

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE SAFETY FIRE
COMMISSIONER
CHAPTER 120-3-26 RULES AND
REGULATIONS FOR BOILER AND
PRESSURE VESSELS**

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120-3-26-.01 Promulgation and Purpose.

(1) These rules and regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled, "Rules and Regulations for boiler and pressure vessels" are promulgated to establish the State's minimum fire safety codes and standards for boiler and pressure vessels as specified in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, (O.C.G.A.) Section 25-15-10.

(2) A primary purpose of these rules and regulations is to establish the state minimum safety codes and standards for the prevention of loss of life and property from explosions, fire or related hazards in all buildings, structures and other locations governed by state regulations.

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §25-15-10 and 50-13-21.

120-3-26-.02 Application.

(1) Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 25-2-10, rules and regulations adopted by the Safety Fire Commissioner shall have the force and effect of law and shall have statewide application as being the state minimum fire safety codes and standards for boiler and pressure vessels and shall not require adoption by a municipality or county.

(2) Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-1, the Office succeeded to all rules and regulations of the Department of Labor which were in effect on June 30, 2012, or were scheduled to go into effect on or after July 1, 2012, which related to the functions transferred to the Office pursuant to either Chapter 15 of Title 25 or Part 6 of Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 8. The Office has authority to modify the Boiler and Pressure Vessel regulations or promulgate new regulations pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sections 25-15-1, 25-15-13, 33-2-9 and 50-13-21.

(3) The primary purpose of these rules and regulations is to promote consumer protection through state regulation of the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of boiler and pressure vessels.

(4) All Editions of the Codes and Standards shall also include revisions, amendments, and interpretations made, approved and adopted by the Codes or Standards Society as adopted by these regulations listed below:

(a) The 2019 American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. Copies of the Code may be obtained from said Society at 22 Law Drive, Box 2300, Fairfield, New Jersey 07007-2300.

(b) The 2019 Edition of the National Board Inspection Code. Copies of this Code may be obtained from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, 1055 Crupper Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43229.

(c) ASME B31.1 as adopted by ASME Section I Boiler Pressure Piping and Piping Systems as described in B31.1.

(d) The 2018 Edition of the ASME CSD-1, Controls and Safety Devices for Automatically Fired Boilers less than 12,500,000 BTU/hr. and State adopted Edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 85, Boiler and Combustion System Hazard Code for boilers over 12,500,000 BTU/hr., NFPA 87 Recommended Practice for Fluid Heaters, NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code and all other adopted and related NFPA Codes (see below definition of Code). and ASME CSD-I Boiler Controls and Safety Devices may be obtained from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 345

East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017, the National Fire Protection Association Standards may be obtained from National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269.

(e) The 2012 ASME PVHO-1 Pressure Vessels for Human Occupancy and 2012 ASME PVHO-2 In-Service Guidelines. This Code may be ordered from ASME, 22 Law Drive, Box 2300, Fairfield, NY 07007.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-1, 25-15-10, 25-15-13, 33-2-9, 50-13-21. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Application Requirements" adopted. F. Feb. 26, 1971; eff. Mar. 18, 1971. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Adoption by Resolution" adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. Nov. 14, 1988; eff. Dec. 4, 1988. **Amended:** F. July 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. **Amended:** F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. **Amended:** F. Feb. 15, 1994; eff. Mar. 7, 1994. **Amended:** F. Feb. 26, 1996; eff. Mar. 17, 1996. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000. **Amended:** F. Sept. 5, 2001; eff. Sept. 25, 2001. **Amended:** F. Feb. 24, 2003; eff. Mar. 16, 2003. **Amended:** F. Sept. 16, 2003; eff. Oct. 6, 2003.

120-3-26-.03 Definition of Terms.

