

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE: Amendment of Rule)	DOCKET NO. 890382-GU
25-12.005, Codes and Standards)	
Adopted, Rule 25-12.043, Gas)	ORDER NO. 21603
Service, Rule 25-12.044,)	
Interruption of Gas Service,)	ISSUED: 7-25-89
and Rule 25-12.046, Unauthorized)	
Utilization of Gas Facilities.)	

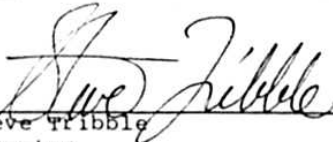
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RULE AMENDMENTS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Commission, pursuant to section 120.54, Florida Statutes, has adopted the amendments to Rules 25-12.005, 25-12.043, 25-12.044, and 25-12.046, F.A.C., relating to gas safety rules, without changes.

The rule amendments were filed with the Secretary of State on July 19, 1989 and will be effective on August 8, 1989. A copy of the relevant portions of the certification filed with the Secretary of State is attached to this Notice.

This docket is closed upon issuance of this notice.

By Direction of the Florida Public Service Commission,
this 25th day of JULY, 1989.


Steve Tribble
Director
Division of Records & Reporting

(S E A L)

WHH

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
07455 JUL 25 1989
FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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CERTIFICATION OF
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
FILED WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I do hereby certify:

/X/ (1) The time limitations prescribed by paragraph 120.54(11)(a), F.S., have been complied with; and

/X/ (2) There is no administrative determination under section 120.54(4), F.S., pending on any rule covered by this certification; and

/X/ (3) All rules covered by this certification are filed within the prescribed time limitations of paragraph 120.54(11)(b), F.S. They are filed not less than 28 days after the notice required by subsection 120.54(1), F.S., and;

/X/ (a) And are filed not more than 90 days after the notice; or

/ (b) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice not including days an administrative determination was pending; or

/ (c) Are filed within 21 days after the adjournment of the final public hearing on the rule; or

/ (d) Are filed within 21 days after the date of receipt of all material authorized to be submitted at the hearing; or

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/ (e) Are filed within 21 days after the date the transcript was received by this agency.

Attached are the original and two copies of each rule covered by this certification. The rules are hereby adopted by the undersigned agency by and upon their filing with the Department of State.

<u>Rule No.</u>	<u>Specific Rulemaking Authority</u>	<u>Law Being Implemented, Interpreted or Made Specific</u>
25-12.005	368.05 (2), F.S. 350.127 (2), F.S.	368.03, F.S.
25-12.043	368.05, F.S.	368.03, F.S.
25-12.044	368.05 (2), F.S.	368.05 (2), F.S.
25-12.046	368.05 (2), F.S.	368.05 (2), F.S.

Under the provision of paragraph 120.54(12)(a), F.S., the rules take effect 20 days from the date filed with the Department of State or a later date as set out below:

Effective: _____
(month) (day) (year)

Steve Tribble

Director, Division of Records & Reporting
Title

Number of Pages Certified

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25-12.005 Codes and Standards Adopted.

~~(*)~~ The Minimum Federal Safety Standards and reporting requirements for pipeline facilities and transportation of gas prescribed by the United States Federal Department of Transportation in Parts 191 and 192 of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) as amended through April 4, 1989, May-24-1984, are adopted as part of these rules.

~~(2)--The following National Fire Protection Association Standards are adopted as a part of these rules insofar as they are applicable to the jurisdiction of this Commission:~~

- ~~(a)--Pamphlet No. 54-(1980)~~
- ~~(b)--Pamphlet No. 58-(1983)~~
- ~~(c)--Pamphlet No. 59-(1979)~~
- ~~(d)--Pamphlet No. 59A-(1979)~~

Specific Authority: 368.05(2), 350.127(2), F.S.

Law Implemented: 368.03, F.S.

History: New 11/14/70, Amended 9/24/71, Revised 9/21/74, Amended 10/7/75, 11/30/82, 10/2/84, formerly 25-12.05.

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25-12.043 Gas Service. Initiation-of-Gas-Service.

(1) An operator may decline to provide gas service to a customer or any of the customer's equipment until the customer complies with all applicable gas codes adopted by the local authority having jurisdiction.

(2) No operator shall activate a meter delivering gas into customer piping until ascertaining that a test was conducted ensuring that a constant pressure had been contained by the piping.

~~No operator may establish gas service to any customer until the operator has ascertained that such tests have been made of supply piping and gas appliances being placed in service as will insure, beyond reasonable doubt, the absence of any hazardous condition in the piping and appliance installation.~~

Specific Authority: 368.05(2), F.S.

