Regulatory advice: application of conflicting requirements in AS/NZS 1596:2026

Resources Safety & Health Queensland

Purpose

This advice explains how the Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate will apply conflicting requirements in AS/NZS 1596:2026 - The storage and handling of LP Gas, until the standard is amended.

Who is affected?

This advice applies to people who design, install, inspect or certify LPG cylinder and tank installations in accordance with AS/NZS 1596:2026.

What is the issue?

A conflict has been identified in AS/NZS 1596:2026 relating to venting and outdoor discharge requirements from regulator vent terminals, gas-pressure-relief devices and vent lines.

The conflict arose following changes made during the review of the standard and may create uncertainty about which requirements apply to LPG cylinder installations.

What does this mean for me?

Installation type	Clause	Requirement to apply
LPG cylinder installations	Apply clause 4.3.1.	The outdoor discharge from a vent terminal, gas-pressure-relief device or vent line must be located at least 0.5 m from any building opening. It must also be separated from fixed sources of ignition by 0.5 m vertically above the discharge point and 1 m laterally, with the exclusion zone extending to ground level.
LPG tank installations and all other installations	Apply clause 3.7.3.	The outdoor discharge from a vent terminal, gas-pressure-relief device or vent line must be at least 1 m from any building opening and at least 2 m from any fixed source of ignition in any direction.

The Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate will assess compliance and regulate on this basis until the conflict is resolved.

Why did this happen?

During the review of AS/NZS 1596, requirements common to both LPG cylinder and tank installations were moved from separate sections into a single general section to reduce duplication and improve usability.

As part of this process, requirements previously contained in the tank installation section were moved into clause 3.7.3.

This change unintentionally created a conflict with clause 4.3.1, which contains requirements specific to LPG cylinder installations. The conflict was not intended to override the cylinder-specific requirements.

What happens next?

The issue has been raised with Standards Australia and an amendment has been proposed. The timeframe for publishing an amendment is currently unknown.

Until an amendment is published, the Petroleum and Gas Inspectorate will continue to apply the interim approach outlined in this advice.

Where can I find more information?

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