- (1) Accumulation Test — A test by which the capacity of the safety or safety relief valves are checked to ensure the pressure of the boiler does not rise six percent above the highest setting of any valve, and in no case six percent above the maximum allowable working pressure.
- (2) Alteration — A change in any item described on the original manufacturer's data report which affects the pressure capability of the boiler or pressure vessel. Nonphysical changes such as an increase in the maximum allowable working pressure (internal or external) or design temperature of a boiler or pressure vessel shall be considered an alteration. A reduction in minimum temperature such that additional mechanical tests are required shall also be considered an alteration.
- (3) The Commissioner is the Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire.
- (4) Approved — Approved by the Commissioner or his designee.
- (5) Authorized Inspection Agency — one of the following:
 - (a) The State of Georgia Safety Engineering Section, of the Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, or
 - (b) Any insurance company which has been licensed to write boiler and pressure vessel insurance and to provide all inspection services required by such company in this State, or
 - (c) An Owner-User Inspection Agency
- (6) Cessation order - is the official order stopping of an action by an individual or company.
- (7) Certificate of Competency — A certificate issued to a person who has passed the examination prescribed by the Board.
- (8) Certificate Inspection — An inspection, the report of which is used by the Chief Inspector as justification for issuing, withholding, or revoking the Inspection Certificate. This certificate inspection shall be as complete an inspection as possible.
- (9) Chief Inspector — The chief boiler and pressure vessel Engineer appointed by the Safety Fire Commissioner.
- (10) Citation - is the act by which a person or company is so summoned or cited.
- (11) Code-ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Sections I, III Division 1 and Division

2, IV, VIII Division 1, 2 and Division 3, and X, National Board Inspection Code, Controls and Safety Devices (CSD-1), National Fire Protection Association Code (NFPA) Sections 31, 54, 58, 70, 85, 87 and 211 for boilers and pressure vessels Code.

(12) Commission — National Board — The Commission issued by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors to a holder of a Certificate of Competency who desires to make inspections in accordance with the National Board Bylaws and whose employer submits the Inspector's application to the National Board for such Commission.

(13) Condemned Boilers and Pressure Vessels — Condemned boilers and pressure vessels declared unfit for further use by the Chief Inspector or Commissioner shall immediately be stamped with three X's over the ASME code symbol stamp or immediately above the front manway, or on the front head of a fire tube boiler, or over the object identification number.

(14) Deputy Inspector — Any Inspector appointed by the Commissioner under the provision of the Act.

(15) Electric Boiler — A power boiler or heating boiler in which the source of heat is electricity.

(16) External Inspection — An inspection made when a boiler or pressure vessel is in operation or idle.

(17) Existing Installation — Includes any boiler constructed, installed, placed in operation, or contracted for before January 1, 1986; and any pressure vessel constructed; installed, placed in operation, or contracted for before January 1, 1986.

(18) Fitting or Appliance — The terms "Fittings" and "Appliances" shall be taken to mean such necessary safety devices as are attached to a boiler and/or pressure vessel for safety purposes.

(19) Georgia State Special — A boiler or pressure vessel which is of a special design which cannot or has not been constructed to the Code.

(20) Heating Boiler — A steam or vapor boiler operating at pressures not exceeding 15 psig or temperatures not exceeding 250 degrees Fahrenheit.

(21) Heat Recovery Boiler — A steam boiler for operation at pressures not exceeding 15 psig.

(22) High Pressure High Temperature Water Boiler — Means a water boiler operating at pressures exceeding 160 psig or temperatures exceeding 250 degrees Fahrenheit.

(23) Hobby — An activity pursued outside of one's regular work, primarily for pleasure and receive no monetary gain.

(24) Hot Water Heating Boiler — A boiler in which no steam is generated, from which hot water is circulated for heating purposes and then returned to the boiler, and which operates at a pressure not exceeding 160 psig and/or a temperature of 250 degrees Fahrenheit at or near the boiler outlet.

