

**TITLE 380. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
CHAPTER 80. ALTERNATIVE FUELS PROGRAM**

**SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL RULES FOR COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG)
EQUIPMENT**

380:80-1-1. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to fulfill the mandate of Title 40 Section 142.2 by establishing rules in accordance with the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.

380:80-1-2. Standards for alternative fuel engine fuel systems

(a) The standards for the design, construction, installation, repair, use, and inspection of alternative fuel engine fuel systems are contained in the National Fire Protection Association's pamphlets No. 52 and 58 and are adopted by reference as part of these rules.

(b) The standards for the installation, modification, repair, or performance of maintenance on motors, controllers, on-board power sources, or the drive systems of vehicles powered by electricity, including vehicles originally equipped as electric vehicles, vehicles converted from gliders, and vehicles converted from internal combustion engine vehicles, are contained in the National Electrical Code (NEC) and are adopted by reference as part of these rules.

(c) Copies of the adopted standards are available for inspection at the Oklahoma Department of Labor, 3017 N. Stiles, Ste. 100, Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

380:80-1-3. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Alternative fuels" means fuels which result in comparably lower emissions of oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter or any combination thereof and includes CNG, LPG, LNG, methanol, ethanol, reformulated gasoline, biodiesel, and electricity.

"Alternative fuel engine fuel systems" means an object or objects mounted, installed, attached or otherwise placed upon or within a vehicle or vehicle trailer to supply or assist in the supply of an alternative fuel to an internal combustion engine or engines.

"ANSI" means the American National Standards Institute.

"ASME" means the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

"ASME Code" means the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.

"Automatic dispenser" means a CNG dispenser which is operated by a member of the general public and which requires transaction authorization.

"Building" means a structure with walls and a roof resulting in the structure being totally enclosed.

"BTU" means a scientific unit of measurement equal to the quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit at approximately sixty degrees Fahrenheit.

"CNG" See "Compressed natural gas" in this section.

"CNG GGE" means 5.660 pounds of CNG.

"CNG cylinder" means a cylinder or other container designed for use or used as part of a CNG system.

"CNG system" means a system of safety devices, cylinders, piping, fittings, valves, compressors, regulators, gauges, relief devices, vents, installation fixtures, and other CNG equipment intended for use or used in any building or commercial installation, or used in conjunction with a motor vehicle or mobile fuel system fueled by CNG, or any system or facilities designed to be used or used in the compression, sale, storage, transportation for delivery, or distribution of CNG in portable CNG cylinders, not including natural gas facilities, equipment, or pipelines located upstream of the inlet of a compressor devoted entirely to CNG.

"Commercial installation" means any CNG installation located on premises other than a single family dwelling used as a residence, including but not limited to a retail business establishment, school, convalescent home, hospital, retail CNG cylinder filling/exchange operation, service station, forklift refueling facility, or private motor/mobile fuel cylinder filling operation.

"Compressed natural gas" means natural gas which is a mixture of hydrocarbon gases and vapors consisting principally of methane (CH₄) in gaseous form that is compressed and used, stored, sold, transported, or distributed for use by or through a CNG system.

"Compressed natural gas vehicular fuel system" means an object or objects mounted, installed, attached or otherwise placed upon or within a vehicle or vehicle trailer to supply or assist in the supply of compressed natural gas as a fuel to an internal combustion engine or engines.

"Container" means a pressure vessel, cylinder, or cylinders permanently manifolded together used to store CNG or LNG.

"Cylinder" means a container constructed, inspected, and maintained in accordance with DOT and Transport Canada regulations or ANSI/IAS NGV2, Basic Requirements for Compressed Natural Gas Vehicle (NGV) Fuel Containers

"DOT" means the United States Department of Transportation.

"Fuel supply cylinder" means a cylinder mounted upon a vehicle for storage of CNG as fuel supply to an internal combustion engine.

"Gallon Diesel Equivalent" or "Diesel Gallon Equivalent (DGE)" means an amount of a motor fuel that contains an average lower heating value of one hundred twenty-eight thousand (128,000) BTUs but in no case contains a lower heating value of less than one hundred twenty-four thousand (124,000) BTU's.

"Gallon Gasoline Equivalent" or "Gasoline Gallon Equivalent (GGE)" means an amount of a motor fuel that contains an average lower heating value of one hundred fourteen thousand (114,000) BTU's, but in no case contains a lower heating value of less than one hundred ten thousand (110,000) BTU's.

"Gallon Equivalent" means either a gallon diesel equivalent or a gallon gasoline equivalent.

"Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)" means natural gas that has been liquefied at -259°F (-126.1°C) and stored in insulated cryogenic tanks for use as an engine fuel.

"LNG DGE" means 6.06 pounds of LNG.

"Location" means a site operated by a CNG licensee at which the licensee carries on an

essential element of its CNG activities, but where the activities of the site alone do not qualify the site as an outlet.

"Manifold" means the assembly of piping and fittings used to connect cylinders.

"Mobile fuel container" means a CNG container mounted on a vehicle to store CNG as the fuel supply for uses other than motor fuel.

"Mobile fuel system" means a CNG system which supplies natural gas fuel to an auxiliary engine other than the engine used to propel the vehicle or for other uses on the vehicle.

"Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails; provided, however, the definition of "motor vehicle" herein shall not include implements of husbandry.

"Natural Gas" means compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as defined by this regulation.

"NFPA" means The National Fire Protection Association.

"NIST" means The National Institute of Standards and Technology.

"Outlet" means a site operated by a CNG licensee at which the business conducted materially duplicates the operations for which the licensee is initially granted a license.

"Person" means an individual, sole proprietor, partnership, firm, joint venture, association, corporation, or any other business entity, a state agency or institution, county, municipality, school district, or other governmental subdivision, public trust, or licensee.

"Proved" means the act of having verified the accuracy of dispensing equipment used to measure fuel and petroleum products using a "prover".

"Prover" means a calibrated volumetric receiver or mechanical device traceable to NIST standards.

