



Fuels Safety Program	Ref. No.: FS- 051- 04	Rev. No.:
DIRECTOR'S ORDER	Date: September 17, 2004	Date:

***IN THE MATTER OF:
THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND SAFETY ACT 2000,
S.O. 2000, c. 16***

- and -

**ONTARIO REGULATION 212/01 made under the
Technical Standards and Safety Act 2000
(The Gaseous Fuels Regulation)**

Subject: Existing B-Vent (Not Certified for Exterior Applications) which has been Installed Outdoors
Sent to: Gaseous Fuels Advisory Council, Propane Fuels Advisory Council, B-Vent Risk Reduction Group, TSSA Fuels (Natural Gas and Propane) Registered Contractors, TSSA G1, G2, G3, GP and DA Certificate Holders

The Director of the Gaseous Fuels Regulation, Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000, S.O. 2000, c.16, pursuant to his authority as provided for in Section 36 (3) (c) of the Technical Standards and Safety Act, 2000, hereby orders the following:

1. The Director's Order dated February 9, 2004 regarding B-Vents varying from Ontario Regulation 212/01 is revoked.
2. When found, installations for natural gas or propane fuel appliances, which are vented using a B-Vent not certified for exterior applications and where:
 - (A) The B-Vent has been identified as constituting an unacceptable condition; and
 - (B) this unacceptable condition poses no immediate hazard.

The requirement for the unacceptable condition to be corrected within 90 days as required by section 14 (1) (a) of the Gaseous Fuels Regulation is hereby extended beyond 90 days for an indefinite period provided that the following provisions are met:

- (I) Notification has been provided to the B-Vent owner/user by a qualified certificate holder that there is an existing B-Vent (not certified for exterior applications) which has been installed outdoors (See Attachment #1 – Director's Order FS-051-04);
- (II) Notification (initial only) has been provided to the fuel distributor, within 14 days, by a qualified certificate holder or registered contractor that there is an existing B-Vent (not certified for exterior applications) which has been installed outdoors (See Attachment #2 – Director's Order FS-051-04);
- (III) the B-Vent is in safe operating condition as determined by a qualified certificate holder;
- (IV) the qualified certificate holder has affixed a notice to the appliance or work describing the condition (See Attachment #3 – Director's Order FS-051-04);

- (V) the B-Vent continues to be in safe operating condition as determined through annual inspections by a qualified certificate holder which are arranged by owner/user;
- (VI) the qualified certificate holder has affixed a notice to the appliance or work confirming that the annual inspection arranged by the owner/user has been satisfactorily completed (See Attachment #3 – Director’s Order FS-051-04) and
- (VII) the fuel distributor will send annual notifications to the B-Vent owner/user regarding the annual inspection requirements (See Attachment #4 – Director’s Order FS-051-04).

If conditions I through VII are not met, the non-compliant B-Vent shall be replaced with a current code compliant venting system in accordance to Ontario Regulation 212/01 section 14(1)(a). That is, the unacceptable condition, which does not pose an immediate hazard, must be corrected within 90 days.

- 3. When the fuels appliance is replaced, removed, or a new appliance installed, the existing B-Vent (not certified for exterior applications) which has been installed outdoors must be replaced with a current code compliant venting system.
- 4. This Director’s Order does not apply where an inspection has identified the B-Vent to constitute an immediate hazard.
- 5. The determination of safe operating condition and/or an unacceptable condition posing no immediate hazard, shall be made by a qualified certificate holder who has ascertained that the vent is in compliance and does not constitute an immediate hazard pursuant to Sections 13(2) and 13(3) of the Gaseous Fuels Regulation, Ontario Regulation 212/01.

This Order is effective immediately.

Dated at Toronto this 17th day of September, 2004

APPROVED BY:



Roland Hadaller, P. Eng.
Director, Gaseous Fuels Regulation
Technical Standards and Safety Act

Attachment #1 - User/Owner Notification- Director's Order FS-051-04



FUELS SAFETY PROGRAM
TECHNICAL STANDARDS
& SAFETY AUTHORITY
14th Floor, Centre Tower
3300 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M8X 2X4

September 17, 2004

Re: Existing B-Vent (not Certified for Exterior Applications) which has been Installed Outdoors

Attention Premise's Owner/User:

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) is concerned that certain natural gas and propane burning appliances, such as furnaces and water heaters, are vented using B-Vents (not certified for exterior applications) which have been installed outdoors (See figures on back of this page for illustration). This application may pose a carbon monoxide (CO) safety hazard in the home due to extreme cold temperature conditions; as well, these vents may be subject to accelerated deterioration.

