

## NEW YORK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

9 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201-3857

## INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

TO: ALL COMPANIES DISTRIBUTING CONTAINERS OF LPG (PROPANE)

AND OTHER COMPRESSED GASES

RE: DELIVERY TO UNPERMITTED LOCATIONS

DATE: JULY 15, 2016

A recent fire has highlighted concerns that distributors of compressed gases, including propane and other liquefied petroleum gases (LPG), are making deliveries to locations that do not have a Fire Department permit for compressed gas storage.

Be advised that New York City Fire Code Section FC2707.3 makes it <u>illegal</u> to deliver to any location LPG or other compressed gas in quantities requiring a permit under the Fire Code or Fire Department rules unless the owner or other person taking delivery is in possession of a Fire Department permit for the storage of the compressed gas at the location.

This provision is intended to ensure that LPG and other compressed gases are delivered to a lawful location where the compressed gas is safely stored. A Fire Department permit also ensures that the Department is aware of the storage of the hazardous material and can act accordingly in the event of a fire or other emergency.

Fire Code Section FC105.6 sets forth for each type of compressed gas the amount of compressed gas that requires a Fire Department permit. For example, storage of 400 SCF (standard cubic feet) of LPG (approximately 47 pounds of LPG) requires a permit. "Empty" containers stored at the premises are counted as full for purposes of Fire Code compliance.

A compressed gas distributor should obtain from the owner or person accepting delivery a copy of the Fire Department permit authorizing compressed gas storage on the premises, and keep the permit on file in the compressed gas distributor's office. If the owner of a premises to which the compressed gas is being delivered reports that a Fire Department permit or permit renewal is pending, contact the FDNY District Office Headquarters at the telephone number below to confirm the status of the permit.

Any compressed gas distributor found to have delivered to an unpermitted location LPG or other compressed gas in an amount requiring a Fire Department permit will be subject to Fire Department enforcement action, including suspension/revocation of transportation permits, monetary penalties and/or criminal prosecution.

Any questions about compressed gas deliveries and the status of a permit for any location may be directed to the Fire Department's District Office Headquarters at (718) 999-2457/2458, or via the Fire Code Public Inquiry Form on the Fire Department's website: <a href="http://www1.nyc.gov/site/fdny/about/resources/code-and-rules/code-and-rules-public-feedback-form.page">http://www1.nyc.gov/site/fdny/about/resources/code-and-rules/code-and-rules-public-feedback-form.page</a>.

<sup>\*</sup> Homeowners (of one and two-family homes) are not required to obtain a permit for LPG. They are limited to two 20-pound LPG containers on their premises for portable outdoor barbecue use, except in Broad Channel and certain other areas where there is no piped natural gas service from a public utility.