

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 3.3.10

F.I. No.: 58-04-3

Question: Is it the intent of the Committee, based on the definition provided in 3.3.10 of NFPA 58, that a building, at a bulk plant, containing cylinders for distribution or buildings at bulk plants where LP-Gas cylinders are filled, is part of the bulk plant?

Answer: Yes

Issue Edition: 2004

Reference: 3.3.10

Issue Date: November 30, 2005

Effective Date: December 19, 2005

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 5.9.5
FI 92-1

Question: Was it the intention of the Technical Committee on Liquefied Petroleum Gases to restrict the choice of any, or all, of the materials that might be utilized in the several components that comprise the total assembly of mechanical joints to those specifically “listed” or mentioned in the ASTM Standard D2513-90.

Answer: No.

It was not the intent of the committee in 5.9.5 to specify materials of construction. Materials of construction of mechanical fittings are covered in 5.9.5 where it was the committee’s intent to limit fittings to be constructed of materials listed in ASTM D2513, except for gasket materials, which are covered in 5.9.5.

In 1.5, Equivalency, the committee provides a method of use of alternate materials when supported by sufficient evidence acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

Issue Edition: 1992
Reference: 2-4.4(c)(2)
Issue Date: January 15, 1993
Effective Date: February 3, 1993

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 5.12.4

F.I. No.: 58-01-3

Question: Is it the intent of NFPA 58 for an emergency shutoff valve to be used as a container appurtenance?

Answer: No.

Issue Edition: 2001

Reference: 2.3.3.2 & 3.3.3.6

Issue Date: November 7, 2001

Effective Date: November 27, 2001

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
2011 Edition

Reference: 6.3.9
F.I. No.: 58-08-1

Question: Is it the intent of 6.3.9 that a dryer vent termination be considered a building opening?

Answer: Yes.

Issue Edition: 2008
Reference: 6.3.9
Issue Date: November 18, 2008
Effective Date: December 8, 2008

(Note: For further information on NFPA Codes and Standards please see www.nfpa.org/codelist)

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: Table 6.5.3

F.I. 95-1

Question: Was it the intention of the Committee that the 20 ft (6.1 m) minimum horizontal distance refer to the fill and vent connections of underground containers rather than the shells and heads of the containers?

Answer: Yes.

Issue Edition: 1995

Reference: Table 3-2.3.3

Issue Date: April 3, 1995

Effective Date: April 23, 1995

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
2011 Edition

Reference: 6.12
F.I. 79-1

Question: Is it the intent of 6.12 to require either an emergency shutoff valve or a backflow check valve in each leg of the piping when two or more hoses are used?

Answer: Yes.

Committee Comment: Unless these provisions are made, it would be possible for flow from one leg of the piping to escape through a leak in the other leg.

Issue Edition: 1979
Reference: 3168(a)
Date: November 1979

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 6.12

F.I. 79-2

Question: In an LP-Gas installation subject to the provisions of 6.12 of NFPA 58 by virtue of the container capacity qualifications, the vapor piping used in liquid transfer operations is 1½-inches nominal size. However, a vapor hose permanently affixed to the delivery end of this piping (by the use of a 1½ -inch-to-1-inch reducing elbow) is 1-inch nominal size. No backflow check valve is installed in this piping.

Is it the intent of 6.12 of NFPA 58 to require that an emergency shutoff valve be installed in the fixed vapor piping?

Answer: No.

Committee Comment: The Committee notes that, in the absence of either an emergency shutoff valve or a backflow check valve, 6.18.2.6(1) or (2) would require an excess flow valve in the fixed vapor piping cited.

Issue Edition: 1979

Reference: 3168(a)

Date: December 1980

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 6.13

F.I. No.: 58-04-1

Question: Is it the intent of 6.13 of NFPA 58 to allow a maintenance valve (locked in the open position) to be placed between a hydrostatic relief valve and the pipe upon which it is installed?

Answer: No.

Issue Edition: 2004

Reference: 6.11

Issue Date: September 23, 2004

Effective Date: October 12, 2004

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Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
2011 Edition

Reference: 6.19.7.1

F.I. 89-2

Question: Is it a violation of NFPA 58, 6.19.7.1 to install a 20 lb LP-Gas tank in a high school chemistry laboratory to supply Bunsen burners on the student lab tables, connected by permanently installed piping which complies with NFPA 58?

Answer: Yes.

Issue Edition: 1989

Reference: 3-4.6.1

Issue Date: May 22, 1990

Effective Date: June 10, 1990

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
2011 Edition

Reference: 6.19.9.1
F.I. 89-3

Question: Does the use of an approved portable cooking appliance utilizing a 2 lb LP-Gas container as its fuel supply for temporary table side cooking within a restaurant meet the intent of “public exhibition” as described in 6.19.9.1?

Answer: No.

Issue Edition: 1989
Reference: 3-4.8.1
Issue Date: March 19, 1991
Effective Date: April 8, 1991

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 6.25.3.1

F.I. No.: 58-044

Question: Is it the intent of the term “aggregate water capacity” as in used in Paragraph 6.25.3.1 to include only those containers separated from each other by distances less than those stated in the above-ground containers column of Table 6.3.1?

Answer: Yes.

Issue Edition: 2004

Reference: 6.23.3.1

Issue Date: November 8, 2005

Effective Date: March 22, 2006

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
2011 Edition

Reference: 6.25.3.2

F.I. No.: 58-01-2

Question: Is it the intent of the committee that the fire safety analysis required in 6.25.3.2 be conducted only by a registered professional engineer or certified safety professional?

Answer: No.

Issue Edition: 2001

Reference: 2.3.3.2 & 3.3.3.6

Issue Date: November 7, 2001

Effective Date: November 27, 2001

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58

Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code

2011 Edition

Reference: 9.7.2.2

F.I. No.: 58-04-2

Question: Was it the intent of the Technical Committee that “congested areas” be defined as the areas that do not meet the minimum setback requirements for equivalent aboveground storage containers?

Answer: No.

Committee Statement on Formal Interpretation: It is not the intent of the committee to make the separation distances for container in Chapter 9 applicable to the parking of vehicles. The term “congested area” is intended to allow access to parked vehicles in the event of an emergency, and the ability to move the vehicle when needed.

Issue Edition: 2004

Reference: 9.7.2.2

Issue Date: October 27, 2004

Effective Date: November 16, 2004

Formal Interpretation

NFPA 58
Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
2011 Edition

Reference: 11.8.4.3
F.I. 89-1

Question: Is it the intent of the above referenced code provision to prohibit installation of an underbody van propane tank(s) which require the operator to reach underneath the vehicle to open or close the shut off valve, assuming the shut off valve does not require tools to gain access to it or to operate it?

Answer: No.

Issue Edition: 1989
Reference: 3-6.2.6(h)
Issue Date: May 4, 1990
Effective Date: May 24, 1990