CO is a colourless, odourless, tasteless gas produced when fuels such as natural gas and propane burn incompletely. Symptoms of CO poisoning include nausea and vomiting, dizziness, burning eyes, difficulty breathing, confusion and loss of consciousness.

TSSA has the mandate to maintain and improve safety for Ontario citizens in the fuels and other regulated sectors. TSSA is officially designated by Ontario's Ministry of Consumer and Business Services to administer and enforce the *Technical Standards and Safety Act*, which governs fuels safety in Ontario.

Analysis of data regarding these outdoor B-Vent installations revealed that the likelihood of a safety hazard occurring is low; however, there is always the possibility of an incident occurring. With this information, TSSA has worked with industry to develop options for the owner/user who has a non-compliant B-Vent installed on the exterior wall of their premise.

These options are:

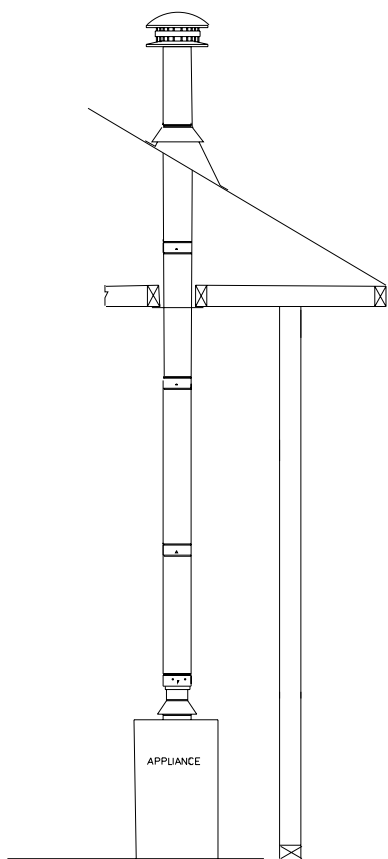
- Replace the non-compliant B-Vent with a current code compliant venting system
- OR
- Leave the non-compliant B-Vent in use provided:
 - It is in safe operating condition as determined by a qualified certificate holder (gas technician)
 - It continues to be in safe operating condition as determined through annual inspections by a qualified certificate holder (gas technician) arranged by the premise owner/user
 - When a gas appliance is replaced, removed, or a new appliance installed, the non-compliant B-Vent shall be replaced with a current code compliant venting system.

TSSA and the associated industries thank you in advance for your co-operation in this regard. If you require further clarification or have questions, please contact your fuel supplier, or TSSA at 1-877-682-8772 Web site: www.tssa.org.



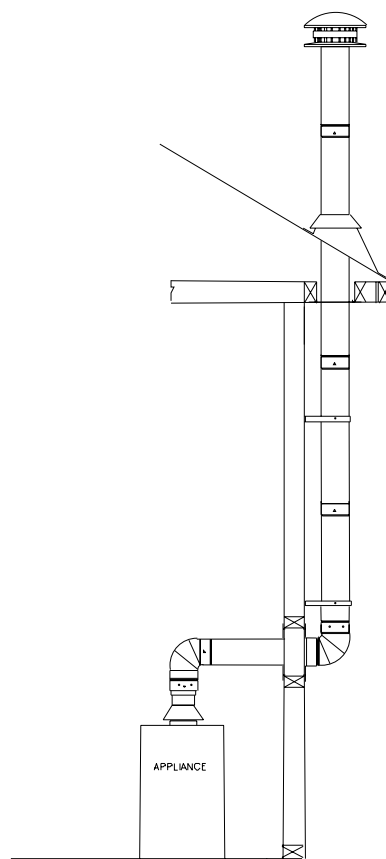
Director's Order FS-051-04 Advisory FS-052-04

B-Vent not Certified for Exterior Application



Compliant Installation

Figure 1A



Non-Compliant Installation

Figure 1B



Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Web site: www.tssa.org

Attachment #2 - Fuel Distributor Notification Director's Order FS-051-04 B-Vent (NOT Certified for Exterior Applications) Installed Outdoors

As stated in the Director's Order (Fuels Safety Program, FS-051-04 dated September 17, 2004), the certificate holder is to supply notification to the fuel distributor within 14 days regarding the continued use of an existing B-Vent (not certified for exterior applications) which has been installed outdoors. This form is to be used for that notification and to document your inspection performed on the existing non-compliant venting system.

If owner/user is not available for you to inform of the situation or make a decision regarding their options, the option of leaving the existing venting system in use is not available.