"Representative" means the individual designated by an applicant or licensee as the principal individual in authority who is responsible for actively supervising the licensee's CNG activities.

380:80-1-4. Applicability and severability

(a) The provisions of this chapter apply to pressurized components of a compressed natural gas (CNG) system, and are applicable to both engine fuel systems and compression, storage, and dispensing systems.

(b) If any item, clause, or provision of these rules is for any reason declared invalid, the remainder of the provisions shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated.

(c) Nothing in these rules shall be construed as requiring, allowing, or approving the unlicensed practice of engineering or any other professional occupation requiring licensure.

380:80-1-5. Filings required for stationary CNG installations

(a) No CNG container shall be placed into CNG service or an installation operated or used in CNG service until the requirements of this section, as applicable, are met and the facility is in compliance with the rules in this chapter and all applicable statutes, in addition to any applicable requirements of the municipality or the county where an installation is or will be located.

(b) The licensee shall submit the following to the Department of Labor at least 30 days prior to construction:

(1) Form AF-1;

(2) a plat drawing from the appropriate appraisal district identifying the facility's property boundaries;

(3) a site plan of sufficient scale that identifies:

(A) the location, types, and sizes of all containers already on site or proposed to be on site;

(B) the distances from the containers and material handling equipment to the property lines, buildings, and railroad, pipeline, or roadway rights-of-way; and

(C) any known potential hazards.

(4) the Alternative Fuels Installation Certification Fee.

(c) The Department of Labor shall notify the applicant in writing outlining its findings. If the application is administratively denied, the applicant may modify the submission and resubmit it or may request a hearing in accordance with Administrative Procedures Act.

(d) If the Department of Labor finds after a public hearing that the proposed installation complies with the rules in this chapter and the statutes of the State of Oklahoma, and does not constitute a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, the Department of Labor shall issue an interim approval order. The construction of the installation and the setting of the container shall not proceed until the applicant has received written notification of the interim approval order. Any interim approval order shall include a provision that such approval may be suspended or revoked if:

(1) the applicant has introduced CNG into the system prior to final approval; or

(2) a physical inspection of the installation indicates that it is not installed in compliance with the submitted plat drawing for the installation, the rules in this chapter, or the statutes of the State of Oklahoma; or

(3) the installation constitutes a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare.

(e) If a CNG stationary installation, equipment, or appurtenances not specifically covered by the rules in this chapter has been or will be installed, the Department of Labor shall apply and require any reasonable safety provisions to ensure the CNG installation is safe for CNG service. If the affected entity disagrees with the Department of Labor's determination, the entity may request a hearing. The installation shall not be placed in CNG operation until the Department of Labor has determined the installation is safe for CNG service.

(f) The Department of Labor shall review all applications within 21 business days of receipt of all required information and shall notify the applicant in writing of any deficiencies or whether the installation has been approved.

(g) Applications shall expire and be renewed as follows:

(1) When the Department of Labor notifies an applicant of an incomplete CNG Form AF-1, the applicant has 120 calendar days from the date of the notification letter to resubmit the corrected application or the application will expire. After 120 days, a new application shall be filed should the applicant wish to reactivate Department of Labor review of the proposed installation.

(2) If the applicant requests an extension of the 120-day time period in writing, postmarked or physically delivered to the Department of Labor before the expiration date, the application may be renewed for up to 90 days as determined by the Department of Labor.

(3) If the subject installation is not commenced, with permits pulled, within one year from the date of the Department of Labor's completed review, the applicant shall resubmit the application for the Department of Labor's review.

(h) The applicant shall notify the Department of Labor in writing when the installation is ready for inspection. If the Department of Labor does not physically inspect the facility within 30 calendar days of receipt of notice that the facility is ready for inspection, the applicant may operate the facility conditionally until the initial complete inspection is made. If any safety rule violations exist at the time of the initial inspection, the applicant may be required to cease CNG operation until the applicant corrects the violations.

(i) If the Department of Labor determines the completed installation varies materially from the application originally accepted, the applicant shall correct the variance and notify the Department of Labor of the correction of the variance or resubmit the application. The Department of Labor's review of such resubmitted application shall comply with the procedure described in this section.

(j) Pressure vessels shall be subject to inspections pursuant to OAC 380:25-3.

380:80-1-6. Design and construction of cylinders, pressure vessels, and vapor recovery receivers

(a) Fuel supply cylinders shall have a rated service pressure of not less than 3,000 psig at 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Cascade storage cylinders shall have a rated service pressure of not less than 3,600 psig at 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

(b) Field welding or brazing for the repair or alteration of a cylinder or ASME pressure vessel may only be done by repair companies holding the required Certificate of Authorization from ASME or The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, or in accordance with OAC 380:25-13-3.

380:80-1-7. Vehicle fueling connection

(a) A vehicle fueling connection shall provide for the reliable and secure connection of the fuel system cylinders to a source of compressed natural gas (CNG).

(b) The fueling connection shall be suitable for the pressure expected under normal conditions and corrosive conditions which might be encountered.

(c) The fueling connection shall prevent escape of gas when the connector is not properly engaged or becomes separated.

(d) The refueling connection on an engine fuel system shall be firmly supported, and shall:

(1) receive the fueling connector and accommodate the service pressure of the vehicle fuel system;

(2) incorporate a means to prevent the entry of dust, water, and other foreign material. If the means used is capable of sealing system pressure, it shall be capable of being depressurized before removal;

(3) have a different fueling connection for each pressure based vehicle fuel system.

(e) Any vehicle that will be fueled by an automatic dispenser shall be equipped with a fueling connection that complies with ANSI/AGA NGV1, Requirements for Natural Gas Vehicles (NGV) Refueling Connection Devices, Requirement 1-90.

380:80-1-8. Application for an exception

(a) A person may apply for an exception to the provisions of this chapter by filing a written application for an exception, along with supporting documentation, with the Department of Labor.

