

### Walkways and Guard Rails

#### PURPOSE

This bulletin has been jointly developed by Municipal Affairs and the Safety Codes Council to inform designers, vendors, builders, contractors and owners of the minimum requirements to ensure safe installation of gas appliances in Alberta.

#### DISCUSSION

Under the **Safety Codes Act** it is the responsibility of the owner, vendor, contractor, and user to ensure that the installation and operation of equipment comply with the *Act* and are in accordance with the **CSA-B149.1 Natural gas and propane installation code**. The installation of gas appliances and equipment shall comply with the requirements listed below.

#### CODE REFERENCES

CSA B149.1 *Natural gas and propane installation code* (CSA B149.1) identifies the requirements for the installation of gas fired appliances and that the installation also provides adequate access to the appliance for servicing.

#### 4.14.6 When an appliance is installed on the roof

- (a) the appliance shall be installed on a well-drained surface. When water stands on the roof, either at the appliance or in the passageways to the appliance, or when the roof is sloped or has a water seal, a suitable antiskid walkway shall be provided. Such a walkway shall be located adjacent to the appliance and control panels, and when the appliance is located on a sloped roof, the walkway shall extend from the appliance to the point of access and be equipped with guardrails so that the appliance can be safely accessed and serviced;

#### APPLICATION

The installation of gas fired appliances on rooftops of buildings has created challenges to industry and safety codes officers in applying the current gas code to ensure safe access to appliances when installed on a sloped roof.

#### INTERPRETATION

- Be advised that it is reasonable to consider the degrees of a roofs slope within the application of CSA B149.1 clause 4.14.6(a)
- An appliance installed on the roof that has a slope equal to or greater than 4° (7%, ~1 in 12), will fall within the scope of CSA B149.1 clause 4.14.6(a) and require a suitable antiskid walkway and guardrails.
- All other code requirements shall be required to ensure proper accessibility of rooftop appliances are maintained for installing, servicing, and inspection, such as, but not limited to:
  - CSA B149.1 clause 4.14 Accessibility, and
  - CSA B149.1 clause 6.25 Rooftop gas piping systems

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Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by  
the Gas Administrator

[Original Signed]  
Sidney Manning

The logo for the province of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized, cursive font with a small blue square at the end of the word.