Law Implemented: 368.03, F.S.

History: New 9/21/74, Re promulgated 10/7/75, Amended 10/2/84, formerly 25-12.43.

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25-12.044 Interruption of Gas Service.

(1) At the time gas service is turned off or when the operator becomes aware that the supply of gas to a customer has been interrupted, whether intentionally or unintentionally, a valve on the service line must be either locked in the closed position or the service line plugged to prevent the flow of gas.

~~(2) -- When the operator becomes aware of any hazardous condition relative to the customer's piping or appliances, one of the following actions shall be taken:~~

~~(a) -- The operator shall discontinue gas service to the hazardous piping or appliances;~~

~~(b) -- The operator shall discontinue gas service to the customer and take action as required in 25-12.045(1), (2) or (3). Service shall not be reinstated until the defect or deficiency is corrected and the provisions of Commission Rule 25-12.43 are met.~~

Specific Authority: 368.05(2), F.S.

Law Implemented: 368.05(2), F.S.

History: New 9/21/74, Repromulgated 10/7/75, Amended 10/2/84, formerly 25-12.44.

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25-12.046 Unauthorized Utilization of Gas Facilities.

(1) Upon determining unauthorized establishment of gas service, the operator shall turn off the service and such service shall not be re-established until the operator has ascertained that testing meeting the requirement of Rule No. 25-12.043 had been made of all customer supply piping and gas appliances as will insure, beyond reasonable doubt, the absence of any hazardous condition in the piping and appliance installations.

(2) When unauthorized service is established and such service is on a common header with other services which may have been tampered with, the operator shall, in the case of obvious tampering, check each such service to ascertain that only active customer services are open and that inactive services meet the applicable requirements of Rules Nos. 25-12.044 and 25-12.045. This investigation shall be made immediately after shutting off the unauthorized service, and a record shall be made of the results.

(3) When the operator becomes aware of unauthorized operation of any other equipment on its own facilities, it shall immediately investigate to determine the effect upon the system and take all prudent measures to assure the safety of its customers and the public in general.

Specific Authority: 368.05(2), F.S.

Law Implemented: 368.05(2), F.S.

History: New 9/21/74, Repromulgated 10/7/75, Amended 10/2/84, formerly 25-12.46.

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Rule 25-12.005
Rule 25-12.043
Rule 25-12.044
Rule 25-12.046
Docket No. 890382-GU

SUMMARY OF RULE

Currently, Rule 25-12.005, Codes and Standards Adopted, requires natural gas utilities to comply with the 1984 United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) and various National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards concerning gas facilities and transportation. Rule 25-12.043, Initiation of Gas Service, requires natural gas utilities to test all customer piping and appliances for safety prior to initiation of service. Rule 25-12.044, Interruption of Gas Service, requires that upon interruption of service a valve in the service line must be locked in the closed position or the service line plugged to prevent further flow of gas. In addition, the rule requires gas utilities to discontinue service to hazardous piping or appliances or take action to prevent further flow of gas as required by Rule 25-12.045, Discontinuance of Services Due to Inactivity. Finally, Rule 25-12.046, Unauthorized Utilization of Gas Facilities, requires utilities to discontinue unauthorized service to customers pending determination that customer piping and facilities meet applicable safety standards.

The proposed rule changes are designed to confirm Commission rules to statutory authority, update gas safety standards, and

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codify current practices in the gas industry. The proposed amendments to Rule 25-12.005 would update gas safety standards to the 1989 USDOT regulations applicable to pipeline facilities and gas transportation and delete reference to redundant NFPA standards.

The proposed amendments to Rule 25-12.043 would allow utilities to decline to provide service until customers have complied with all applicable local building codes. Furthermore, the proposed amendment would require utilities to ascertain that a pressure test of customer piping had been conducted prior to activating gas meters and delete references to other utility tests of customer piping and appliances. The proposed amendments to Rule 25-12.044 would repeal redundant language requiring utilities to discontinue service to hazardous piping or appliances, or lock a valve in the closed position or plug the service line to prevent the flow of gas. Finally, the proposed amendment to Rule 25-12.046 would prohibit reestablishment of discontinued service until a pressure test of customer piping had been conducted and the customer had complied with all applicable local building codes.

SUMMARY OF HEARINGS ON THE RULE

No hearing was requested and no hearing was held.

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FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFYING THE RULE

The statutory jurisdiction of the Florida Public Service Commission does not extend to distribution of gas beyond the last meter prior to consumption. To clarify the rules to relate to the statutory jurisdiction, Rules 25-12.005, 25-12.043, 25-12.044, and 25-12.046 should be amended as indicated herein.