

# Pinellas County Building Division

## Plumbing & Mechanical Section



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**To: All Plumbing/Fuel Gas Contractors and Other Interested Parties**  
From: David Howdeshell, Plumbing & Mechanical Section Chief  
Date: February 9, 2011  
CC: Pinellas County BDRS Plumbing/Fuel Gas Inspectors  
RE: Fuel Gas Testing Certification Policy Change

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## **FUEL GAS CODE ADVISORY**

Pinellas County BDRS has reinstated a procedure that allows contractors to certify testing of piping on single appliance additions to operating gas systems, relocating of appliances and/or LPG containers.

Previously called the "Leak Letter," the procedure was created by a Local Technical Amendment at the PCCLB and was eliminated by adoption of the Florida Building Code 2001 in March 2002.

The procedure was recently reconsidered by and reviewing the current Fuel Gas Code it was determined that while the testing of additions to fuel gas systems is mandatory, the test is not required to be witnessed by our inspectors when testing is completed in compliance with FGC2007 sections 406.1 through 406.4.2. We will once again accept a testing certification from the contractor for these jobs.

The purpose of reinstating the procedure is to give the ability to have the gas system returned to service the same day as the rough-in piping is completed so that essential appliances such as water heaters and ranges would not be out of service for a day waiting for a pressure test inspection.

The procedure only applies to limited work descriptions and specific conditions that are detailed on the certification form. The form, titled "Fuel Gas Testing Certification" is available at <http://www.pinellascounty.org/build/> in the forms area.

We are confident through past experience that this procedure will help contain contractor costs and better serve our mutual customers. Please address any questions to me personally; my contact information is below.