(b) The application shall contain the following:

(1) the section number of any applicable rules or codes;

(2) the type of relief desired, including the exception requested and any information which may assist the Department of Labor in comprehending the requested exception;

(3) a concise statement of facts which supports the applicant's request for the exception, such as the reason for the exception, the safety aspects of the exception, and the social and/or economic impact of the exception;

(4) for all stationary installations, a description of the acreage and/or address upon which the subject of the exception will be located. The description shall be in writing and shall include:

(A) a site drawing;

(B) sufficient identification of the site so that determination of property boundaries may be made;

(C) a plat from the applicable appraisal district indicating the ownership of the land; and

(D) the legal authority under which the applicant, if not the owner, is permitted occupancy.

(5) the name, business address, and telephone number of the applicant and of the authorized agent, if any;

(6) an original signature, in ink, by the party filing the application or by the authorized representative;

(7) a list of the names and addresses of all interested entities as defined in subsection (c) of this section.

(c) The applicant shall provide notice of the application for an exception as follows:

(1) The applicant shall send a copy of the written application and supporting documents by certified mail, return receipt requested, to all affected entities as specified in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection on the same date on which the form is filed with or sent to the Department of Labor. The applicant shall include a notice to the affected entities that any objection shall be filed with the Department of Labor within 30 calendar days of the date of postmark. The applicant shall file all return receipts with the Department of Labor as proof of notice.

(2) If an exception is requested on a stationary site, the affected entities to whom the applicant shall give notice shall include but not be limited to:

(A) persons and businesses owning or occupying property within a radius of 600 feet of the site;

(B) the city clerk or fire marshal, if the site is within municipal limits; and

(C) the Board of County Commissioners of the county where the site is located, if the site

is not within any municipal limits.

(3) If an exception is requested on a nonstationary site, affected entities to whom the applicant shall give notice include but are not limited to:

(A) the Oklahoma Department of Transportation; and

(B) all CNG loading and unloading facilities utilized by the applicant.

(4) the Department of Labor may require an applicant to give notice to persons in addition to those listed in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection if doing so will not prejudice the rights of any entity.

(d) Objections to the requested exception shall be in writing, filed with the Department of Labor within 30 calendar days of the postmark of the application, and shall be based on facts that tend to demonstrate that, as proposed, the exception would have an adverse effect on public health, safety, or welfare. The Department of Labor may decline to consider objections based solely on claims of diminished property or aesthetic values in the area.

(e) The Department of Labor shall review the application within 21 business days of receipt of the application. If the Department of Labor does not receive any objections from any affected entities as defined in subsection (c) of this section, the Commissioner of Labor may administratively grant the exception if the Commissioner of Labor determines that the installation, as proposed, does not adversely affect the health or safety of the public. The Department of Labor shall notify the applicant in writing after the end of the 30-day objection period and, if approved, the installation shall be commenced, with permits pulled, within one year from the date of approval and installed within two years from the date of approval. The Department of Labor shall also advise the applicant at the end of the objection period as to whether any objections were received and whether the applicant may proceed. If the Commissioner of Labor denies the exception, the Department of Labor shall notify the applicant in writing, outlining the reasons and any specific deficiencies. The applicant may modify the application to correct the deficiencies and resubmit the application or may request a hearing on the matter. To be granted a hearing, the applicant shall file a written request for hearing within 14 calendar days of receiving notice of the administrative denial.

(f) A hearing shall be held when the Department of Labor receives an objection as set out in subsection (d) of this section from any affected entity, or when the applicant requests one following an administrative denial. The Department of Labor shall mail the notice of hearing to the applicant and all objecting entities by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least 21 calendar days prior to the date of the hearing. Hearings will be held in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act and this chapter.

(g) After hearing, exceptions to this chapter may be granted by the Department of Labor if the Department of Labor finds that granting the exception for the installation, as proposed, will not adversely affect the safety of the public.

(h) A request for an exception shall expire if it is inactive for 90 calendar days after the date of the letter in which the applicant was notified by the Department of Labor of an incomplete request. The applicant may resubmit an exception request.

380:80-1-9. Report of CNG incident/accident

(a) In case of an incident involving single release of compressed natural gas (CNG) during or

following CNG transfer or during container transportation, or an accident at any location where CNG is the cause or is suspected to be the cause, the licensee owning, operating, or servicing the equipment or the installation shall notify the Department of Labor by telephone immediately after the licensee has knowledge of the incident or accident. Any loss of CNG which is less than 1.0% of the gross amount delivered, stored, or withdrawn need not be reported. Any individual reporting shall leave his or her name and telephone number where he or she can be reached for further information.

(b) The telephone notification required by this section shall be made to the Department of Labor's main telephone line and shall include the following information:

- (1) date and time of the incident or accident;
- (2) type of structure or equipment involved;
- (3) resident's or operator's name;
- (4) physical location;
- (5) number of injuries and/or fatalities;
- (6) whether fire, explosion, or gas leak has occurred; and
- (7) whether gas is leaking.

380:80-1-10. Removal from CNG service

(a) If the Department of Labor determines that any compressed natural gas (CNG) cylinder constitutes an immediate danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, the Department of Labor shall require the immediate removal of the CNG by a properly licensed company to the extent necessary to eliminate the danger. If the Department of Labor determines that any CNG appliance, equipment, or system constitutes an immediate danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, the Department of Labor shall require the immediate disconnection by a properly licensed company of such appliance, equipment, or system from the CNG cylinder it services.

(b) If the affected entity disagrees with the placement of a warning tag, or with the Department of Labor's findings in subsection (a) of this section, the entity may request an investigation into the matter. The Department of Labor shall notify such entity of its finding. If the entity disagrees, the entity may request or the Department of Labor on its own motion may call a hearing. Such installation shall be brought into compliance or removed from service until such time as the final decision is rendered. All hearings and deadlines shall comply with the Administrative Procedures Act.

