

Notice

Expiration of Var Gas 05-05

The gas variance VAR GAS 05-05 was issued in 2005 for site-specific gas-fired process equipment that are subject to the requirements of the CSA B149 code series. The variance allows for approval of uncertified appliances and equipment where gas is to be used for fuel purposes in the oil and gas industry. Prior to the issuance of this gas variance, industry was required to use certified equipment or obtain field approval of uncertified equipment by a Certification Body accredited by the Standards Council of Canada. Compliance to the requirements of the gas regulations were a challenge for industry because there were insufficient certification bodies to provide third party approvals for uncertified appliances and equipment. Under the conditions of VAR GAS 05-05, designs of all uncertified systems require a signature, stamp and seal from a professional engineer.

With the introduction of an inspection body program by the Standards Council of Canada and additional certification bodies, VAR GAS 05-05 will no longer be necessary to provide a pathway for compliance. This variance will expire on June 30, 2013 and will not be reissued in its current form.

As of January 1, 2015, all appliances and equipment utilizing gas as a fuel in the oil and gas industry shall be certified or approved as required by section 3 of the Gas Code Regulation. Section 3(1) states,

No person shall manufacturer, install, sell or offer for sale any equipment related to gas systems for use in Alberta unless the equipment has been:

- (a) tested and certified by a certification organization accredited by the Standards Council of Canada, or
- (b) inspected and accepted by a certification organization accredited by the Standards Council of Canada, and the equipment bears evidence of having been accepted in the manner authorized by the certification organization.

An interim variance will be provided to ensure the oil and gas industry has a pathway to comply and will allow a professional engineer the ability to field approve the uncertified appliances and equipment to the requirements of the B149.3-10, "Code for the field approval of fuel related components on appliances and equipment." These permitted installations are the responsibility of a gasfitter and inspected by a local safety codes officer in the gas discipline for any alterations, extensions, additions or installations of gas-fired appliances.

Saskpower Gas Inspections and Safety Services, Alberta Municipal Affairs have been working to improve safety in the oil and gas industry by harmonizing the application of our respective gas regulations. Alberta and Saskatchewan have jointly developed the January 1, 2015 date for compliance and will continue to coordinate our efforts to assist the oil and gas industry.

January 12, 2013

For more information, please call 1-866-421-6929 or visit www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca.

ISBN 978-0-7785-7137-7

