

OREGON
Interpretive Ruling No. 93-57 (Rev.)

COPPER PIPE USED FOR GAS PIPING

REQUESTED BY: PPPI Manual Review Committee and Douglas County

QUESTION: Is copper pipe not internally tinned or equivalently treated allowed, by code, to be used for gas piping?

APPLICABLE CODE SECTIONS: 1993 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code (OMSC), Chapter 22, Oregon One and Two Family Dwelling Specialty Code (Dwelling Code), Chapter 17 and National Fuel Gas Code Section 2.6.2 D.

BACKGROUND: ICBO on October 16, 1974, by phone, ruled that copper pipe conforming to UMC Standard 15-2 would be acceptable without being internally tinned provided that the LP, natural or manufactured gas has a HYDROGEN SULFIDE content of less than 0.3 grains or less per 100 cubic feet of gas volume.

Northwest Natural Gas Company reported the natural gas used in Oregon has a hydrogen sulfide content of 0.03 to 0.11 grains per 100 cubic feet of gas volume and by contract their suppliers must limit the hydrogen sulfide content to 0.25 grains per 100 cubic feet of volume.

FINDINGS: This interpretation is authorized by ORS 455.060, Rulings on Acceptability of Materials, Designs or Methods of Construction and Attorney General's Opinion OP-5208 issued October 1, 1981, which advised the statute permits authoritative interpretations of existing code requirements.

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION: Table M-1704.1 in the Dwelling Code allows copper pipe to be used for gas piping. Seamless copper pipe of Type "K" or "L" manufactured to UMC Standard 15.2 is an acceptable alternate material for gas piping under Section 2212.

Interpretive Ruling 93-57 replaces PPPI-4021.

(signed June 8, 1994)
John Talbott, Chairman
Structural Code Advisory Board

The recommendations and findings of the Structural Code Advisory Board are accepted and the conclusions are adopted.

(signed June 9, 1994)

Gary J. Wicks, Administrator
Building Codes Division

-Rescinded-
(Effective October 1, 2006)