




Orange County Fire Authority Community Risk Reduction INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN 09-99

Subject: Outdoor Exchange Stations for Portable Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Containers

The Orange County Fire Authority Planning and Development Services Section (OCFA P&D) will apply the following requirements to LPG outdoor exchange stations. These installations are generally located at retail occupancies and allow customers to exchange used LPG cylinders for reconditioned, full ones.

1. City/County planning department approval of the proposed site must be verified by OCFA plan review staff.
2. LPG exchange stations shall be located at least 10 feet from building doorways. CFC Table 6109.12
3. Combustible materials shall be kept at least 10 feet from containers. CFC Table 6109.12
4. When exposed to potential vehicular damage, LP-gas containers shall be protected. CFC 312 and 6107.4.
5. Containers shall be located to minimize exposure to heat and physical damage and shall be stored in a covered and locked enclosure designed to prevent tampering. CFC 6109.2 and 6109.13
6. Used, empty containers shall be considered to be full when calculating the maximum quantity allowed. CFC 6109.5
7. Screw-on type caps or collars that are securely in place shall protect valves on all containers stored. CFC 6109.8
8. Approved NFPA 704 warning signs,  and "NO SMOKING" shall be posted in accordance with and CFC 6101.2.
9. The plan shall show compliance with all applicable CFC sections and include the size and type of rack, size and quantity of bottles stored, and their location relative to exits, unprotected openings, roadways, and storage of other sales materials.
10. An operational permit is required for the storage and use of LP-gas. CFC 6101.2 and Section 105.6.

Questions regarding specific applications should be addressed to OCFA P&D staff.