



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

## BOSTON CHAPTER

CHARTERED 1973

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## Gas Check List

On June 4, 2008 we met at a regular meeting of the Mass Plumbing Board in Quincy to discuss issues pertinent to ASPE Boston Chapter. Along with the writer the meeting was attended by Blair Chamberlain, Gil Castera, and John Carter. Our president, Rick Neth, who was present on a project matter, also offered some insight on our mission.

ASPE was well received by the Board. Our goal, as explained to the Board, is to try to get an improved line of communication between the Board and our Chapter Membership. Our number one priority is to work with Director Peluso to publish, on our website relevant Board Policies and decisions. We have shared some of these recent decisions with our membership, but there are many older policies and decisions that need to be shared with the design community. That process is currently ongoing as we will be meeting soon with Joe Peluso to review his data.

On their end, the Board's staff, Joe Peluso and Lou Visco both expressed a need for the Engineering Community to do a better job in the submission of Variances for elevated gas pressure systems. The code in Mass allows a gas pressure of 14 inches water column in a piping system. In the event that a particular piece of equipment requires greater pressure or when pipe sizing at this pressure exceeds a pipe of 4 inches diameter, the Board will consider granting a variance for elevated pressure.

The Board has many such requests pending and they are somewhat frustrated with the quality of the drawings which have been submitted in some cases. They have asked us to stress to our members that a better, clearer application be made to the Board particularly in the preparation of clear legible drawings. Attached is a checklist that the Board has asked us to distribute to our membership.

It behooves us to do a better job as the application can be reviewed in a timely manner if the application is clear.

Manuel B. Garcia, P.E., C.P.D.

# Mass State Plumbing Board Requirements - June 3, 2008

## Check List For Elevated Gas Approval

1. Gas company approval letter or sign off and special permission application should denote the same gas pressures and BTU input's requested.
2. When sizing gas pipe, the pressure drop shall not exceed a maximum of 10%.
3. Gas trains serving equipment with input ratings over 400,000 BTU's shall comply with 248 CMR section 7.
4. All materials, systems and equipment shall be board approved.
5. Plans/construction documentation: (use a minimum 12 point font and sheet size 11x17 inches)
  - a. Submit a single line legible sketch stamped by a Massachusetts Registered Professional Engineer. (a full set of plans are not required)
  - b. List the developed distance from the meter to the most remote gas utilization equipment.
  - c. Identify all equipment and the BTU input's.
  - d. All pipe sizes shall be depicted.
  - e. Pipe lengths and segments shall be depicted. (See NFPA 54 2002 edition, annex C)
  - f. When installing additional equipment to a previously approved system, list both the new load and the total load. List the remote distance only if it exceeds that of the previously installed system.
6. All gas pipe over 4" or supplying over 5 PSI shall be welded. (Consult local Gas Supplier rules)
7. All gas pipe supplying over 70 PSI shall be installed and tested in compliance with 248 CMR Section 5.03 (5) (b) and 5.03 (5) (c).
8. Send all information in one packet (application, gas company approval, fee, etc.).
9. If information is correct, expect at least a 30 day review period.
10. Applications will be returned if filled out incorrectly.
11. Add a cover letter when submitting revised documentation and make reference to application number.