ALABAMA LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS BOARD

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

RULE NO. & TITLE:

530-X-2-.12 "Checklist For Submitting Class A Permit Applications"

INTENDED ACTION: Repeal & Replace

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: To clarify existing code and increase efficiency for Class A Permit applicants.

<u>TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS</u>: A public hearing will be held July 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., at the AUM Center for Lifelong Learning, 75 TechnaCenter Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117.

All interested parties may present their views in writing to the Administrator of the Alabama Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board, P.O. Box 1742, Montgomery, AL 36102-1742, (334-430-7642), or via email at mark.nelson@lpgb.alabama.gov. Individuals may also submit their views at the public hearing.

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:

July 3, 2018 at the scheduled Public Hearing

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:

Mark Nelson, Administrator 777 S. Lawrence St., Suite 100 Montgomery, AL 36104

Telephone: 334-430-7642

Fax: 334-240-3255

Email: mark.nelson@lpgb.alabama.gov

Mark Nelson, Administrator Alabama Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board

530-X-2-.12 <u>Checklist For Submitting Class-A Permit Applications</u>.

- (1) No applicant(s) should purchase any equipment or begin construction on any facilities until his application has been approved by the Alabama LP-Gas Board and he has been so advised in writing by the Administrator.
- (a) All application forms shall be obtained from the Administrator by the prospective applicant(s) or his designated representative in person at the Board office in Montgomery.
- (b) All applications shall be filled out completely, including the required attachments, and shall not be considered by the Board until such time as the administrator deems that the application and attachments are completed.
- (c) Applications shall not be considered until recorded as received in the Board Office in Montgomery at least THIRTY (30) days prior to the Board's regular meeting. As THIRTY (30)days is the minimum time required to investigate the application and attachments, no waiver of the time limits shall be considered. This requirement does not apply to purchases of LP-Gas business where the business was previously approved and has a current permit by the LP-Gas Board.
- (d) When incorporated, submit a correct copy of the company's Articles of Incorporation.
- (e) Submit evidence of adequate supply of LP-gas in the form of a contract or a letter of intent issued by a supplier who is authorized to do business in this state signed by an officer or person authorized to make such contracts or letters to be effective for a period of TWELVE (12) months from the date of issuance of the permit.
 - (f) Submit audited financial statement.
- (g) Submit payment of initial application fee(s) in the amount of THREE (\$300) HUNDRED DOLLARS.
- (h) Submit within FIFTEEN (15) days of the application hearing date all new driver's motor vehicle record (MVR) for all company personnel who are required to have a commercial drivers license. The new driver's MVR must be dated no more than THIRTY (30) days before the hearing date and shall

be obtained from the drivers license agency in the state in which the commercial drivers license is issued.

- (i) New applicant(s) and all other persons required to appear before the Board shall be given at least SEVEN (7) days notice in writing by the Administrator.
- (2) All applicant(s) for LP-Cas Dealer Class A Permits shall comply with the following:
- (a) New applicant(s), shall appear before the Board at such time as their application is considered. Persons other than the person(s) whose signature appears on the application may be required to appear before the Board in consideration of the application.
- (b) Any person may testify at Board hearings on pending applications. Persons desiring to testify should notify the Board Administrator in writing at least TWENTY-FOUR (24) hours prior to the Board meeting in which the application is to be heard.
- (c) New applicant(s), as well as other persons required to appear before the Board, shall be expected to explain and support their application and experience in any manner which members of the Board deem relevant to carry out their responsibility for the health and safety of the public.
- (d) New applicant(s) shall submit a personal audited financial statement completed in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices or the purchasing company may submit the company's last published certified annual report or an audited financial statement.
- 1. Audited financial statements shall be prepared by and attested to by a certified or registered public accountant and shall be dated within FORTY-FIVE (45) days of the filing of the application for a new business or in the case of a purchase of an existing LP-Gas business.
- 2. New applicant(s) shall provide evidence of financial responsibility to the Board in the amount of cash or cash equivalent of at least SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$750,000). When the purchase of an existing business occurs, the board will determine if equity in the assets of the company to be purchased can be used as all or part of meeting the cash or the cash equivalent required by this paragraph.
- 3. The evidence of financial responsibility shall be submitted in the form of an irrevocable letter of credit

from a bona fide lending institution, or cash, or cash
equivalent.

- (e) Application, attachments and Board hearings shall attempt to resolve the question of the applicants' qualifications to enter the retail LP-gas business. Factors to be considered are as follows:
- 1. The applicant's experience in and knowledge of the LP-gas industry.
- 2. The applicant's knowledge, technical ability, and adherence to safety standards adopted by the LP-Gas Board.
 - 3. The applicant's proposed facilities and equipment.
- 4. Other factors the Board may deem important and relevant in qualifying persons as LP-gas dealers.
- f. All decisions of the Board are rendered in an open meeting. The Administrator will then notify the new applicant(s) of the Board's decision by certified mail, return receipt requested, within a period of SEVEN (7) days.
- (3) Following approval of application the applicant shall comply with the following:
- (a) New applicant shall have a period of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) days in which to comply with the requirements of the application for a permit and to be actively engaged in the retail LP-gas business. Otherwise, the approval of the application will become null and void and the applicant(s) will forfeit the THREE (\$300) HUNDRED DOLLARS initial application fee.
- (b) Submit plans and install the minimum storage of THIRTY THOUSAND (30,000) water gallon capacity (WGC) and secure the Administrator's approval of the bulk storage facilities and other operational equipment.
- (c) Execute and file with the Board a surety in cash in the amount of one hundred (\$100) dollars and submit evidence of insurance on the forms provided by the Board.
- (d) New applicant(s) must have a designated serviceman who will be required to pass an initial oral or written examination to the Board's satisfaction. New applicant(s) also must have a designated fuel truck driver who will be required to pass an oral or written operator's

examination to the Board's satisfaction. These examinations will be given under the direction of the Administrator at a designated time and place in the presence of a Board inspector.

