

Gas Standards and Safety

Information Sheet

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GAS INSTALLATION WITH BURIED GAS PIPES WITHIN PUBLIC LAND

INTRODUCTION

This information has been developed as a guide to assist you if you are considering installing buried consumer gas piping and Type A gas appliances within public land – for example, where gas heating is provided for patrons who assemble in outdoor entertaining and dining areas or similar.

This is regarded as a gas installation under the *Gas Act 2000* and will require acceptance by the Director of Gas Safety (Director) before commencing installation.

SCOPE

This guide sets out the minimum additional requirements to AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas Installations* that need to be met when constructing gas installations within public land.

GAS INSTALLATIONS WITHIN PUBLIC LAND; MEANS

A complex gas installation –

- a) designed and installed in compliance with AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas Installation* and the requirements of the Director, and
- b) which has a supply pressure up to 7kPa, and
- c) installed in public land which adjoins the land where the customers' gas installation is located and has buried gas piping

PUBLIC LAND; MEANS

Land owned by –

- a) the crown; or
- b) an instrumentality of the crown; or
- c) a council or local government body.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The gas installation shall comply with the relevant provisions of the *Gas Act 2000* and the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*.

Gas installations within public land are not a standard gas installation. The public land is not associated with the premises, therefore the gas installation is a complex gas installation. An application under Section 77 of the *Gas Act 2000* will need to be made to the Director. The complex gas installation must be accepted by the Director before it is commissioned.

PLANNING

When proposing a gas installation within public land, you as the applicant should contact all statutory and local authorities and all the relevant infrastructure assets owners (e.g. road authorities, local councils, water and communications authorities).

You should contact Dial Before You Dig by phone on 1100 or www.1100.com.au before proceeding with any excavation work on public land. Assets registered with this service will then be identified and the asset owners will be contacted to provide information about their infrastructure before excavating. You must still exercise care however, as not all asset owners are registered with this service.

Authorisations and permits to work should be gained from the asset owners and land owners prior to working on the public land. Any authorisations or permits to work must be submitted to the Director as part of the complex gas installation application for acceptance.

PRESCRIBED STANDARDS

The principle technical standard for the design, installation, testing and commissioning a gas installations and gas appliances is AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas installations*.

DESIGN INSTALLATION

You should submit all of the requested information in the application to the Director for acceptance. Due consideration must be given to the safety of the general public when installing, testing and commissioning the gas installation.

APPLIANCES

All gas appliances must be approved and safety-certified for use by an external authority approved by the Director.

PIPING ALIGNMENT

Where possible consumer piping that is laid in public should be installed at 90° to the customers building alignment and continue in a straight line from the exit point of the building to the termination point.

DEPTH OF COVER

The depth of cover of consumer piping laid in public land shall be no less than the requirements in AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas Installations*. Where consumer piping laid in public land can't meet the minimum depths of cover, suitable physical protection for the piping should be designed and installed. The design for this additional protection should be submitted to the Director with the application for acceptance.

Other authorities will require separation distances to be maintained from their infrastructure in accordance with relevant standards and municipal codes. These distances must be adhered to during installation. Where it is found that separation distances cannot be met the asset owner should be consulted prior to the consumer piping being installed.

OPERATING PRESSURE

The operating pressure of consumer piping laid in public land shall not be greater than 7kPa

PLANS

All details of the installation should be marked up on the gas installation site plan including a trench elevation where consumer piping is laid underground. Details should be in accordance with the requirements of the application for acceptance and should include pipe materials, pipe size, operating pressure, piping alignment, pipe lengths, and depth of cover, separation distances from other infrastructure, addition protection, valving and components.

Upon completion of the installation, you should mark up the plan of the complex gas installation and provide it to the Director and the owner of the installation. If requested, site plans may also need to be submitted to local authorities. The owner of the complex gas installation should maintain a durable copy of the plan for the life of the installation and be able to provide a copy to anyone who requests to perform excavations within the vicinity of the underground piping.

GAS INSTALLATION SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Depending on the complexity and risk posed by the complex gas installation, the Director may impose conditions on a gas installation acceptance, in line with Section 77 of the Gas Act 2000. This may involve the development and implementation of a safety management system for the gas installation that details the risk reduction measures to be undertaken by the gas installation owner.

The risk reduction measures detailed within the gas installation safety management system must demonstrate to the Director that the gas installation, including appliances and associated equipment, cannot cause any risk to the public of injury or fatality.

Refer to Gas Standards and Safety's *Guidelines for the Development and Submission of Gas Installation Safety Management Systems* (GN109) for further information.

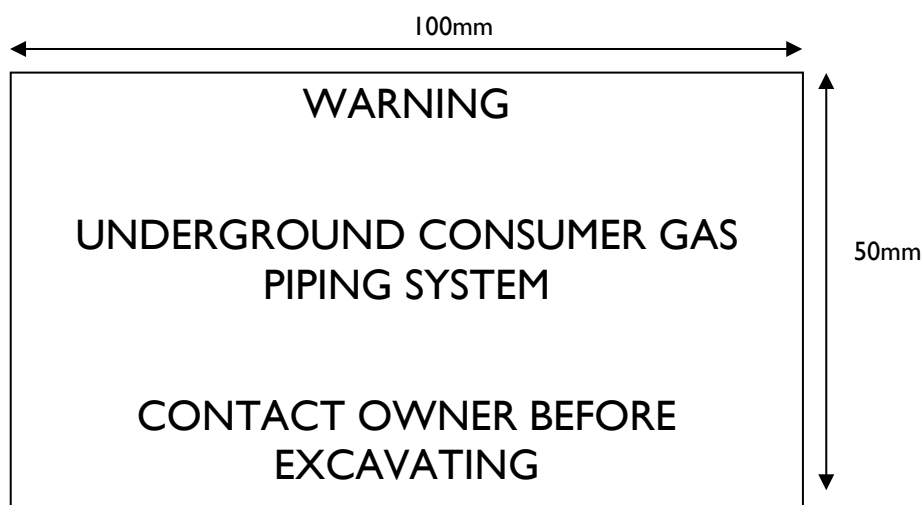
UNDERGROUND IDENTIFICATION

Consumer piping laid in public land should be clearly identifiable. Detectable marker tape should be installed approximately 150 mm above all trenched underground consumer piping in public land.

ABOVEGROUND IDENTIFICATION

For underground consumer piping a permanent durable warning sign measuring no less than 10cm x 5cm is to be affixed above the point where the consumer piping exits the property. An additional marker should be installed above the final termination point or riser in the public land. Additional markers of the same size may be required at strategic intervals not more than 6 metres apart or changes in direction above the consumer piping as deemed necessary. Aboveground piping shall be identified as per the requirements of AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas Installations*.

Details to be provided on the aboveground marker for underground piping are pictured below.



Aboveground Marker

TESTING

Gas installations shall be tested in accordance with AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas Installations*.

COMMISSIONING

All commissioning shall be conducted in accordance with the AS/NZS 5601.1 *Gas Installations*. Due consideration must be given to the safety of the general public when commissioning the gas installation.

LICENSED GAS FITTING WORK

All work is to be performed by a licensed gas practitioner in accordance with the determinations of the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*.

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