

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 10, 2016 MEETING OF THE LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM
GAS EDUCATION AND SAFETY BOARD
WILLIAM ASHBY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BUILDING**

Call to order: The Meeting was called to order by Chairman William Curcio at 1:40 PM.

Board members present: William P. Curcio (Chairman), Louis Kilmer, Thomas Leahy, Charles Feinberg, Michael Merrill, Gerald Stocker

Department staff present: Director Edward Smith, Michael Baier, John Tomasone, Carrie Battista

Member of the public present: None

Agenda: The agenda was approved with no additions

Public comments: None

Approval of minutes: A motion was made to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2016. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

Old Business

1. **Natural Gas Disconnects** - Mr. Baier presented the Board with a letter that the Department drafted to the Board of Public Utilities which explained that some natural gas companies are disconnecting LP-Gas containers from the structure when a conversion from LP-Gas to natural gas is made. The BPU forwarded the letter to the utility companies. The Board also stated that if there were specific instances (time and location) where this was known to have happened they would follow up.
2. **LP-Gas Training** – There were no new developments on this since the last meeting. Mr. Curcio stated that the NJPGA was interested in starting a number of training initiatives possibly through funding from the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC). The training will be held somewhere in central NJ.
3. **Cylinder stickers** – There is a new uniform OSHA label that the industry is using for cylinders that are 40 pounds or less. While the label has the language about not bringing cylinders indoors it is really too small to be effective and is only in English, not both English and Spanish as the rule requires. The new OSHA label requirement becomes effective on June 30, 2016. The Board was presented with several graphics showing that cylinders should not be brought into buildings which would be more effective for the consumer. The graphic has the advantage of being easier to identify and being understood across languages. The Department stated that they thought that such a graphic met the intent of the rules but that the actual language of the rule would need to be amended. The

Board selected A1 of the graphics presented. Staff will draft a rule change for the next meeting.

4. **HVACR/Propane service work** – The Board was given copies of the HVACR law and rules. The law and rules allow HVACR contractors to perform propane service work. The educational requirements in the HVACR rules relative to propane service work are the same as those that the Board of Examiners of Master Plumbers included in their rules to justify being able to perform propane service work under a Master Plumbers license. Though the Board was concerned that this might not be enough training, they did not propose to take any action at this time.
5. **Thrifty Propane** – Chairman Curcio asked about the status of Thrifty Propane. Staff reported that they had applied for a license but that the license had not been issued yet.
6. **Propane Filling from a Bobtail** – There was discussion about whether it was permissible to fill a fleet of vehicles directly from a Bobtail. Staff responded that it was their opinion that this practice would not be allowed because the activity described would, by definition, be a Vehicle Dispensing System and have to follow those requirements. The Board agreed that there were safety concerns about the practice. The Board recommended that section 6.1 of the rules be amended, since it can be read to require a plan approval for any liquid transfer from one container to another including a bobtail delivery to a stationary container. Staff will draft a change for the next meeting.

New Business

1. **Permit to fill** - A Board member asked the department to look at Part III of its permit to fill form. The form requires the engineer of record to attest that the system was installed in accordance with the code and the approved drawings. In many cases the contract between the applicant and the designer does not provide for construction management services. Where the engineer is not acting as a construction manager he cannot attest to portions of the installation that were concealed when he was not present. In as much as marketers are required to be licensed and their employees certified, it might be more appropriate to have the installer attest to the condition of the installed system. The Department agrees and will amend the form.

Board Comments – None

Next Meeting – The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2016 at 1:30 pm

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.