(25) Hot Water Supply Boiler — A boiler or heater completely filled with water that furnishes hot water to be used externally to itself at pressures not exceeding 160 psig or a temperature not exceeding 250 degrees Fahrenheit for hot water supply boilers, or temperatures not exceeding 210 degrees Fahrenheit for hot water supply heaters.

(26) Inspector — The Chief Inspector, Deputy Inspector, Special Inspector, or Owner- User Inspector.

(27) Installation of Boilers and Pressure Vessels — When referred to in this Chapter shall include all fittings, appliances and/or appurtenances.

(28) Internal Inspection — As complete an examination as can reasonably be made of the internal and external surfaces of a boiler or pressure vessel while it is shut down

and manhole plates, handhole plates, or other inspection openings are removed as per the Inspector's requirements.

(29) Insurance Company — An insurance company which has been licensed or registered by the appropriate authority of a state of the United States or a Province of Canada to write boiler and pressure vessel insurance and to provide all inspection services required by this State.

(30) Investigative Board — The Investigative Board shall be made up of the Chief Inspector and two members of the Boiler Board appointed by the Chairman of the Boiler Board.

(31) Jurisdiction — A State, Commonwealth, County, or Municipality of the United States or a Province of Canada, which has adopted one or more sections of the ASME Code, one of which is Section I, and maintains a duly constituted department bureau or division for the purpose of enforcement of such Code.

(32) Lined Potable Water Heater — A water heater with a corrosion resistant lining used to supply potable hot water and exceeding either of the following:

(a) A heat input of 200,000 BTU per hour;

(b) A water temperature of 210 degrees Fahrenheit; and

(c) A nominal water containing capacity of 120 gallons.

(33) Miniature Boiler — A power boiler or high-temperature water boiler which does not exceed the following limits:

(a) 16 inches inside diameter of shell;

(b) 20 sq. ft. heating surface (not applicable to electric boilers); (c) 5 cu. ft. gross volume exclusive of casing and insulation;

(d) 100 psig maximum allowable working pressure.

(34) National Board — The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, 1055 Crupper Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43229.

(35) National Board Inspection Code. The manual for Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors published by the National Board and adopted by the Board.

(36) New Boiler or Pressure Vessel Installation — All boilers constructed, installed, placed in operation, or contracted for after December 31, 1986. All pressure vessels constructed, installed, placed in operation, or contracted for after December 13, 1986.

(37) Non-standard Boiler or Pressure Vessel — A boiler or pressure vessel that does not bear the ASME stamp and National Board Number.

(38) Owner or User — Any person, firm, or corporation legally responsible for the safe installation, operation, and maintenance of any boiler or pressure vessel within the jurisdiction.

(39) Owner-User Inspector — An Inspector continuously employed by a company owning and operating pressure vessels in this State for the purpose of making inspections of pressure vessels used or to be used by such company, but not for resale, and providing such company complies with the requirements of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Section 25-15-10 of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Law.

(40) Owner/User Inspection Agency — An owner or user of pressure vessels who maintains a regularly established inspection department, whose organization and inspection procedures shall meet the requirements of the boiler and pressure vessel Rules and are acceptable to the Office Of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner.

(41) Portable Boiler — A boiler which is primarily intended for temporary location and the construction and usage permits it to be readily moved from one location to another.

(42) Power Boiler — Means a boiler in which steam or other vapor is generated at a pressure of more than 15 psig.

(43) PSIG — Pounds per square inch gauge.