- (e) The Administrator shall not issue any permit until he is satisfied that all requirements in the location and in type of facilities, equipment, bond and insurance coverage and personnel qualifications have been fully met.
- (f) The Administrator shall furnish a copy of this check list to each applicant(s).
- (4) Class A permit holder(s) purchasing LP-Gas business (s) in Alabama.
- (a) Owners of LP-Gas business that have a current Class A permit shall meet the applicable requirements listed in sections 1, 2, and 3 of this regulation.
- 1. The new owner shall notify the administrator of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board within TEN (10) WORK DAYS of the acquisition of the business.
- 2. If a new permit is required, the new owner will be given SIXTY (60) DAYS from the date of the purchase of the business to meet the applicable requirements. A properly completed application for a Class A permit, insurance certificate, surety in cash in the amount of ONE HUNDRED (\$100) DOLLARS, applicable permit fees and a letter of intent from an authorized supplier shall be filed and remitted to the board administrator within TEN (10) WORK DAYS of the date of purchase or before operation of the LP-Gas business.
- 3. When a new permit is required and all of the requirements have been met, the administrator may issue a temporary authorization to operate the business. The board will consider the permit at its next regular board meeting. Failure of the new owner to complete all of the required items to obtain a new permit within the SIXTY (60) DAY period may cause the new owner to cease and desist all operations of the business.
- (5) Non-Permit holder(s) purchasing LP-Gas business(s) in Alabama:
- (a) None-permit holders shall comply with Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this regulation before the none-permit holder(s) begin operation of the business.

- (6) Procedures for applicant(s) who have had their applications denied:
- (a) Applicant(s) whose application has been denied may resubmit a new application in accordance with procedures outlined in this check list. The application will be heard as a new application at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting after filing.
- (b) In cases of an extreme emergency the applicant(s) may submit in writing to the Administrator a request for a special meeting of the Board. Special meetings to reconsider an application shall only be called with the approval of the Board Chairman. If the request is granted, the applicant(s) must bear all expenses of the special meeting in which their application is to be reconsidered and shall make a deposit with the Administrator in the amount of SIX (\$600) HUNDRED DOLLARS by certified check which must be received in the Board office SEVEN (7) days prior to the meeting date. If the Administrator determines that there is a balance due for the meeting expenses the balance due shall be payable prior to the meeting being called to order by the Chairman. If there is an overpayment of meeting expenses, the Administrator will initiate a refund in accordance with State procedures.

Author: Leonard Pakruda, Mark Nelson Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-17-105. History: Filed September 13, 1982. Adopted January 7, 1993. Amended: Filed February 6, 1997; effective March 13, 1997. Amended: Filed October 13, 2011; effective November 17, 2011.

NEW

530-X-2-.12 CLASS A PERMIT APPLICANTS - SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- (1) Class A permit applicants must comply with all requirements of *Alabama Administrative Code 530-X-2-.10 Time Limits For Submitting LP-Gas Permit Applications*.
- (2) New Class A permit applicants not holding another Class A permit in Alabama shall not begin any business activities until their permit is approved by the board and advised in writing by the Administrator. Business activities include, but are not limited to, advertising, construction, sales, or deliveries.
- (3) Class A permit applicants must submit evidence of financial responsibility of at least SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$ 750,000) through one of the following methods:
 - (a) Cash or cash equivalent

- (b) Irrevocable letter of credit from a bona fide lending institution
- (c) A financial report prepared by a certified public accountant (CPA) in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices (GAAP) and verified in a letter from the accountant.
- (d) Current published and certified annual report for publically traded companies.
- (4) New applicant(s) shall appear before the board at such time as their application is considered. Persons other than the person(s) whose signature appears on the application may be required to appear before the board in consideration of the application. All persons required to appear shall be expected to explain and support their application and experience in any manner which members of the board deem relevant to carry out their responsibility to protect the health and safety of the public. Application, attachments, and board hearings shall attempt to resolve the question of the applicant's qualifications to enter the retail LP-gas business. Factors to be considered are as follows:
 - (a) Applicant's experience and knowledge of the LP-gas industry.
 - (b) Applicant's knowledge, technical ability, and adherence to safety standards adopted by the board.
 - (c) Applicant's proposed facilities and equipment.
 - (d) Other factors the board may deem important and relevant in qualifying persons as LP-gas dealers.
- (5) Any person may testify at board hearings on pending applications. Persons desiring to testify should notify the board administrator in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the board meeting in which the application is to be heard.

If any part of this regulation is declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the part which remains.

Author: Leonard Pakruda, Mark Nelson
Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-17-105.
History: Filed September 13, 1982. Adopted January 7, 1993.
Amended: Filed February 6, 1997; Effective March 13, 1997.
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Repealed: Filed
New Rule: Filed