

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 59A

Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)

2009 Edition

Reference: 8.4
F.I. 79-1

Question: An open panel LNG vaporizer has the following characteristics:

1. LNG is supplied to the vaporizer by LNG supply pumps and a means is provided to shut off the flow of LNG to the panels.
2. Seawater is supplied by pumps, and the vaporizer is provided with a means to shut off the flow of sea water to the panels as required by NFPA 59A for heated vaporizers.
3. The maximum allowable working pressure of the LNG system exceeds the maximum LNG pump discharge pressure.
4. The equipment is selected such that the LNG flow to the vaporizer at the maximum allowable working pressure is zero.

Is it the intent of NFPA 59A, 5.4.1 that a safety relief valve(s) for such an LNG vaporizer be sized in accordance with 5.4.1.1 and 5300, respectively.

Answer: Yes. The vaporizer described is considered to be a remote heated vaporizer.

Issue Edition: 1979
Reference: 5-4.1
Date: August 1982

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Reference: 9.2.4

F.I.

Question: Can a fuel control valve having a body of cast iron be classified for service in the fuel burning system on an LNG vaporizer in the case where the fuel control valve is not the safety shutoff valve nor is it used for safety shutdown?

Answer: Paragraph 6.2.4 of NFPA 59A specifies provisions for valves. Under the referenced standard, ANSI-B31.3, Section 300.1.4(a), valves within the following design condition ranges are not subject to the specified rules and the responsibility for safety is the designer's and the owner's.

Press. (psig)
0-15

Temp. (°F)
-20°F to +360°F

Further, because of fire hazard, it is the opinion of the Chapter 6 Subcommittee that the safety shutoff valve upstream of the fuel control valve shall be steel or cast steel.

Issue Edition: 1972

Reference: 613

Date: January 1974

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Reference: Chapter 12

F.I. No.: 59A-01-1

Question: Was it the intent of NFPA 59A-2001 that the editions of referenced NFPA standards for fire protection requirements in Chapter 9 be applied to LNG plants placed into operation prior to the effective date of the 2001 edition of NFPA 59A?

Answer: No

Issue Edition: 2001

Reference: Chapter 9

Issue Date: January 15, 2004

Effective Date: February 4, 2004

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NFPA 59A

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Reference: Chapter 13

F.I. No.: 59A-96-1

Question: Is it the intent of the LNG Committee to require that Chapter 10 of NFPA 59A be applicable to all facilities using LNG containers designed and constructed in accordance with the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code for use in commercial and industrial applications as well as vehicle refueling facilities?

Answer: Yes.

Issue Edition: 1996

Reference: Chapter 10

Issue Date: December 23, 1997

Effective Date: January 12, 1998