380:80-1-11. Filling unapproved containers prohibited

No licensee shall introduce compressed natural gas (CNG) into any container if he has knowledge or notice that such CNG container or system was not installed in accordance with the statutes of the State of Oklahoma, and with the rules and regulations in effect at the time of installation. Exception: This section does not apply to motor fuel or mobile fuel containers and systems installed on vehicles licensed in states other than Oklahoma, provided, however, that no licensee shall be required to introduce CNG into any container and/or system that the licensee reasonably believes to be unsafe.

SUBCHAPTER 3. DISPENSING SYSTEMS

380:80-3-1. Applicability

This subchapter applies to the design, construction, installation, and operation of cylinders, pressure vessels, compression equipment, and associated equipment used for storage and dispensing of compressed natural gas (CNG) as an engine fuel in fleet and automatic dispensing operations.

380:80-3-2. Dispenser accuracy

Each retail compressed natural gas (CNG) dispenser shall comply with the applicable weights and measures requirements of the Department of Labor, relating to dispensing accuracy.

380:80-3-3. Codes incorporated by reference

In addition to other codes adopted in this chapter, the following codes are incorporated by reference:

- (1) NIST Handbook 44 Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices
- (2) NIST Handbook 130 Uniform Laws and Regulations in the Areas of Legal Metrology and Engine Fuel Quality

380:80-3-4. Retail dispensing of natural gas

All retail dispensing of natural gas used as a motor vehicle fuel from either fixed equipment or mobile refueling equipment, including vehicles, shall be operated and maintained in accordance with the applicable requirements of the codes adopted by this regulation.

380:80-3-5. Retail motor fuel dispensers inspection and testing

- (a) All retail motor fuel dispensers (RMFDs) shall be suitable for their intended use, properly installed accurate and maintained in that condition by their owner/operator.
- (b) All RMFDs shall be traceable to an active National Type Evaluation Program Certificate of Conformance prior to installation or use for commercial purposes.
- (c) All RMFDs shall be capable of displaying delivered quantity in units of mass or gasoline or diesel gallon equivalents for calibration purposes. All adjustments and calibrations of RMFDs shall be made utilizing mass or gasoline or diesel gallon equivalent measurement standards.
- (d) The Department of Labor shall be notified when any new or remanufactured RMFD is placed in service at a new or existing installation.
- (e) No owner/operator of any RMFD shall use the RMFD for the measurement of natural gas unless it has been proved in a manner acceptable to the Department of Labor and sealed as correct by a state inspector or person or persons authorized by the Department of Labor.
- (f) All RMFDs shall be proved and sealed as correct on an annual basis by either a state inspector or a person or persons authorized by the Department of Labor. Pursuant to these rules and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44, all RMFDs must be accurate to within minus 2%. Any RMFD found to be calibrated at minus 4% or greater shall be sealed until it complies with this regulation.
- (g) If any RMFD fails to comply with any of the provisions of this regulation, a state inspector

shall seal it in such a manner as to prohibit its use, and it shall remain sealed until it complies with all of the provisions of this regulation.

(h) When an RMFD is brought back into compliance with this regulation, it may only be placed back in service by a state inspector or a person or persons authorized by the Department of Labor.

380:80-3-6. Retail dispensers for compressed natural gas

(a) All CNG kept, offered, exposed for sale, or sold at retail as a vehicle fuel, shall be in units of volume (gallons or gallon equivalents).

(b) Each retail dispenser of CNG shall be labeled as "Compressed Natural Gas."

(c) All retail CNG dispensers shall be labeled with the gallon equivalent conversion factor in terms of pounds. The label shall be permanently and conspicuously displayed on the face of the dispenser and shall have the statement "1 CNG Gasoline Gallon Equivalent (GGE) is equal to 5.660 lbs of CNG".

(d) CNG shall be dispensed into vehicle fuel containers with working pressures of 3,000 PSI (20,684 kPa) or 3,600 PSI (24,821 kPa). The dispenser shall be labeled 3,000 PSI, or 3,600 PSI corresponding to the pressure of the CNG dispensed by each fueling hose.

(e) NFPA labeling requirements also apply. Refer to NFPA 52.

(f) CNG fueling nozzles for use with vehicles less than 10,000 lb (4,500kg) GVWR shall comply with ANSI/AGA/CGA NGV 1.

380:80-3-7. Retail dispensers for liquefied natural gas

(a) For the purposes of this regulation, liquefied natural gas shall be identified by the term "Liquefied Natural Gas" or "LNG."

(b) All LNG kept, offered, exposed for sale or sold at retail as a vehicle fuel shall be in units of volume (gallons or diesel gallon equivalents [DGE's]).

(c) Each retail dispenser of LNG shall be labeled as "Liquefied Natural Gas."

(d) All retail LNG dispensers shall be labeled with the gallon equivalent conversion factor in terms of pounds. The label shall be permanently and conspicuously displayed on the face of the dispenser and shall have the statement "1 LNG Diesel Gallon Equivalent (DGE) is equal to 6.06 lbs of LNG."

(e) LNG automotive fuel shall be labeled with its automotive fuel rating in accordance with 16 CFR Part 306 (e.g. LNG 95% Methane).

(f) NFPA Labeling requirements also apply. Refer to NFPA 52.

380:80-3-8. Product quality

(a) CNG shall meet the requirements of NFPA 52 for product quality and odorization.

(b) CNG and LNG shall have a minimum methane content of not less than 80%.

(c) The BTU content of natural gas gallon equivalents shall meet the following requirements:

(1) A CNG GGE shall contain a lower heating value of not less than 110,000 BTU's.

(2) An LNG DGE shall contain a lower heating value of not less than 124,000 BTU's.

(d) All equipment, including filters and strainers, used to prevent any foreign material, including compressor oil or water, from being dispensed into a vehicle container, shall be periodically

serviced and maintained.

(e) Any shipper of natural gas products to be used for retail motor fuel, who ships such product into the state of Oklahoma or ships natural gas products from one point within the state to another point within the state shall make records of such shipments available to the division upon request.

