



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

TO: Development Services Customers

SUBJECT: INFORMATION BULLETIN 251
PEX-AL-PEX Materials and Gas Service Requests

DATE: March 3, 2026

CREATED BY: Building Development - Inspections

Purpose:

It has come to the attention of CPS Energy that certain flexible tubing, referred to as PEX-AL-PEX and PE-AL-PE, is being marketed under various name brands and utilized locally as an alternative material for indoor fuel gas piping systems. PEX-AL-PEX and PE-AL-PE are generally comprised of a layer of polyethylene, a layer of aluminum, and another layer of polyethylene (PE) or cross-linked polyethylene (PEX).

In recent months, the propane and natural gas industries have begun to widely examine the use and safety of this material as a fuel gas piping system. CPS Energy is in possession of news articles, third-party engineering reports, regulatory bulletins, and other documentation questioning whether the material actually meets the requirements of certain applicable codes and standards or possesses certain qualities and characteristics required for safe use in flammable gas applications. Specifically, it has been called into question whether the products can withstand exposure to elevated temperatures and whether it can be electrically continuous and bonded as required under NFPA 54.

Currently, the use of PEX-AL-PEX is not identified in the NFPA as an acceptable alternative for fuel gas piping materials. In fact, it appears that the NFPA Technical Committee has specifically rejected its use for indoor flammable gas applications. CPS Energy does not dictate the materials utilized by local contractors. However, as a result of industry concerns and out of an abundance of caution, CPS Energy will not knowingly connect its gas distribution system to a PEX-AL-PEX or a PE-AL-PE fuel piping systems. The safety of our customers and our community is our top priority. Should the manufacturers adequately address the forgoing issues and appropriately demonstrate compliance with the NFPA and other applicable industry standards in the future, CPS Energy will reevaluate this position.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Megan Kucera with CPS Energy at (210) 353-3164.

Scope:

The DSD requirements would still be the same. A gas permit would be required to perform all gas work.

- 403.3.4 Aluminum. Aluminum-alloy pipe shall comply with ASTM B241
- Aluminum-alloy pipe is listed in the 2024 International Fuel Gas Code.

Approval of a gas system inspection using this material may result to CPS not connecting its gas distribution system to a PEX-AL-PEX or a PE-AL-PE fuel piping systems.

Should you have any questions regarding this Information Bulletin, please contact the Plumbing Inspections Supervisor at (210) 207-8279.

Summary:

This Information Bulletin is for informational purposes only.

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