



NOTABLE CHANGES TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION OF THE BUILDING CODE AFFECTING THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY* EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2014

- I. Section 101.5 – Greatly expands the scope of the work that can be filed under a “Limited Plumbing Alteration”. The following can now be filed as a Limited Plumbing Alteration –
 - A) Without regard to job cost or frequency of filing in a building
 - “1) The rerouting of existing plumbing or fuel gas branch piping to serve the same number of fixtures and; appliances
 - 2) The in-kind replacement of plumbing fixtures and gas appliances when not constituting a minor alteration or ordinary repair under this code;
 - 3) The relocation and mounting of new plumbing fixtures on existing roughing, other than the mere replacement of existing fixtures constituting a minor alteration or ordinary repair under this code;
 - 4) The installation or replacement of primary backflow preventers;
 - 5) Replacement of gas-fired boilers with heat input of 1 million BTU/h (293 kW) or less;
 - 6) Replacement of gas burners with heat input of 2.8 million Btu/h (821 kW) or less;
 - 7) Relocation of a gas burner/boiler within the same, unaltered fire-rated enclosure or room;
 - 8) In-kind replacement with the following direct-vent appliances that are vented directly through exterior walls serving buildings occupied exclusively as one- or two-family dwellings not more than four stories in height, as provided for in rules by the department, regarding gas-fired boilers, hot water heaters and furnaces;
 - 9) Installation of a new single domestic gas dryer that is vented directly through an exterior wall in buildings occupied exclusively as one- or two-family dwellings not more than four stories in height, as provided for in rules by the department;
 - 10) Placement of a registered gas fired temporary boiler at a site for emergency heating; and

11) Replacement of up to thirty existing sprinkler heads providing that orifice sizes, type and deflector positions remain the same, and all such sprinkler heads are off of a domestic water system.”

B) Jobs that cost \$35,000 or less in any 12 month period in a building

“ 1)The addition of not more than 5 plumbing fixtures or fixture connections in a building within any 12-month period, including any associated plumbing necessary to serve such additional fixtures or fixture connections;

2) The installation of new plumbing or fuel gas piping (excluding work that has no dollar limit)

3) The installation of up to five new sprinkler heads off an existing domestic water system within any 12-month period;

4) Rearrangement of not more than 20 sprinkler heads in areas classified in light hazard occupancy, as such term is defined in NFPA 13 as amended by appendix Q of the New York City building code, provided such areas are already sprinkled and such areas will remain in such occupancy, and provided further that all such sprinkler heads are off of a domestic water system;

5) Rearrangement of not more than 20 sprinkler heads in restaurant service areas classified in Group 1 ordinary hazard occupancy, as such term is defined by NFPA 13 as amended by appendix Q of the New York city building code, provided such areas are already sprinkled and such areas will remain in such occupancy, and provided further that all such sprinkler heads are off a domestic water system;

6) Rearrangement of not more than 20 sprinkler heads in mercantile areas classified in Group 2 ordinary hazard occupancy, as such term is defined by NFPA 13 as amended by appendix Q of the New York city building code, provided such areas are already sprinkled and such areas will remain in such occupancy, and further that all such sprinkler heads are off a domestic water system”

II. Section 101.5 – Greatly expands the scope of the work than can be filed under a “Limited Sprinkler Alteration.” The following now can be filed under a Limited Sprinkler Alteration –

A) Without regard to job cost or frequency of filing in a building

“1) the replacement of sprinkler heads, provided that orifice sizes, type and deflector positions remain the same.”

B) Limited to Jobs \$35,000 or less in any 12 month period in a building

- “1) Replacement of parts required for the operation of a sprinkler system;
- 2) Changes that do not alter the type of sprinkler system;
- 3) Relocation of piping that does not affect the operation of the sprinkler system;
- 4) Rearrangement of not more than 20 sprinkler heads in areas classified in light hazard occupancy, as such term is defined in NFPA 13 as amended by appendix Q of the New York city building code, provided such areas are already sprinkled and such areas will remain in such occupancy;
- 5) Rearrangement of not more than 20 sprinkler heads in restaurant service areas classified in Group 1 ordinary hazard occupancy, as such term is defined by NFPA 13 as amended by appendix Q of New York city building code, provided such areas are already sprinkled and such areas will remain in such occupancy;
- 6) Rearrangement of not more than 20 sprinkler heads in mercantile areas classified in Group 2 ordinary hazard occupancy, as such term is defined by NFPA 13
- 7) The installation of up to five new sprinkler heads off an existing sprinkler system.”

III. Section 101.5 – Creates a “Limited Oil Burning Boiler Alteration” (LOBBA).

- A) Without regard to the cost or the frequency of filing in a building the following can be filed under a LOBBA

- “1) Replacement of oil-burning boilers or water heater with heat input of million Btu/h (293 kw) or less.
- 2) Replacement of oil burners with heat input of 2.8 million Btu/h (821 kw) or less.
- 3) Relocation of an oil burner or oil-burning boiler or water heater within the same, unaltered fire-rated enclosure or room.
- 4) Placement of a temporary department of buildings registered oil fired mobile boiler at a site for emergency heating.”

- B) Jobs that cost \$35,000 or less in any 12 month period in a building

“...where the proposed work is limited to the replacement of oil equipment or oil piping including oil tanks with 330 gallons (1250 L) or less capacity provided the replacement tanks have a UL listing or labeling or meet the alternative tank design and construction standards contained in section 1305.14 of the New York city mechanical code.”

IV. Section 101.5 – Changes the cost limitation on Limited Standpipe Alterations from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

- V. Section 103.1 – Provides that the Fire Commissioner may also enforce the “installation and testing of natural gas distribution systems” operating at 15 psig or greater.
- VI. Section 105.2 – Provides that Service Equipment permits will be needed for mobile boilers and mobile oil tanks but that “limited oil burner/boiler alterations” filings are acceptable.
- VII. Section 105.4.4 – Adds “The replacement of flexible gas tubing no greater than 4 feet in length located downstream of the existing gas cock to an appliance, provided such gas tubing does not penetrate a wall” to the list of items defined as “Ordinary Plumbing Work”.
- VIII. Section 116.3.1 – Provides that the permit holder for any work requiring special inspections notify the appropriate special inspection agency at least 72 hours in advance of the commencement of work.
- IX. Section 314.1 – Provides that the owner arrange for the monthly inspection and testing of any wastewater recycling system
- X. Section 408.6 (Licensed Master Plumber)
410.8 (Licensed Fire Suppression Contractor)

Clarifies that a 51% licensee is not in “control” of the licensed company if they can be “terminated from the [licensed] contracting business by any person or entity...” who is not licensed.