380:80-3-9. Inspection by Department of Labor

The Department of Labor shall have authority to have access to and inspect any equipment, including compression equipment and storage tanks, practices or methods used by or in association with any public access compressed natural gas fueling station or pump.

SUBCHAPTER 5. ALTERNATIVE FUELS PROGRAM

380:80-5-1. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to fulfill the mandate of Title 40 Section 142.10 by establishing rules in accordance with the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.

380:80-5-2. Definitions

The following words or terms, when used in this Subchapter, shall have the following meaning unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Administrator" means the Program Administrator and Recording Secretary of the Committee.

"Agency" means the Department of Labor.

"Alternative fuels" means fuels which result in comparably lower emissions of oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter or any combination thereof and includes CNG, LPG, LNG, methanol, ethanol, reformulated gasoline and electricity.

"Alternative fuels compression technician" means any person who installs, services, modifies, repairs or renovates fill stations.

"Alternative fuels equipment technician" means any person who installs, modifies, repairs or renovates equipment used in the conversion of any engines to engines fueled by alternative fuels and includes OEM vehicles either dedicated to operate on an alternative fuel or manufactured bi-fueled, i.e., capable of operating on gasoline or an alternative fuel.

"Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act" means O.S. Title 40, Section 142.1 through 142.16.

"Alternative fuels equipment trainee" means an individual who is employed by an Oklahoma licensed alternative fuels conversion company to assist an alternative fuels equipment technician and learn to properly convert motor vehicles to operate on alternative fuels and to service and maintain such vehicles.

"Capable of operating on an alternative fuel" means any motor vehicle converted or designed to operate on an alternative fuel.

"Charge station" means the physical device that provides a connection from a power source to an electric vehicle as defined by the Electric Power Research Institute, and the Society of

Automotive Engineers.

"CNG" means compressed natural gas.

"Committee" means the Committee of Alternative Fuels Technician Examiners.

"Electric vehicle technician" means any person who installs, modifies, repairs, performs maintenance on, motors, controllers, on-board power sources, or the drive systems of vehicles powered by electricity. This includes vehicles originally equipped as electric vehicles, vehicles converted from gliders, and vehicles converted from internal combustion engine vehicles.

"Engine" means the propulsion system of a motor vehicle. Nothing in this definition is meant to cover any stationary engine.

"Fill station" means the property which is directly related to the delivery of compressed natural gas and/or liquefied natural gas into the fuel tank of a motor vehicle propelled by such fuel including the compression equipment and storage vessels for such fuel at the point where the fuel is delivered.

"Glider" means a vehicle built without an engine or fuel system for the purpose of converting it to an electric vehicle.

"Liquefied petroleum gas vehicular fuel systems" means an object or objects mounted, installed, attached or otherwise placed upon or within a vehicle or vehicle trailer to supply or assist in the supply of liquefied petroleum gas as a fuel to an internal combustion engine or engines.

"LNG" means liquefied natural gas.

"LPG" means liquefied petroleum gas otherwise known as propane and/or propane autogas.

"Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled and every vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails; provided, however, the definition of "motor vehicle" herein shall not include implements of husbandry.

"NFPA" means the National Fire Protection Association.

"OEM" means original equipment manufacturers.

"Person" means individuals, corporations, partnerships, cooperatives, associations and governmental subdivisions.

"Trainee" means an individual who is employed by an Oklahoma licensed company to learn to properly engage in the activities regulated by this Chapter that can engage in any licensed category pursuant to this Chapter while under the direct supervision of an individual holding the appropriate license in the category of activity being performed.

"Work" means any procedure involved in the physical installation or servicing of all components used in the conversion of motor vehicles to operate on alternative fuels and the servicing of original equipment manufacturers vehicles that operate on alternative fuels, including:

(A) LPG and CNG components;

(i) tubing;

(ii) fittings;

(iii) valves;

(iv) gauges;

(v) brackets;

- (vi) fuel lines;
- (vii) cylinders;
- (viii) tanks; and
- (ix) electronic or electrical devices.
- (B) Electric vehicle components;
 - (i) traction battery packs or modules;
 - (ii) motor controllers;
 - (iii) subsystem controllers;
 - (iv) inverters;
 - (v) drive motors;
 - (vi) auxiliary components powered by high voltage; and
 - (vii) any high voltage circuits.

"Written" or "In writing" means a tangible or electronic record of a document, communication or representation, including handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photography, e-mail or other electronic format or record. A "signed" writing includes an electronic sound, symbol or process attached to or logically associated with a writing and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the writing.

380:80-5-3. Duties and responsibilities of the Committee of Alternative Fuels Technician Examiners

- (a) The Committee shall assist and advise the agency on all matters relating to the formulation of rules and standards in accordance with the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.
- (b) The Department of Labor or its designee shall administer the examination to applicants for certification as alternative fuels technicians provided that such examination is in accordance with the provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.

380:80-5-4. Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Revolving Fund

- (a) Funds derived from the "Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act" shall be deposited with the State Treasurer and credited to the "Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Revolving Fund".
- (b) The revolving fund shall be a continuing fund not subject to fiscal year limitations and shall be under the control and management of the Agency.
- (c) Expenditures from this fund shall be made pursuant to the purposes of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act and shall include, but not be limited to:
 - (1) Payment of administrative costs and other operational costs supporting program existence; and,
 - (2) Payment of the costs of programs designed to promote public awareness of the alternative fuels industry; and,
 - (3) Expenditures for the preparation and printing of regulations, bulletins or other documents and the furnishing of copies of such documents to those persons engaged in the alternative fuels industry or the public.

SUBCHAPTER 7. TESTING, CERTIFICATION, AND RECERTIFICATION

380:80-7-1. Applications for examinations, certification or renewal of certification

- (a) All applications for certification or renewal of certification shall be made in writing to the agency on forms provided, if necessary, by the agency.
- (b) All applications for examination shall be made to a testing facility authorized by the Department of Labor.
- (c) All applications shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee as set forth in OAC 380:80-7-4.

