- (6) The riser pipes for the yard piping shall not be embedded in concrete, asphalt or other rigid substance. Such substance placed around a riser shall be held back at least one (1) inch from all sides of the pipe. all exposed exterior gas piping used for runs along walls or roofs shall be minimum schedule 40 steel pipe supported and secured by approved straps at intervals not to exceed four (4) feet.
- (7) At the time of application by any person for a permit to install an LPG system as required by UFC Article 4, the applicant shall submit an LPG plot plan to the District for approval and shall contain the following:
 - a. Stamp of approval of the prospective LPG supplier.
 - b. Tank location showing distance to structure and edge to edge of pavement or other identifying mark.
 - c. Tank capacity in US gallons.
 - d. Location of riser pipe at building.
 - e. Property boundaries.
 - f. An outline of all existing/proposed buildings on the lot and a depiction of the roof ridge line of any building to be supplied with LPG.
- (8) LPG tanks shall be permanently marked by a square or other approved equal stake of wood or other material with a minimum dimension of 2" x 2" or a cross sectional width of 2", nominal lumber.

Such stakes shall be of sufficient height to rise above the anticipated snow depth, with the minimum height being 10 feet (10'). The snow stakes shall be yellow in color and will be placed on the opposite side of the tank from the riser, and directly opposite the tank valves.

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The top six inches (6") of the stake shall be painted in the supplier's color. The side of the stake adjacent to the tank shall continue the supplier's color a minimum of 18 inches (18") from the top of the stake. See Appendix B for examples.

Installation and maintenance of all tank stakes shall be the responsibility of the LPG supplier. No tank shall be filled or serviced unless staked as provided in this chapter.

The designated supplier stake colors shall be those listed in Appendix B.

- (9) Any supplier supplying propane to a tank must affix a label or other means of identification to the inside of the tank valve protective cover. The label or other device must be waterproof and contain the supplier's name and emergency telephone number.
- (10) All LPG tanks shall be placed on approved concrete supports. Acceptable tank supports shall include, but not be limited to: Pre-cast reinforced concrete pads, reinforced concrete slab, or pre-cast reinforced concrete saddles. See Appendix B for examples. Use of un-reinforced cinder building blocks are specifically prohibited.

If saddles are used, they shall contact a minimum of 110 degrees of the tank circumference. Asphalt impregnated felt of not less than 3/8" thickness shall be installed between the container and concrete saddle.

Supports may be poured in place in lieu of prefabricated supports. If poured in place, it shall be a minimum of four inches (4") thick and reinforced with not less than WWF 6x12, W16 by W26, or 4 #3 rebar in each direction.

In areas where tank may be subject to shifting snow, unstable ground or other hazardous condition, the Fire Chief may require additional tank supporting, securing or protection.

B. Requirements for natural gas installations.

- (1) The meter assembly shall be installed on the gable end of the building, as close as practical to the building wall, unless this is not

feasible due to structural or topographical constraints.

- (2) A protective cover, designed to be equal or greater than the Building Design Load (determined by the building department), approved by the supplier, shall be installed over the meter assembly, securely supported to the ground or diagonally to the building wall. When supported to the ground, the footing for the supports shall be founded six inches (6") below finished grade. Pre-cast concrete piers may be used in lieu of poured footings, provided they are placed on stable soil.

1.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING AND RECONNECTED INSTALLATIONS

- A. Schedule for retrofit of existing LPG natural gas installations.

All installations existing on the effective date of this ordinance shall be brought into compliance on the following schedule:

By November 15, 1994 the following subdivisions or areas shall be retrofit:

Upper Rubicon, Meeks Bay Vista

By November 15, 1995:

The remainder of the District.

After the specified compliance date no supplier shall provide LPG service to any non-conforming installation.

- B. Requirements for existing LPG installations:

- (1) Installations shall be brought into conformance with Section 1.4 with the exception of Sections 1.4.A.(1). Section 1.4.A.(7) may be waived during the retrofit schedule above, providing the supplier provides a list of those addresses which have been retrofit to the District on a monthly basis or other approved schedule. Should a problem arise which requires multiple site inspections by this District, a fee may be charged to the supplier for those inspections.

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- (2) If it is impractical to install swing joints below grade due to existing concrete or other constraints, swing joints shall be installed above ground.
- C. Requirements for existing natural gas installations.
 - (1) Installations shall be brought into conformance with Section 1.4.B.(2).


1.6 VIOLATIONS

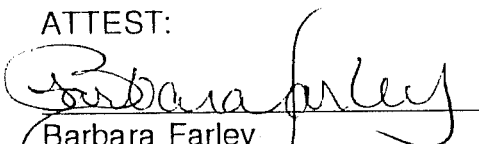
- A. It shall be unlawful for an LPG supplier to provide service to an LPG installation which does not comply with the provisions of Section 1.4 or 1.5.
- B. Failure by the customer to provide a cover as required for a natural gas meter assembly is a violation of this code and may subject the customer to a fine.

This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by law.

Adopted by the following vote by the Board of Directors of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District this 15th day of June 1994.

AYES:	5
NOES:	0
ABSENT:	0
ABSTAIN:	0


Edward I. Miller, Chairman
Board of Directors
Meeks Bay Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

Barbara Farley
Clerk of the Board

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APPENDIX "B"

Designated LPG vendor stake colors are as follows:

Amerigas	Red
Suburban	Orange
Bi-State	Blue
TTP	Black
Superior	Brown
Pro Flame	Green