

2024 IECC

NBI has submitted proposals into the ICC process to advance the 2024 IECC. The proposed amendments cover a wide range of measures and improve the code by adding additional efficiency, clarifying requirements, and creating greater flexibility for code users and local jurisdictions. Learn more at newbuildings.org/code_policy/2024-iecc-national-model-energy-code-base-codes.

Code Change Title: Testing of Gas Piping in Alterations CEPI-218-21 Part II

Summary: When new gas equipment is installed, the gas piping has to be leakage tested.

Add new definition as follows:

FUEL GAS. A natural gas, manufactured gas, liquified petroleum gas or a mixture of these.

Add new text as follows:

R502.1.1 Fuel gas pipe testing. Where new *fuel gas* equipment or a new *fuel gas* appliance is installed as part of an *addition*, all *fuel gas* piping that serves the equipment or appliance shall be tested and meet the requirements for leakage of Section 406 of the *International Fuel Gas Code* or Section G2417 of the *International Residential Code*.

Exception: Where it has been demonstrated to the code official that the *fuel gas* piping has been tested and met the requirements of this section within the previous five years.

Add new text as follows:

R503.1.1 Fuel gas pipe testing. Where new gas equipment or a new *fuel gas* appliance is installed as part of an *alteration*, all *fuel gas* piping that serves the equipment or appliance shall be tested and meet the requirements for leakage of Section 406 of the *International Fuel Gas Code*.

Exception: Where it has been demonstrated to the code official that the *fuel gas* piping has been tested and met the requirements of this section within the previous five years.

Gas piping degrades over time, creating the possibility of natural gas leakage. Leaking natural gas represents a loss in energy, and even small leaks can add up over long periods of time. Natural gas is also a potent Green House Gas, with over 86 times the global warming potential of CO₂ on a short-term basis. The installation of new gas equipment provides an ideal time to test gas pipe leakage. This proposal creates a requirement that the gas piping that serves newly installed gas equipment or appliances in additions and alterations be tested in accordance with the IFGC or fuel gas section of the IRC.