380:80-7-2. Contents of application

The application shall be verified, and shall contain the following information, together with any additional information that the agency may require:

- (1) Name of the applicant;
- (2) Mailing Address;
- (3) Address of all locations that the applicant proposes to engage in the installation or modifications of vehicles using an alternative fuel; and
- (4) The type of service, set forth specifically, which the applicant intends to perform and the type of permit that the applicant seeks to secure, such as LPG, CNG, LNG, EV or other alternative fuel.

380:80-7-3. Certificate required by agency

The mere filing of an application for a certificate does not of itself authorize the engaging in any of the installations or modifications of any equipment listed in the definition of "Work" in OAC 380:80-5-2.

380:80-7-4. Fees

- (a) The fee schedule for the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act is as follows:
 - (1) Alternative fuels technician examination - \$50;
 - (2) Alternative fuels technician certificate - \$50;
 - (3) Company, partnership, or corporation - \$100;
 - (4) Training program certification (one-time) - \$500;
 - (5) Alternative fuels installation certification per location - \$1,000;
 - (6) Certificate renewal (if made within 30 days after expiration):
 - (A) Alternative fuels technician certificate - \$50;
 - (B) Company, partnership, or corporation - \$100;
 - (C) Alternative fuels installation certification - \$1,000 per location;
 - (7) Penalty for late certification renewal - \$10.
- (b) Form of payment from non-governmental entities and general public.
 - (1) Payment may be only in the form of:
 - (A) Certified funds;
 - (B) Business check;
 - (C) Personal check;
 - (D) Money order;
 - (E) Cashier's check; or

- (F) Credit or debit card.
- (2) Unguaranteed checks and 2-party checks shall not be accepted.
- (3) Payment refunds. All payments received are nonrefundable.

380:80-7-5. Processing and handling of applications and examinations

(a) Applicants for a certificate will first apply for an examination directly to a Department of Labor authorized testing center. Upon passing the appropriate exam, applicants may apply to the Department of Labor for a certificate.

(b) Examinations shall be administered in the following manner:

- (1) Questions for an examination shall be selected from appropriate sources deemed applicable by the committee.
- (2) Questions shall be multiple choice. The format of examination questions shall be varied and include multiple choice and true/false.
- (3) Prior to being put into the reservoir, the questions shall be reviewed by the committee.
- (4) For each examination, a total of 75 questions shall be drawn from the reservoir.
- (5) Applicants testing during a scheduled examination session will not be given identical versions of the examination.
- (6) Examinations for certification as alternative fuels technician shall be uniform and practical in nature as determined by the committee for alternative fuels technician certification and shall be sufficiently strict to test the qualifications and fitness of the applicants for certification.
- (7) An oral examination may be administered by prior arrangement.
- (8) A minimum score of eighty percent (80%) correct shall be a passing grade for all examinations.
- (9) Any applicant initially failing to pass the examination shall not be permitted to take another examination for a period of thirty (30) days. Any applicant subsequently failing to pass the examination shall not be permitted to take another examination for a period of thirty (30) days.
- (10) All applicants can petition the agency if they feel the agency's grade was incorrect. An applicant may petition the agency if the applicant disagrees with his or her examination grade issued by the agency.
- (11) All decisions of the committee are final, subject to the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.
- (12) Applicants that pass the examination and are notified by the Department of Labor of such must make arrangements for certification within ninety (90) days of such notification.
- (13) If such applicant has not been certified within one year of notification under OAC 380:80-7-5(b)(12), the applicant must retest prior to their certification.
- (14) The agency shall enforce the provisions of this section.

(c) Applicants for an alternative fuels trainee certificate shall submit an alternative fuels trainee certificate application directly to the Department of Labor.

380:80-7-6. Certificate qualification and transfer or loan of certificate

(a) The Agency issues a certificate as:

(1) An alternative fuels equipment technician to any person who has been certified by the Agency as either having successfully passed the appropriate examination or having a valid license or certificate issued by another governmental entity with licensing or certification requirements similar to those provided in the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act. Alternative fuels equipment technician certifications are issued for the following alternative fuels, each with a separate certification:

- (A) Compressed natural gas equipment technician;
- (B) Liquefied natural gas equipment technician;
- (C) Liquefied petroleum gas equipment technician;
- (D) Electric vehicle equipment technician;
- (E) Hydrogen alternative fuel equipment technician; and
- (F) Liquid alternative fuels, not derived from natural gas, equipment technician.

(2) An alternative fuels compression technician to any person who has been certified by the Agency as either having successfully passed the appropriate examination or having a valid license or certificate issued by another governmental entity with licensing or certification requirements similar to those provided in the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.

(A) Level 1 (Operator) Alternative fuels compression technician certifications are issued for the following alternative fuels, each with a separate certification:

- (i) Compressed natural gas compression technician;
- (ii) Liquefied natural gas compression technician;
- (iii) Liquefied petroleum gas compression technician;
- (iv) Electric vehicle charge station technician;
- (v) Hydrogen compression technician; and
- (vi) Liquid alternative fuels, not derived from natural gas, compression technician.

(B) The training and examination requirements for a Level 1 (Operator) certification shall include, but not be limited to, completing a Level 1 operator training course conducted by an approved training facility with an approved training program, passing an approved Level 1 written exam, and passing an approved Level 1 skills test.

(C) Level 1 licensees shall be permitted to perform routine maintenance upon fill stations, per the fill station manufacturer or component manufacturer's routine maintenance guidelines. Level 1 licensees shall also be permitted to conduct routine safety inspections of fill stations per the fill station manufacturer or component manufacturer's safety inspection guidelines.

(D) Level 2 (Mechanic) Alternative fuels compression technician certifications are issued for the following alternative fuels, each with a separate certification:

- (i) Compressed natural gas compression technician;
- (ii) Liquefied natural gas compression technician;
- (iii) Liquefied petroleum gas compression technician;
- (iv) Electric vehicle charge station technician;
- (v) Hydrogen compression technician; and
- (vi) Liquid alternative fuels, not derived from natural gas, compression technician.

