



Office of **Energy**

Office of *ENERGY WA*

Gas **FOCUS**

Submission of Preliminary Notices and Notices of Compliance

All gas fitters are notified (by letter attached to this edition of the Energy Bulletin) that amended Preliminary Notices and Notices of Compliance have been introduced and are the only forms to be used.

These new notices, and those currently in use which have been issued by the Office of Energy, are the only forms of notice approved by the Director of Energy Safety. Failing to submit a notice in a form approved for gas fitting work is a breach of the Gas Standards Regulations.

Both approved notices can be identified by the form number in the bottom right hand corner, TSD G020 0696 or TSD G020 0697.

Any other (non approved) forms in your possession should either be destroyed or returned to the gas supplier.

The Office of Energy has received a number of reports from LPG suppliers and consumers where gas fitters have not submitted the Notice of Compliance for gas fitting work carried out. LPG suppliers will not supply gas to a consumer until a Notice of Compliance has been forwarded to them confirming that the installation meets the requirements of the Regulations.

It is the gas fitters responsibility to forward the Notice of Compliance to the gas supplier (if known) and to provide a copy to the owner. Gas may then be connected.

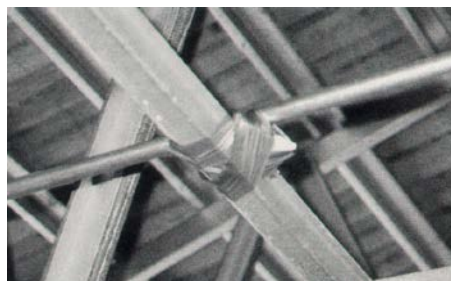
Every effort should be made by the gas fitter to identify the gas supplier. However, if you are unable to, the Notice of Compliance can be forwarded to the Office of Energy.

Facsimiles of the Preliminary Notice and Notice of Compliance are shown in the Gas Focus Supplement.

Protection of Gas Fitting Lines in Roof Spaces

Many builders are now using steel instead of timber for roof structures. A number of instances have been reported where copper gas fitting lines have been laid without protection across galvanised steel supports in roof spaces.

Advice given indicates that corrosion between dissimilar metals would be dependent upon the amount of moisture present. Although in most roof spaces moisture may be minimal, it is a requirement that suitable protection be provided to avoid the possibility of any corrosive reaction between the copper gas fitting lines and steel supports.



An example of where copper gas fitting lines have been incorrectly secured to steel supports

Item 415(1) of the Regulations states in part, that: "A fitting line installed other than underground, shall be installed clear of the ground and shall be supported by means of such brackets, saddles, hooks, straps, hangers, or other devices as are approved". The use of fibro-board to separate fittings and adhesive tape wrapped around the fitting line and steel support is unacceptable. Insulated brackets and clips are available for this purpose from the manufacturers of steel roofing materials. Please ensure you use them.

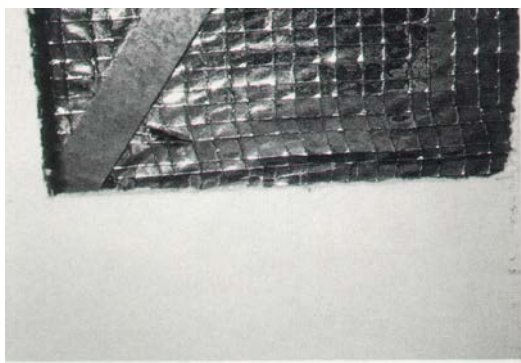
NOTE: Notices of Defects will be issued where gas fitters are not protecting and supporting gas fitting lines in roof spaces. You are reminded that this is a requirement of the Regulations and repeat offenders will be prosecuted.

Why Have Regulations?

On a recent visit to a large regional centre, a Gas Inspector checked the gas installations on a new triplex construction. The LP gas installations had been completed and gas cylinders connected. A number of defects were identified on the three installations and Notices of Defects were issued for rectification work.

1. Low level snap in vents

The total free area of the vents installed was approximately 1300 mm sq (required size is 25 000 mm sq). The aluminium foil backed insulation had not been cut away from behind the installed snap-in vent, so effectively there was no low level ventilation.



Wall insulation has not been removed, preventing any air flow through the ventilation grill

2. Instantaneous gas water heater

An instantaneous gas water heater was initially installed in a recess ie. two return walls within 500 mm of the flue outlet on either side. When the wind blew from a certain direction, the swirling created by the wind passing over the recess caused a downdraught on the balanced flue; this effectively prevented the egress of the flue products. The downdraught on the flue outlet caused the water heater to overheat.

Regulations are there for the safety of the gas user, worker and those in the community.



