



Fuels Safety Program	Ref. No.: FS – 110-07	Rev. No.:
ADVISORY	Date: November 6, 2007	Date:

Subject: Variance Conditions for Temporary Use of Existing Unlined Chimneys (B149.1-05, section 8.12.2)
Sent to: Posted on Web-Site and Distributed to 149.1 Code Adoption RRG, Natural Gas Council, Propane Council

When replacing gas appliances the chimneys must be brought to current code requirements. This often requires installation of a certified chimney liner, which could delay the appliance activation by a few days due to various reasons (e.g. bad weather preventing safe access to the roof, scheduling, etc...)

In order to minimize a disruption of hot water and/or space heating to consumer, the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) will consider a single, blanket variance application from registered contractors for their collective customer base to allow temporary use (up to 5 business days) of existing unlined chimneys when replacing gas appliances provided the contractor adheres to the following conditions:

- Applies to replacement appliances only at residential sites.
- The existing chimney shall be working effectively with previously installed equipment (re-activation of disused chimneys within the terms of this variance shall be unacceptable).
- An appropriate certificate holder for the purpose shall determine that the existing chimney is safe to operate for the period between time of that inspection/appliance replacement and time of chimney liner installation. This inspection shall include examination of the chimney demonstrating it is clear of obstruction due to soot or debris as well as a check for effective venting of all combustion products to the outdoors with suitable draft.
- Contractor has an effective tracking system to ensure the following action within 5 business days:
 - The installation of a chimney liner; or
 - The termination of a gas supply.
- The variance applicant is subject to an audit at any time at the discretion of TSSA and billed per hourly rate.
- The application of this variance shall be auditable. Thus, appropriate documentation demonstrating that the variance conditions are being complied with shall be maintained.
- This variance may be approved for a term of 18 months and may be eligible for renewal upon satisfactory review.