



Clarification

Automatic Shut-off Devices for Above-ground Oil Storage Tanks

Issue

In the case of fire in a building, stopping any possible flow of fuel into the building is critical in extinguishing the fire and ensuring minimal damage from the fire. Both the National Fire Code of Canada (Code) and CSA B139¹ have clauses pertaining to requirements for automatic shut-off devices for oil storage.

Clarification

As per clause 4.3.3.16 of the Code, piping systems serving oil-burning equipment, diesel-engine-driven emergency generators and fire pumps are required to conform to CSA B139, "Installation code for oil-burning equipment." Fuel-containing devices, fuel oil pumps, piping and tubing, and valves shall comply with Section 9 of CSA B139. As per clause 9.4.1, a manual shut-off valve shall be installed in fuel lines as near as practicable to the exit from supply tanks to stop flow of fuel oil.

As per Clause 9.4.3.1 of the CSA B139, an automatically operated device designed to shut off oil flow in case of fire in the immediate vicinity of burners, shall be installed. Good engineering practice must be used to design and choose a location for the automatically operated device. A fusible-link shut-off valve, *if needed*, shall conform with Clause 9.1.2 and 9.1.3 of CSA B139.

It is the responsibility of the designer and the owner to ensure that fuel supply from the storage tank to the appliance or equipment is automatically shut off in case of fire and can be easily turned off in any emergency, such as fuel leakage.

This advisory does not waive the requirements of any adopted codes and standards or any other local bylaw or the requirements of the Electrical/Mechanical Safety section of the Department of Public Works and Services of the GNWT.

<p>Approved by;</p> <p>Avinash Gupta, P.Eng., CBCO, CRBO, LBO Chief Code Compliance Engineer, Office of the Fire Marshal, Phone: (867) 767-9161 Ext.21028</p>	<p>Effective Date;</p> <p>May 2016</p>
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¹ Year of edition shall be listed in NWT Fire Prevention Regulations or Article 1.3.1.2 of the Fire Code of Canada