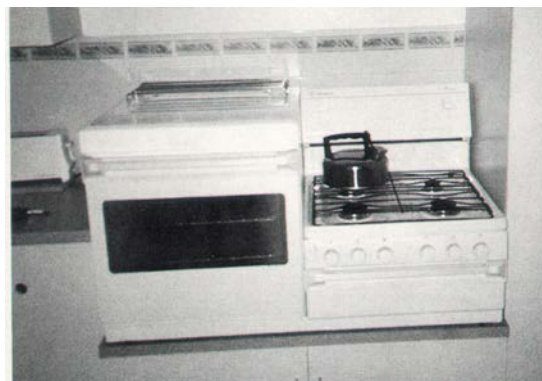
The water heater was initially connected in this recess



The relocated appliance shows heat damage to the casing and flue terminal

3. Elevated gas cooker

Elevated gas cookers were installed in each of the three kitchens. Elevated cookers can be ordered with either a left handed or right handed configuration. Two cookers were supplied in the wrong configuration. When installed, the burners on the top of the cooker finished up being too close to the unprotected vertical portion of the adjacent pantry.



The oven part of this elevated cooker should have been on the right hand side

Instantaneous Gas Water Heaters

Readers may recall that the Coroner's findings on a carbon monoxide poisoning in 1991 attributed the fatality to a conventionally flued instantaneous gas water heater installed in a bathroom.

Despite previous warnings, we are still receiving reports of unsafe installations being found.

The Office of Energy has placed advertisements in newspapers to again warn the public of the dangers of water heaters installed indoors.

This response has been taken in the interests of public safety and in particular, to protect the health and safety of occupants of residences.

WHAT SHOULD GAS FITTERS DO?

We recommend that you advise your customers to:

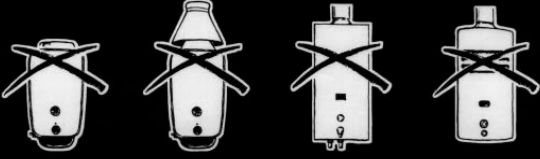
Replace:

- Unflued water heaters (regardless of location);
- Water heaters fitted with wall cowls;
- Unsealed* water heaters installed in bathrooms, bedrooms or toilets;
- Unsealed* water heaters fitted with inoperative flame failure devices (eg. bi-metal strips);
- Any water heaters with evidence of draught;
- Any unsafe water heaters.
- Unsealed means drawing air for combustion from the room and exhausting products of combustion through a flue to outside the room.

Rectify:

- Water heaters requiring a service;
- Water heaters with flues terminating in the roof space or fitted with an unapproved cowl (eg. chinaman's hat);
- Water heaters in acceptable rooms with inadequate ventilation.

This advertisement appeared in newspapers recently, warning of the dangers associated with flueless or open flued instantaneous gas water heaters installed indoors



WARNING:

Water heaters like these installed indoors can be dangerous.

In some situations, particularly bathrooms, toilets and bedrooms, flueless or open flued instantaneous gas water heaters are both unsafe and illegal. They can produce poisonous carbon monoxide, a deadly gas which you can't smell or see. Water heaters like these have been responsible for 14 deaths in Western Australia and, despite previous warnings, unsafe installations are still being found. If one of these water heaters is installed in your home, make sure it is checked by an authorised gas fitter.

Compliance with Acts and Regulations

All gas fitters in Western Australia are subject to the relevant requirements of the *Gas Standards Act 1972* (Act) and the *Gas Standards Regulations 1983* (Regulations). The Act and Regulations are in place to ensure the safety of gas consumers, workers and the community in general.

However, there are a number of gas fitters who may soon find themselves being dealt with under provisions of the Act. They will be the minority who put safety at risk by ignoring the regulatory requirements.

Section 13A of the Act allows for the Director of Energy Safety to call on a person to return their certificate, permit or authorisation and appear before an inquiry. The person may be

suspended for up to three months pending an inquiry.

Where a gas fitter is dealt with in accordance with the Act, they may:

- be disqualified;
- be suspended for up to 12 months;
- be censured; or
- have a limitation, restriction or condition placed on their gas fitting activities.

A gas fitter who does not comply with the Act and Regulations may be dealt with at an Office of Energy inquiry. They may also be prosecuted.

Remember, regulations are there for the safety of the gas user, worker and the community; your compliance with the Gas Standards Act 1972 and the Gas Standards Regulations 1983 will help ensure that safety.

PROSECUTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE GAS STANDARDS ACT (1972) AND GAS STANDARDS REGULATIONS (1983) 1 April 1997 to 30 June 1997

<i>Breach</i>	<i>Name (and Suburb of Residence at Time of Offence)</i>	<i>Licence No.</i>	<i>Fine \$</i>	<i>Costs \$</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>Carried out gas fitting work without a certificate of competency, permit or authorisation, Section 13A Gas Standards Act 1972</i>	<i>R Watson (Belmont)</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>400.00</i>	<i>215.00</i>	
	<i>S Doney (Wanneroo)</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>150.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	
<i>Use of unauthorised medium to pressurise gas fitting lines to locate a gas leak Regulation 26(2) Gas Standards Regulations 1983</i>	<i>S Doney (Wanneroo)</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>150.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>	
	<i>M Smith (Swan View)</i>	<i>GF004705</i>	<i>200.00</i>	<i>283.00</i>	
<i>Connected a Type B appliance without obtaining approval Regulation 29 Gas Standards Regulations 1983</i>	<i>M Darnborough (Gosnells)</i>	<i>GF005944</i>	<i>300.00</i>	<i>2245.00</i>	
<i>Interference with service apparatus Regulation 35 Gas Standards Regulations 1983</i>	<i>C Murray (Armadale)</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>200.00</i>	<i>125.00</i>	<i>*</i>
	<i>C Murray (Armadale)</i>	<i>NLH</i>	<i>200.00</i>	<i>125.00</i>	


NLH - No Licence Held

* Multiple Offences

GAS FOCUS SUPPLEMENT

SUPPLEMENT

APPROVED FORM IDENTIFICATION



OFFICE OF ENERGY
Approved form
Date of Issue: June 1997.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE
REGULATION 20

No. 0216251

1 LOCATION OF INSTALLATION

Owner/Occupier Name				Builder/Owner Name				Meter No. (if applicable):			
Lot No.	Unit No.	Street No.	Street	Suffix	Suburb/Town	Postcode					
Owner/Occupier Telephone No. Directions: Please provide (nearest corner etc.) sufficient information											

2 MOBILE INSTALLATIONS *See note below*

Automotive	Caravan	Marine Craft	Other	TYPE OF GAS	L.P.G.	NO
DESCRIPTION OF OTHER:				VEHICLE/CARAVAN/VESSEL License or Identification Number:		

3 FIXED INSTALLATION DETAILS *Send Notice to The Gas Supplier*

TO (NAME OF GAS SUPPLIER)				EMERGENCY CHANGE OVER (tick if applicable)		is meter box fitted? YES NO	
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4 INSTALLATION DETAILS *See note below*

TYPE OF GAS	NO	LPG	T.L.P.G.	SNG	OTHER	Provide details
TYPE OF INSTALLATION: Domestic Commercial Industrial						
OPERATING PRESSURE: 1.25 KPA 2.75 KPA OTHER KPA						

5 NEW CONNECTIONS *Send Notice To Gas Supplier*

NEW CONNECTION	PIPEWORK	WISGICH	PLUMBE CONNECTION
ADDITIONAL WORK	REPAIR WORK	CONVERSION	Change of Gas Type From To

TYPE A (DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL) APPLIANCE(S)	TYPE B (INDUSTRIAL) APPLIANCE(S)
APPLIANCE DESCRIPTION	DESCRIPTION:
HOT WATER SYSTEM	
COOKING APPLIANCES	
SPACE HEATER	
BAYONET	
SPA/POOL HEATER	
OTHER	
DETAILS OF OTHER APPLIANCES:	
	GAS CONSUMPTION <input type="text"/> MJ/Hr
	PRE-ASSEMBLED <input type="checkbox"/>
	ASSEMBLED ON SITE <input type="checkbox"/>
	CONVERSION <input type="checkbox"/>
	APPROVING INSPECTOR'S No. <input type="text"/>
	OOE TYPE APPROVAL No. (if applicable) <input type="text"/>

8 COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL DETAILS (Attach additional information if necessary)

9 ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Please do not write in this area

GASFITTERS NAME: <i>Please print</i>		<p>NOTE: The Preliminary Notice (YELLOW FORM) is NOT REQUIRED for LPG Installations (incl. mobile). If gasfitting work is an LPG installation (incl. mobile) please discard. ALL GASFITTERS MUST SIGN the Notice of Compliance (BLUE FORM) with an ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.</p> <p>It is intended to carry out gasfitting work as specified on the Notice. I will ensure that the requirements of the Gas Standards Act 1972 and the regulations are complied with.</p> <p>GASFITTERS SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____</p>
COMPANY NAME:		
BUS. ADDRESS:		
SUBURB:	POSTCODE:	
GASFITTERS PHONE NUMBERS: Number (Mobile or Other)		
Gasfitters Registration No.:	GF	
GRADE(S) OF AUTHORISATION: A B C D E F		
Please tick relevant boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		