(E) The experience, training, and examination requirements for a Level 2 (Mechanic) certification shall include, but not be limited to:

- (i) Possessing at least three total years of experience consisting of:
 - (I) One year of documentable experience with an associate's degree in Natural Gas Compression; or
 - (II) One year of documentable experience with approved industry certifications as approved by the Committee; or
 - (III) Three years of documentable experience without the aforementioned education or industry certification. This requires a signed affidavit from current and/or former employer(s) to verify experience.
- (ii) Passing an approved Level 2 written exam.
- (iii) Passing an approved Level 2 skills test.
- (F) Level 2 licensees may perform all duties necessary to install, repair, replace, service, inspect, modify, and/or maintain a fill station. Nothing in these rules shall entitle a licensee to perform work without all licenses required by law.
- (b) The agency shall have the authority to determine the validity of a certificate issued by another governmental entity.
- (c) The agency shall assess the required certification fee and ascertain that an applicant has also complied with the provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.
- (d) In the case of a company, partnership, or corporation engaged in the business of installing, servicing, repairing, modifying or renovating equipment used in the conversion of engines to engines fueled by alternative fuels, a separate certificate shall be issued by the agency to that individual company, partnership, or corporation. The certificate is for the purpose of recognizing that the company, partnership, or corporation is an authorized alternative fuels business and employs state-certified alternative fuels technicians.
- (e) Any violation by a certified alternative fuels equipment or compression technician shall be deemed a violation by the certified company, partnership or corporation employing such certified technician.
- (f) The agency shall issue an alternative fuels equipment installation certification to any public entity or private company, partnership or corporation that operates commercial, private or public fleets of vehicles and employs ten (10) or more auto service technicians per location. The certification shall be based on the ability of the applicant to provide their own alternative fuels technician training program, which shall be certified by the committee. This certification applies only to the conversion or service of vehicles owned or operated by such public entity or private company, partnership or corporation.
- (g) All alternative fuels technician equipment or compression certificates shall be non-transferable.
- (h) It shall be unlawful for any person certified pursuant to the provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act to loan or allow the use of such certificate by any other person.
- (i) A certificate which has been expired for more than two (2) years shall not be renewed. A valid certificate may be obtained by successful completion of the appropriate examination and/or certification and other licensure requirements.

380:80-7-7. Alternative fuels trainees

- (a) An alternative fuels trainee shall be employed by a licensed Oklahoma alternative fuels conversion company.
- (b) A trainee shall work under the direct supervision of a licensed alternative fuels equipment technician.
- (c) There shall be no more than two (2) alternative fuels trainees per licensed alternative fuels equipment technician at any licensed Oklahoma alternative fuels conversion company.
- (d) An individual that holds a trainee license can engage in any licensed category pursuant to this Chapter while under the direct supervision of an individual holding the appropriate license in the category of activity being performed.
- (e) An alternative fuels trainee must submit a trainee application to the Department of Labor within fifteen (15) business days of being hired by a licensed alternative fuels conversion company.

380:80-7-8. Change of address of holder of certificate or registration

Any holder of a certificate or registration issued in accordance with the provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act shall notify the agency in writing of any change in such holders address no later than thirty (30) days of such change.

380:80-7-9. Insurance requirements

A certificate shall not be issued to any applicant unless and until the agency has received proof of insurance as required by this section.

- (1) Alternative fuels conversion companies, partnerships, or corporations engaged in the installation, modification, repair, maintenance, or renovation of alternative fuel equipment are required to have on file with the agency proof of certificate holders liability insurance coverage, with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) general liability, in full force and effect covering the plant, garage, equipment and motor vehicles used in such business. Proof of self insurance by governmental entities will also be accepted.
- (2) Insurance under this section shall be kept and remain in force during the lifetime of the certification issued hereunder. An insurance certificate or certificates showing that the required insurance coverage is in force must be filed with the agency.
- (3) Such insurance coverage will not be canceled or terminated unless written notice of such cancellation or termination is given to the agency thirty (30) days prior to cancellation date.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall be deemed or construed to require product liability insurance coverage.
- (5) If in the event insurance is canceled and the agency is not notified within the thirty (30) day period or not provided with proof of insurance renewal, the agency may revoke or suspend the certificate.

380:80-7-10. Guidelines for certificate renewal

- (a) Each licensee's certificate(s) issued under the agency shall expire on the last day of the licensee's birth month each year.
- (b) A late fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) will be charged thirty (30) days after the last day of the licensee's birth month. At such time re-testing will be required in order to be certified.

- (c) The certification(s) of a licensee renewing his or her certification(s) after September 1, 2015 shall expire on the last day of the licensee's next birth month. The certification fee(s) shall be prorated such that the licensee will pay 1/12 of the annual certification fee(s) for each month from September 2015 up to and including the month of the licensee's birth. The licensee's certification(s) will thereafter expire annually on the last day of the licensee's birth month.
- (d) At the time of recertification of a company, partnership, or corporation, proof of insurance coverage will be required as part of the process.
- (e) All applications for examination for the renewal of certification shall be made in writing to the agency on forms provided, if necessary, by the agency.
- (f) All applications shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee as set forth in section 380:80-7-4.

SUBCHAPTER 9. STANDARDS FOR ALTERNATIVE FUELS TECHNICIANS – CONVERSION AND COMPRESSION

380:80-9-1. Work of alternative fuels technician by non-certified person

- (a) From and after September 1, 1991, it shall be unlawful for any person to perform the work or offer, by advertisement or otherwise, to perform the work of an alternative fuels technician until such person is certified as an alternative fuels technician by the agency. All advertisements to perform the work of an alternative fuels conversion company must display the company's license number.
- (b) Nothing in this Chapter shall prevent a non-certified person from converting the engine of a farm tractor, as defined in s 1-118 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, to an engine fueled by alternative fuels, as long as such farm tractor is not operated on the roads and highways of this state.
- (c) Activities directly related to normal, vehicle maintenance and service are exempt from the definition of work. It is not the intent of this section to prevent any individual, corporation, company from servicing, repairing or maintaining general systems not directly related to the alternative fuel delivery system.
- (d) Non-certified individuals participating in an agency authorized training program, under the guidance of a state certified instructor, are exempt from the certification requirement during the training period.

