



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION

Compliance Division/Boiler Program

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BOILER TECHNICAL GRAM

Number: 2017-02

To: Deputy Boiler Inspectors
Authorized Inspectors
Authorized Inspection Agencies

From: Office of the Chief Inspector
TDLR, Compliance Division, Boiler Program

Subj: Proper Venting Requirements, Applicable to Extensions Only; Texas Boiler Rule: 16 TAC § 65.606. Atmospheric Vents, Gas Vents, Bleed or Relief Lines for Power Boilers, Unfired Steam Boilers and Process Steam Generators with Supplemental Firing

Texas Boiler Rule 16 TAC § 65.606, (relating to Atmospheric Vents, Gas Vents, Bleed or Relief Lines for Power Boilers, Unfired Steam Boilers and Process Steam Generators with Supplemental Firing), falls under Subchapter R of the Boiler Rules (relating to Technical Requirements), and currently incorrectly does not reflect that it only applies in the case of boilers for which an extension has been granted. This omission is due strictly to a typographical error from the TDLR reformatting of the Boiler Rules as adopted and becoming effective on June 15, 2015.¹

TDLR plans to amend the Boiler Rules to correct this omission as quickly as possible, but in the meantime, this Technical Gram serves to provide notice that §65.606 is only intended to apply in situations where, when applicable, the boiler has been granted an extension. Therefore, inspectors *shall not* seek to apply this rule under any other circumstances other than when an extension has been granted, and as such no violation will be cited or enforcement action initiated for failure to comply with §65.606 except in circumstances where an extension has been granted for the boiler.

Any questions regarding this Technical Gram should be addressed to the Chief Boiler Inspector or an Inspection Specialist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robby D. Troutt".

Robby D. Troutt
Chief Boiler Inspector
TDLR – Boiler Program

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ⁱ Historically, this requirement came into being via HB 1836 during the 75th Legislative Session. On September 1, 1997, Texas Boiler Law, §755.026 (relating to Extensions) was amended with the addition of subsection (e) which states: "If the interval between internal inspections of a gas fired boiler is extended under Subsection (a), the executive director and inspection agency shall require that an inspection of the gas regulator or pressure reducing valve that services the boiler be performed as part of the next regularly scheduled external certificate inspection of the boiler to verify proper venting of gas to a safe point of discharge." This very specifically only applies to Extensions based upon its placement under this section of the Boiler Law.

On December 5, 2005, certain TDLR Boiler Rule amendments became effective, and one of those amendments was an addition to §65.100 (relating to Technical Requirements). This addition addressed the Boiler Law addition from 1997, referenced in the preceding paragraph. Specifically, it was found at 65.100(f), entitled "Atmospheric vents, gas vents, bleed or relief lines for power boilers, unfired steam boilers and process steam generators with supplemental firing (*extensions only, where applicable*)" (*emphasis added*). As noted with this parenthetical statement, this subsection under Technical Requirements was only applicable to boilers for which an Extension was granted.

During the Boiler Rule reformatting process in 2015, performed in order to ensure the Texas Boiler Rules conform to other TDLR program rules' formatting, that parenthetical statement "(extension only, where applicable)" was accidentally deleted, and it was not included elsewhere in that subsection of the rule or addressed in any other manner.