



Fuels Safety Program	Ref. No.: FS – 111-07	Rev. No.:
ADVISORY	Date: November 6, 2007	Date:

Subject: Variance Conditions for Temporary Use of Existing Uncertified Plastic Vents (B149.1-05, section 8.9.6)
Sent to: Posted on Web-Site and Distributed to 149.1 Code Adoption RRG, Natural Gas Council, Propane Council

When replacing gas appliances, existing uncertified plastic vents must be replaced by vents certified to ULC S636 “Standard for Type BH Gas Venting Systems”. This could delay the appliance activation by a few days for various reasons (e.g. need to access enclosed venting, scheduling, etc...)

In order to minimize disruptions of supplying hot water and/or space heating to customers, the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) will consider a single, blanket variance applications from registered contractors for their collective customer base to allow temporary use (up to 10 business days) of existing uncertified plastic vents provided the contractor adheres to the following conditions:

- The existing vent is working effectively (visual inspection and pressure test is required as per FS-101-07).
- Contractor has an effective tracking system to ensure the following action within 10 business days:
 - the vent is replaced; or
 - a variance is obtained for continued use of existing vent; or
 - the gas supply is shut off.
- 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.