



2015 National Fuel Gas Code – Summary List of Revisions

Updated: 04/24/14

The following list contains a summary of the significant revisions in the 2015 National Fuel Gas Code approved by the National Fuel Gas Code Committee, ANSI ASC Z223 and NFPA 54.

PIPING

Section	Subject	Description of Change
Various	Brass	REVISED – The term “brass” is revised to “copper alloy” throughout the document.
5.4.2.1	Volumetric flow of gas to be provided	REVISED – Deleted the requirement that the gas supplier or qualified agency be contacted where an appliance input is unknown. The sum of inputs (maximum) for all appliances is the basis to be used to determine adequate volumetric flow. Also see new Annex A list for sources for missing input data.
Table 5.4.2.1	Approximate Gas Input for Typical Appliances	DELETED – The table is moved to Annex A as one source for estimating the input of appliances where the specific appliance model is unknown.
5.4.2.2	Volumetric flow rate adjust for altitude.	RELOCATED – Previously included as part of 5.4.2.1, it is move to a standalone section. It is revised to specify adjustment above 2,000 ft is required. The altitude level is consistent with the derating requirements of 11.2.1.
5.6.4.1.3	PVC	NEW – Prohibits the use of PVC and CPVC piping to supply fuel gas. PVC can still be utilized as a regulator vent material under 5.6.4.1.
5.6.8.1	Metallic threaded fittings larger than 4 in.	REVISED – Deleted the allowed use of 4 in. threaded fittings where approved by the AHJ.
5.6.8.4 (9)	Fitting drill and tapped	NEW – Allows field drilling and tapping of fittings by the serving gas supplier or representative meeting certain requirements.
5.6.10 – 5.6.11.4	Flanges	REVISED – Expanded list of acceptable flange types and gaskets.
5.8.3	Line pressure regulators	DELETED – Similar requirements where included into revised section 5.9 – 5.9.2.
5.9 – 5.9.9	Overpressure protection devices	REVISED – Reorganized for clarity and to incorporate deleted section 5.8.3 requirements.
5.13	Excess flow valves	REVISED – EFVs required to be listed to ANSI Z21.93, previously no listing standard was specified.

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Table 6.2(c)	Low pressure Sch. 40 sizing	REVISED - All table entries rounded off to three significant digits and the 4 in. sizing columns capacities updated. Previous 4 in. column capacities reflected a 3 ½ in nominal size pipe.
Table 6.2(d)	Low pressure Sch. 40 sizing	REVISED - All table entries rounded off to three significant digits and the 4 in. sizing columns capacities updated. Previous 4 in. column capacities reflected a 3 ½ in nominal size pipe.
7.1.3 – 7.1.3.9	Corrosion protection	REVISED – The section now specifically refers to the protection of steel pipe and tubing. All steel piping installed underground must be of a material suitable for the environment (e.g. stainless), or be protected by a factory applied coating, or have field installed cathodic protection system. New specific cathodic protection system installation and monitoring requirements added.
7.1.7.3	Tracer wire	REVISED – New option to allow the use of product specifically designed for that purpose.
7.2.6	Removal of piping	DELETED – Duplicate coverage contained in section 8.3.1.1 (purging requirements).
7.3.2	Fittings in concealed locations	REVISED – Caps and plugs added to the list of threaded fittings allowed in concealed locations.
7.3.6	Shutoff valves in tubing systems	NEW – Requires concealed (fireplace type) shutoff valves to be rigidly supported independently of the tubing.
7.13.2	CSST Bonding	REVISED – Delete the requirement that the bonding point be between the point of delivery and the first CSST fitting. The bonding point can be made anywhere along the system. Bonding devices (clamps) are required to be listed to UL 467. New maximum 75ft limitation on the bonding jumper length. Where additional grounding electrodes are installed including any lightning protection electrodes, they shall be bonded to the electrical service grounding electrode.
8.1.1.5	Piping section isolation valves	REVISED – Substitute the terminology “double block and bleed valve system” for the current description of the system included in the section.

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Section	Subject	Description of Change
8.1.5.2	Leakage checking	REVISED – Delete the caution statement that matches, candles, open flames, or other source of ignition methods, not be used. The section does not allow such methods.
A.5.4.2.1	Determining appliance input	NEW – The guidance provides a list of sources and methods to estimate or determine the input of appliances where the nameplate is missing or the specific appliance to be installed is unknown. This guidance is for use in piping sizing. One source is Table A.5.4.2.1 previously located in Chapter 5.
Table A.5.4.2.1	Approximate Gas Input for Typical Appliances	NEW – The table providing a list of approximate inputs for a variety of appliance types. The table is referenced in A.5.4.2.1 as one such information source when piping sizing and the specific appliance model is unknown. The table was previously located in Chapter 5.
Table A.5.6	List of acceptable pipe, tube, fittings and joints	REVISED – The list of acceptable pipe, tube, fittings and joints as specified in Chapter 5 is revised as follows: “brass” is revised to “copper alloy”; polyamide (PA 11) is added under non-metallic pipe and tubing.
A.7.13.2	CSST bonding	REVISED – Guidance expanded to include the following: the bonding jumper should be installed in such a manner that the shortest possible length results; connections to the lightning protection system grounding electrode is allowed if the resulting jumper length is shorter; the jumper can be larger than the 6AWG, be single wire and multi-strand, and can be of non-copper if equivalent; state and local laws may dictate who performs the electrical connections; lightning protection systems are to be bonded to the electrical service grounding electrodes in accordance with NFPA 780; provide a reference to the GTI research that is the technical basis for CSST bonding.
A.8.1.1.7	Cleaning fuel gas piping operating above 125 psi	NEW – Reference to the new NFPA 56 for cleaning piping systems designed to operate above 125 psi.