- (44) Reinstalled Boiler or Pressure Vessel — A boiler or pressure vessel removed from its original setting and reinstalled at the same location, or at a new location without change of ownership.
- (45) Repair — The work necessary to restore a boiler or pressure vessel to a safe and satisfactory operating condition provided there is no deviation from the original design.
- (46) Secondhand Boiler or Pressure Vessel — A boiler or pressure vessel which has changed both location and ownership since last used.
- (47) Steam Heating Boiler — A steam boiler for operation at pressures not exceeding 15 psig.
- (48) Special Inspection — Any inspection performed by the State other than a regularly scheduled inspection, and includes instances where the original inspection was rescheduled due to the owner's or user's failure to prepare the boiler or pressure vessel after notification.
- (49) Special Inspector — An Inspector holding a Georgia Commission, and who is regularly employed by an insurance company authorized to insure against loss of boilers or pressure vessels in this State.
- (50) Standard Boiler or Pressure Vessel — A boiler or pressure vessel which bears the ASME stamp and National Board Number, except cast iron boilers which will not be registered with the National Board.
- (51) Unfired Steam Boiler — An unfired pressure vessel or system of unfired pressure vessels intended for operation at a pressure in excess of 15 psig steam for the purpose of producing and controlling an output of thermal energy.
- (52) Waste Heat Boiler — An unfired pressure vessel or system of unfired pressure vessels intended for operation in excess of 15 psig steam for the purpose of producing and controlling an output of thermal energy.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-10, 25-15-13. **History.** Original Rule entitled "ASME Compliance Certificate" adopted. F. Feb. 26, 1971; eff. Mar. 18, 1971. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Definition of Terms" adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Amended:** F. Aug. 4, 1986; eff. Aug. 24, 1986. **Amended:** F. Dec. 30, 1986; eff. Jan. 19, 1987. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. July 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. **Amended:** F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. **Amended:** F. Feb. 26, 1996; eff. Mar. 17, 1996. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000. **Amended:** F. Sept. 5, 2001; eff. Sept. 25, 2001. **Amended:** F. Feb. 24, 2003; eff. Mar. 16, 2003. **Amended:** F. Sept. 16, 2003; eff. Oct. 6, 2003.

120-3-26-.04 Administration.

(1) The Safety Engineering Section of the Safety Fire Division of the Office of the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner administers the provisions of Chapter 15 of Title 25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated relating to boiler and pressure vessel safety. The Safety Engineering Section is located at 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 920, West

Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334.

(2) Address correspondence to:

Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner

Safety Engineering Section

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 920, West Tower

Atlanta, GA 30334

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-13. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Construction and Testing" adopted. F.

Feb. 26, 1971; eff. Mar. 18, 1971. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Administration" adopted. F.

Nov. 19,

1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff.

Oct. 18, 1987.

Amended: F. Nov. 14, 1988; eff. Dec. 4, 1988. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000.

Amended:

F. Sept. 5, 2001; eff. Sept. 25, 2001.

120-3-26-.05 Certificate of Competency and Examination.

(1) Applicants for a certificate of competency shall satisfy the requirements of this Section.

(2) In order to take the Georgia Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules' Examination, an applicant shall meet one of the following qualifications:

(a) A degree in engineering plus one year of experience in design, construction, operation, or inspection of high pressure boilers and pressure vessels;

(b) An associate degree in mechanical technology plus two years of experience in design, construction, operation, or inspection of high pressure boilers and pressure vessels;

(c) The equivalent of a high school education plus four years of experience in one of the following:

1. In high-pressure boiler and pressure vessel construction or repair;

2. As an operating engineer in charge of high-pressure boiler operations; or

3. As an Inspector of high-pressure boilers and pressure vessels.

(3) Applications for the examination are available from the Commissioner and shall contain an accurate education and employment history.

(4) The Examination for a Certificate of Competency is prepared and graded by the National Board; and

(a) covers the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, and repair of boilers and pressure vessels and their appurtenances;

(b) is given on the first Wednesday and one-half day Thursday in March, June, September, and December at a site selected by the Commissioner; and

(c) Is administered upon payment of a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00), which is also required when the examination is retaken by an unsuccessful applicant.

(d) Successful applicants will be issued a Certificate of Competency by the Chief Inspector, when such applicant passes the examination.

(5) When Commissioned by the National Board, and requested by the employer, Inspection Agency a Georgia Commission bearing the signature of the Chief Inspector, will be issued.

