



DATE: June 13, 2016

TO: Homebuilders, Contractors, Plumbers & Plumbing Industry Personnel,
Atmos Energy

FROM: Steve O'Neal, Chief Building Official
Garett Nelson, Fire Marshal

SUBJECT: Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) for Gas Distribution Systems (New Installations)

By way of emergency moratoriums issued on September 17, 2012 and December 11, 2013, the use of CSST products for gas distribution piping had been prohibited within the City of Lubbock pending study of the relationship between lightning-induced arcing and damage to the product by a specially-appointed subcommittee of the Model Codes and Construction Ordinance Advisory Board.

With the recent passage of Ordinance Nos. 2012-O0075 and 201-O0076 adopting the 2012 International Fuel Gas and Residential Codes with local amendments, the moratoriums will be extinguished upon the effective date of the ordinances, which is **June 13, 2016**. All gas piping installations will thereafter be required to conform to the provisions of the updated codes, as follows:

- 1) New CSST systems, or portions thereof, must be of the conductive-jacketed variety (CJ-CSST) as defined in the amended code and be listed to ICC LC-1027 or equivalent. The "Component 3" testing criterion of the "Indirect Effects 2" lightning test is required to be 85 Coulombs, minimum, in lieu of 26 Coulombs. Test reports to that effect must be submitted for examination and approval.
- 2) New CJ-CSST installations must be directly bonded to the electrical service grounding electrode system as specified in the amended code, with a maximum bonding conductor length of 75'. *Bonding must be accomplished by a licensed electrician.*
- 3) CJ-CSST tubing must be routed such that there is a 24" clearance maintained from all metallic vents, flues, masts, pipes, etc. that penetrate the roof, including their component metal parts. ½" gypsum wall board or equivalent may substitute for the required clearance.

At this writing, the Building Inspection Department is examining manufacturer's submitted data to determine compliance with the new code provisions. Unless and until products are deemed compliant, no new CJ-CSST installations will be permitted.

The new code amendments may be viewed on line at <http://codes.franklinlegal.net/lubbock-flp>
Navigate to Title II, Chapter 28, Articles 28.14 and 28.15 (International Residential and Fuel Gas Codes).

Please contact the Building Inspection Department at (806) 775-2080 with any questions.