Preliminary Notice (Yellow) - Gas Supplier - Notice of Compliance (Blue) - Gas Supplier - Duplicate Copy (Green) - Customer - Duplicate Copy (White) - Gasfitter. TSD G420 0607

EMERGENCY CHANGE OVER ONLY APPLICABLE TO NATURAL GAS INSTALLATIONS

NEW EXPLANATORY NOTE

GAS FOCUS SUPPLEMENT

APPROVED FORM IDENTIFICATION

OFFICE OF ENERGY
Approved Form
Date of Issue: June 1997

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE
REGULATION 21

No. _____

1 LOCATION OF INSTALLATION

Owner/Occupier Name: _____ Builders/Owners Name: _____ Meter No. (if applicable): _____

Lot No.: _____ Unit No.: _____ Street No.: _____ Street: _____ Suburb: _____ Suburb/Town: _____ Postcode: _____

Owner/Occupier Telephone No.: _____ Directions: Please provide (nearest corner etc.) sufficient information: _____

2 MOBILE INSTALLATIONS *Send Notice to The Chief Gas Inspector, Office Of Energy*

Automotive _____ Caravan _____ Marine Craft _____ Other _____ TYPE OF GAS: L P G _____ No _____

DESCRIPTION OF OTHER: _____ VEHICLE/CARAVAN/VESSEL License or Identification Number: _____

3 FIXED INSTALLATION DETAILS *Send Notice to The Gas Supplier*

TO (NAME OF GAS SUPPLIER): _____ EMERGENCY CHANGE OVER (tick if applicable): _____ Is meter box filled? YES _____ NO _____

4 INSTALLATION DETAILS

TYPE OF GAS: NG _____ LPG _____ TLPG _____ SWG _____ OTHER: Provide details _____

TYPE OF INSTALLATION: Domestic _____ Commercial _____ Industrial _____

OPERATING PRESSURE: 1.25 KPA _____ 2.75 KPA _____ OTHER _____ KPA _____

5 NEW CONNECTIONS *Send Notice To Gas Supplier*

NEW CONNECTION _____ PIPEWORK _____ APPLIANCE CONNECTION _____

ADDITIONAL WORK _____ REPAIR WORK _____ INSPECTION REQUIRED _____ From _____ Change of Gas Type _____ To _____

6 TYPE A (DOMESTIC) APPLIANCE(S) **TYPE B (INDUSTRIAL) APPLIANCE(S)**

APPLIANCE DESCRIPTION	DESCRIPTION:
HOT WATER SYSTEM	GAS CONSUMPTION _____ MJ/Hr PRE-ASSEMBLED <input type="checkbox"/> ASSEMBLED ON SITE <input type="checkbox"/> CONVERSION <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVING INSPECTOR'S No. _____ OOE TYPE APPROVAL No. _____ (if applicable)
COOKING APPLIANCES	
SPACE HEATER	
BAYONET	
SPA/POOL HEATER	
OTHER	
DETAILS OF OTHER APPLIANCES: _____	

8 COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL DETAILS (Attach additional information if necessary)

Are you aware of any parts of the above gasfitting installation that do not meet the Gas Standards Regulations 1983 and/or are unsafe?

YES _____ Details _____

NO _____

9 ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

GASFITTERS NAME: *Please print* _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

BUS. ADDRESS: _____

SUBURB: _____ POSTCODE: _____

GASFITTERS PHONE NUMBERS: _____

Number (Mobile or Other) _____

Gasfitters Registration No.: _____ GF _____

GRADE(S) OF AUTHORISATION: A B C D E F

Please tick relevant box(es)

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Gas Inspectors Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby certify that this form has been duly completed and the gasfitting work specified on this notice has been completed in compliance with the requirements of the Gas Standards Act 1972 and the relevant regulations and that the Type B appliance(s) forming part of this installation is/are approved or the same as an appliance(s) currently approved for such installations and have been confirmed as such by a Gas Inspector.

GASFITTERS SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Primary Notice (Yellow); Gas Supplier - Notice of Compliance (Blue); Gas Supplier - Duplicate Copy (Green); Customer - Duplicate Copy (White); Customer YSD G021 0097

GASFITTER'S CERTIFICATION MOVED FOR EASIER IDENTIFICATION

* DETAILS ON THE INSIDE COVER HAVE ALSO CHANGED. PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH ALL THE INFORMATION

EMERGENCY CHANGE OVER ONLY APPLICABLE TO NATURAL GAS INSTALLATIONS

THIS BOX MUST NOT BE WRITTEN ON. THIS IS FOR INSPECTING AUTHORITIES USE ONLY!