(6) Request for Georgia Commissions, are processed upon proof of a Commission issued by the National Board and a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) fee.

(7) Georgia Commissions are valid through December 31, at which time each inspector or inspection agency shall submit a request to renew and a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) filing fee.

(8) The Georgia Commission shall be returned (by the employing company) to the Chief Inspector upon termination of employment of any Inspector.

(9) A Georgia Commission may be suspended or revoked by the Board for incompetence, untrustworthiness, or willful falsification of any statement in an application or inspection report.

(10) Owner/User Inspector for unfired pressure vessels.

(a) Owner/User Inspectors must meet all of the above requirements (1) through (9).

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-13. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Construction and Installation Approval" adopted. F. Feb. 26, 1971; eff. Mar. 18, 1971. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules" adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Certificate of Competency and Examination" adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. July 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. **Amended:** F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000. **Amended:** F. Feb. 24, 2003; eff. Mar. 16, 2003.

120-3-26-.06 State Inspection Fees.

(1) All boilers and hot water heaters:

(a) Up to and including 30 boiler horsepower..... \$30.00

(b) 31 boiler horsepower to 50 boiler horsepower \$50.00

(c) 51 boiler horsepower to 100 boiler horsepower \$75.00

(d) 101 boiler horsepower to 200 boiler horsepower..... \$100. 00

(e) All boilers over 200 boiler horsepower \$150.00

(f) Inspection fees will be charged for any trip made by the inspector for the purpose of certificate inspection, permit inspection, follow-up inspection, insurance cancellation inspection, internal and/ or external inspection.

(2) In the event a special inspection or hydrostatic test is made, an additional fee of \$100.00 per hour and all traveling expenses incurred in connection with the inspection will be charged. The expenses shall be governed by the regulations for traveling expenses established for State officials. In cases where one trip is made to inspect two or more locations for two or more parties, the traveling expenses shall be prorated between the parties on the basis of the number of objects inspected and the time consumed for each inspection on both.

(3) Fees for joint reviews of ASME stamps and National Board Repair Stamp Holders.

(a) Fee for all reviews... \$1500.00. The fee will be paid prior to the review being scheduled. Fees include time and expenses up to a maximum of two days. Any review that is extended to more than two days, time and expenses will be charged as stated in (b) below.

(b) All services rendered other than as stated in (a) above, \$100.00 per hour. (The hourly rate with all expenses will be charged and billed after the service is rendered.)

(4) Permit fee for installation of new boilers and installation of second- hand boilers and pressure vessels: (All boilers, hot water heaters, or used unfired pressure vessels found to have been installed without an installation permit, the installation permit fee will be doubled.) Once permits are processed by this office, no refunds will be issued.

(a) All pressure vessels and boilers up to and including 30 boiler horsepower \$100. 00

(b) 31 boiler horsepower to 50 boiler horsepower \$200.00

- (c) 51 boiler horsepower to 100 boiler horsepower \$300.00
- (d) 101 boiler horsepower to 200 boiler horsepower \$400.00
- (e) All boilers over 200 boiler horsepower \$500.00
- (5) Georgia State Special Permits \$500.00

This fee must accompany the request for a State Special permit.

All inspections for a State Special Permit will be conducted by a Deputy Inspector.

(6) Operating Permit Fees:

- (a) Power boilers and high pressure, high temperature water boilers,
annual fee \$50.00
- (b) Low pressure steam or vapor heating boilers, biennial
fee..... \$50.00
- (c) Hot water heating and hot water supply boilers biennial
fee.....\$50.00
- (d) Pressure Vessel, triennial fee.....\$30.00

(7) The owner, user, agent, or installer is responsible to ensure accessibility to the equipment for inspection, equipment is ready for inspection (as required), and necessary people are available when scheduled. Failure to meet any of the above requirements will cause owner, user, agent, or installer to be charged \$100.00 per hour including travel time. This fee must be paid prior to any rescheduled or completed inspections at that location.