380:80-9-2. Standards for equipment installation and inspection

- (a) The standards for the equipment installation and inspection of liquefied petroleum gas vehicular fuel systems adopted by NFPA are published in its pamphlet No. 58 and are adopted as the standards for this state.
- (b) The standards for the equipment installation and inspection of compressed natural gas and liquid natural gas vehicular fuel systems adopted by NFPA are published in its pamphlet No. 52 and are adopted as the standards for this state.

380:80-9-3. Decals and conversion reporting procedure

- (a) After an alternative fuel conversion or modification of equipment is completed for any motor

vehicle, the technician shall affix a blue CNG diamond, black propane diamond or green EV diamond, whichever is applicable, according to NFPA pamphlet No. 52.

(b) No certified technician shall install, service, repair or modify any motor vehicle, capable of operating on an alternative fuel that does not have the required decals.

(c) Converted alternative fueled vehicles shall have placed on the vehicle, decals & labels required by NFPA and the following:

(1) The date of installation;

(2) The name of the installing technician; and,

(3) State of Oklahoma Certification number of the alternative fuels equipment technician.

(4) The expiration date of time sensitive parts and components used in the conversion.

(5) Converted vehicle information: year, make, model, and vehicle identification number (VIN).

(d) The following reporting procedure must be performed after each vehicle conversion:

(1) On forms, provided by the Administrator, each vehicle converted shall be reported to the Administrator by the alternative fuels technician. Information deemed necessary by the agency shall be included on the form. These forms must be sent to the Administrator no later than ten (10) days after the completion of the conversion. Photocopying of these forms is permissible.

(2) The penalty for failure to comply with OAC 380:80-9-3(d)(1) shall be determined by the Agency.

SUBCHAPTER 11. VIOLATIONS

380:80-11-1. Alternative Fuels Technician Examiners; complaints, investigations, false or fraudulent representation, suspension or revocation of certificate

(a) The Commissioner of Labor or designee may suspend or revoke any license, certificate or registration for cause upon recommendation of the Committee of Alternative Fuels Technician Examiners and shall comply with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

(b) The Commissioner of Labor or designee may, upon the motion of the Commissioner or designee, and shall, upon written complaint filed by any person, investigate the business transactions of any certified alternative fuels equipment or compression technician or electric vehicle technician. The results of the investigation may be presented to the Committee and the Committee may recommend suspension or revocation of the license, certificate, or registration.

(c) The Commissioner of Labor or designee shall suspend or revoke any certificate or registration obtained by false or fraudulent representation.

(d) The Commissioner of Labor or designee shall also suspend or revoke any certificate or registration for any of the following reasons:

(1) Making a material misstatement in the application for a certificate or registration, or the renewal of a certificate or registration;

(2) Loaning or illegally using a certificate;

(3) Demonstrating incompetence to act as an alternative fuels equipment or compression technician;

(4) Violating any provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act, or any

rule or order prescribed by the agency; or

(5) Willfully failing to perform normal business obligations without justifiable cause.

(e) The General Counsel of the Agency may elect to delegate the investigation to a person or persons of his choice.

(f) Investigations are to be secret until presented to the Committee for recommendations.

(g) Upon the review of the facts of the investigation, the Committee may determine whether or not to hear a case.

(h) The Committee and its activities shall comply with the Administrative Procedures Act.

(i) Any person whose Alternative Fuels Equipment or Compression Technician Certificate has been revoked by the Commissioner of Labor or designee may apply for a new certificate one (1) year from the date of such revocation.

380:80-11-2. Violations; criminal penalties

(a) Any person convicted of violating any provision of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) The continued violation of any provision of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act during each day shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

(c) Upon conviction thereof the person shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one (1) year, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or by both such fine and imprisonment for each offense.

(d) If the Commissioner of Labor or designee makes a determination of a violation, it may request the appropriate district attorney to prosecute such violation and seek an injunction against such practice.

380:80-11-3. Violations to public safety

(a) Pursuant to the authority of 47 O.S. §12-101 A. 1., 47 O.S. §13-101, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate on any highway:

(1) A vehicle that has not been converted according to, or does not meet the standards stated in section 380:80-9-2;

(2) An OEM alternative fueled vehicle that fails the manufacturer's standards.

(b) An alternative fuels technician shall notify the Administrator within three (3) business days of any instance where the driver and/or owner of a vehicle that was found unsafe refused to correct safety issues with a vehicle.

380:80-11-4. Violations; civil penalties; determination of penalty amount; surrender of certificate in lieu of fine

(a) Any person who has been determined by the Commissioner of Labor or designee to have violated any provision of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certificate Act or any rule or order issued pursuant to the provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act may be liable for a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each day that said violation occurs.

(b) The maximum civil penalty shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for any related series of violations.

(c) The amount of the penalty shall be assessed by the Commissioner of Labor or designee pursuant to the provisions of OAC 380:80-11-1, after notice and hearing.

(d) In determining the amount of the penalty, the Commissioner of Labor or designee shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of the nature, circumstances, and gravity of the violation and, with respect to the person or persons found to have committed the violation, the degree of culpability and any show of good faith in attempting to achieve compliance with the provisions of the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Act.

(e) All monies collected from such civil penalties shall be deposited with the State Treasurer of Oklahoma and placed in the Alternative Fuels Technician Certification Revolving Fund.

(f) Any certificate holder may elect to surrender his certificate in lieu of said fine but shall be forever barred from obtaining a reissuance of said certificate.