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VENTING

Section	Subject	Description of Change
3.3.106 – 3.3.106.2.4	Vent Definitions	RELOCATED – Moved under Gas Vent.
12.5.2	Plastic vent piping type	REVISED – Clarify that the appliance listing shall include the type of plastic piping for venting purposes and the manufacturer’s installation instructions shall identify the plastic material to be used. Delete the need for approval by the AHJ.
12.7.3.3	Plastic vent piping sizing	REVISED – Clarify by adding a new sentence to require that plastic pipe used for venting is to be sized in accordance with the manufacturer’s installation instructions. Previously section text required “vents” to be so sized but the definition for “vents” does not include plastic piping.
A.3.3.52	Gas vent plastic piping	NEW – Annex A guidance explains that the definition of gas vent does not include plastic piping intended for plumbing service but that plastic piping can be used to vent appliances where the appliance listing allows for such use.

EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION

Section	Subject	Description of Change
9.1.11.2	Appliances in repair garages	REVISED – All specific coverage is deleted, add a reference to NFPA 30A. NFPA 30A, <i>Code for Motor Fuel Dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages</i> , is the standard used for these installations.
9.1.24	Existing appliance installations and building envelope changes	NEW – Requires that existing appliance installations be inspected to verify that they are in compliance with the code’s Section 9.3 (combustion air) and Chapter 12 (venting) where a building envelope component, other than roofing, is changed.
9.3.1.2	Combustion air for other than natural draft-type appliances	REVISED – Add requirement that “appliances equipped with power burners” and “appliances not designated as category I” be provided combustion air in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Clarifies that Section 9.3 requirements are meant only to apply to natural draft type appliances.
9.6.1 (7)	Unlisted gas hoses	NEW – Allows the use of unlisted gas hose connectors in laboratories and educational facilities in accordance with 9.6.3 (NEW)



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EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION

Section	Subject	Description of Change
9.6.1 (8) & (9)	Protections of connectors	RELOCATED – Renumbered as new Section 9.6.1.1 and 9.6.1.2 with minor editorial changes.
9.6.3	Injection (Bunsen) burners connectors	NEW – Allows Bunsen burners to be connected to the gas supply with unlisted hoses.
10.12.5	Combustible materials adjacent to cooking top	REVISED – Reworded to clarify intent.
10.14	Domestic hot plates and laundry stoves	DELETED – Code requirements deleted (new appliances unavailable).
10.15 – 10.15.2.4	Household cooking appliances	REVISED – Requirements reorganized to combine floor mounted and built-in appliance coverage and eliminate duplication. Requirements for listed combination solid/liquid/gas appliances deleted (new appliances unavailable).
A.9.14	Inspecting appliances after a building envelope change	NEW – List of building envelope sealing activities and changes that may impact the combustion air and vent performance. Provide an explanation of why the appliance inspections are needed.
A.9.6.3	Bunsen burners	NEW – Provide a description and explain that for the code the term is meant to include all similar types of portable laboratory burners used in laboratories and educational facilities.
A.10.15.1.2 and Figure A.10.15.1.2	Cooking top clearances to combustible materials	NEW – Provide a graphic presentation of Section 10.15.1.2 clearance requirements.
Annex G	Existing appliance installation inspection procedure	REVISED – A complete rewrite and expansion of the recommended procedures to inspect existing appliance installations. The procedures now cover all typical residential and light commercial appliances, their piping and venting systems. A detailed method is provided to inspect for gas leaks, venting performance, the physical condition of appliances/piping/vents, and ambient and appliance CO testing.



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OTHER

Section	Subject	Description of Change
Chapter 2	Referenced standards	REVISED – Standards are updated to their latest editions.
Chapter 3	Definitions	REVISED – Unused definitions were deleted, various definitions replaced with standard NFPA definitions, and other editorial/format changes.
4.4	Noncombustible material	NEW – Definition with requirements is provided.
A.3.3.63.1	Combustible material definition	NEW – Annex guidance that fire treated materials are still considered combustible.
Annex J	Industry definitions	DELETED – The annex previously provided definitions for terms not used in the code but may have been of interest to the user. Many of the definitions were subsets of appliances defined in Chapter 3.

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