Note: All blanks must be completed with the required information

To:	Name of Fuel Distributor *		
FaxNo.:			

From:	Certificate Holder Name	Certificate Holder No.
	Contractor Name	Contractor Telephone No. Contractor Registration No.

Date of inspection/service: _____

B-Vent Owner/User Name:			
B-Vent Owner/User Name Address: Street No., Street Name, Lot/Concession No., P.O. Box			
City/Town	Province	Postal Code	Telephone No.

B-Vent Owner/User Name Signature: **X** _____
 Confirms Owner/User has been informed regarding this condition and has received the information sheet - (Attachment #1 - Director's Order FS-051-04)

*** Notification for LEAVING an existing B-Vent (NOT Certified for Exterior Applications) which has been installed outdoors, in use.**

You must indicate by initialing that the following has been completed:

1. The existing B-Vent not certified for exterior application has been inspected and found to be in safe operating condition. _____
2. The Owner/User has been given Information Sheet - (Attachment #1 - Director's Order FS-051-04) _____
3. The Owner/User was informed of the options regarding the situation. _____
4. The Owner/User was informed that they shall arrange to have annual inspections on this venting system. _____

*** Notification for REPLACEMENT of an existing B-Vent (NOT Certified for Exterior Applications) which has been installed outdoors, with a Current Code Compliant Venting System**

Indicate by initialing that the following has been completed:

1. The existing B-Vent has been replaced with a current code compliant venting system _____

*** Use same procedure as used for forwarding infraction notices/warning tags to the fuel distributor.**



Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Web site: www.tssa.org

Attachment #3 - Equipment Tag
Director's Order FS-051-04
B-Vent (NOT Certified for Exterior Applications)
Installed Outdoors

Please note that this Tag shall be of similar construction as a Pressure Test Tag.

Form with fields for: B-VENT (NOT CERTIFIED FOR EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS) WHICH HAS BEEN INSTALLED OUTDOORS TSSA Director's Order FS-051-04, ADDRESS OF INSTALLATION, CONTRACTOR'S NAME, CONTRACTOR'S PHONE #, CONTRACTOR'S REGISTRATION #, INSPECTION / VENT INFORMATION, ANNUAL INSPECTIONS DEMONSTRATING SAFE OPERATION ARE REQUIRED FOR LEGAL CONTINUED USE OF THIS B-VENT, DATE OF INSPECTION, THE VENT IS IN SAFE OPERATING CONDITION, THE FUEL SUPPLIER HAS BEEN NOTIFIED OF THIS CONDITION (ONLY FOR INITIAL INSPECTION), THE PROVISIONS IN DIRECTOR'S ORDER FS-051-04 HAVE BEEN SATISFIED (ONLY FOR INITIAL INSPECTION), THE ANNUAL INSPECTION DEMONSTRATED SAFE OPERATION, GAS TECHNICIAN'S NAME, CERTIFICATE NUMBER & CLASSIFICATION, DO NOT REMOVE, Attach this tag to the appliance as close as possible to the vent in a visible location protected from the elements.

Safety Reminder

Re: Existing B-Vent (not Certified for Exterior Applications) which has been Installed Outdoors

Dear Name of Owner/User:

Your premise has an existing B-Vent (not certified for exterior applications) which has been installed outdoors.

Ontario Regulation 212/01, Clause 14 (1)(a) made under the Technical Standards and Safety Act requires that code non-compliances that do not pose an immediate hazard be corrected within 90 days. Many of these non-compliant venting systems were installed throughout Ontario and have operated safely for many years. In order to facilitate their continued safe use, a Director’s Order (FS-051-04) was issued which allowed the existing B-Vent to be left in use with several provisions.

When this non-compliance was discovered, the owner/user of the premises at the time was given information sheet that had the following options:

- Replace the existing B-Vent not certified for exterior applications with a current code compliant venting system

OR

- Leave the existing B-Vent not certified for exterior applications in use with the following provisions:
 - It is in safe operating condition as determined by a qualified certificate holder (gas technician)
 - It continues to be in safe operating condition as determined through annual inspections by a qualified certificate holder (gas technician) which are arranged by the premise owner/user
 - When a gas appliance is replaced, removed, or a new appliance installed, the non-compliant B-Vent shall be replaced with a current code compliant venting system.

Our records show that after inspection the existing B-Vent was left in use. You are required to have this B-Vent annually inspected by a heating contractor registered by TSSA to best ensure its continued safe operation. This notice is to remind you of this requirement. In the interest of safety, please have this inspection completed promptly.

Yours truly,
Fuel Distributor