(8) Penalties and Interest Fees.

(a) Inspection fees or operating permit fees shall be paid to validate the operating permit. Fees not paid within sixty (60) calendar days of completion of such inspection shall cause the suspension of the operating permit until such time that all fees are paid. When an operating permit is suspended for lack of payment, the Deputy Inspector shall reinspect the boiler, water heaters or pressure vessels and the inspection fee will be charged and collected prior to reinstating the operating permit. sixty (60) calendar days of completion of inspection.

(b) Inspection fees or operating permit fees shall be paid within or operating permit fees unpaid within sixty (60) calendar days shall bear interest at the rate of 1.5 percent per month or any fraction of a month. Interest shall continue to accrue until the Commissioner receives all amounts due, including interest.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-17, 25-15-13, 25-15-25, 25-15-27. History. Original Rule entitled

“Permanent Identification” adopted. F. Feb. 26, 1971; eff. Mar. 18, 1971. Repealed: New Rule entitled “Chief Inspector” adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. Repealed: New Rule entitled “State Inspection Fees” adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987. Amended: F. Nov. 14, 1988; eff. Dec. 4, 1988. Amended: F. July 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 10, 1991; eff. June 30, 1991. Amended: F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. Amended: F. July 8, 1993; eff. July 28, 1993. Amended: F. Feb. 15, 1994; eff. Mar. 7, 1994. Amended: F. Aug. 12, 1994; eff. Sept. 1, 1994. Amended: F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000. Amended: F. Sept. 5, 2001; eff. Sept. 25, 2001. Amended: F. Feb. 24, 2003; eff. Mar. 16, 2003. **Amended:** F. Jan. 13, 2004; eff. Feb. 2, 2004.

120-3-26-.07 New Installation of Boilers and Installation of Secondhand Boilers or Pressure Vessels.

- (1) The company or person responsible for the installation of the boiler or secondhand pressure vessel is required to obtain an installation permit for the boiler or pressure vessel prior to any work being performed. A "Request to Install a Boiler or Pressure Vessel" along with the installation fee and any drawings, calculations, or ASME Code Data Reports as applicable will be forwarded to the Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, Safety Engineering Section. Boilers or pressure vessels that are ASME Code stamped and National Board registered need only the ASME Data Report. A request for a Georgia State Special must be accompanied by all design documents. No boilers or pressure vessels shall be sold to be installed in the State unless the boiler or pressure vessel meets all adopted Codes, Standards, and/or these Rules.
- (2) All boiler installations shall meet all requirements of ASME, the NBIC, and CSD-1. Boilers 12,500,000 BTU/hr and over shall meet any additional requirements of NFPA-85. All fluid heaters shall meet the requirements of NFPA 87.
- (3) A Deputy Inspector, prior to the vessel being used must inspect all completely new and secondhand packaged boilers and secondhand pressure vessels installed. The company or person performing the installation is responsible for notifying the Safety Engineering Section when the boiler or secondhand pressure vessel is ready for inspection.
- (4) All Permits that have not had any action toward the installation shall expire 24 months after the issue date. The expiration date shall be shown on the permit. The monies for the expired permit shall be forfeited and the file closed out. The installer shall be required to resubmit for another permit in accordance with paragraph (1) above and Rule 120-3-26-.05(4), when a file has been closed out.
- (5) Water heaters must have a check valve installed in the cold water supply line at the heater.
- (6) All low pressure steam heating, water heating or hot water supply boilers as described in Rule 120-3-26-.02 must have a type "B" vent. The vent must be double wall galvanized or other corrosion resistant material, or as specified by the boiler manufacturer.
- (7) All high pressure power boilers for steam, water or oil as described in Rule 120-3-26-.02 must have a single wall welded stack at least .056 inches thick (16 gage), or double wall manufactured corrosion resistant stack, or as specified by the boiler manufacturer. The double wall must be UL listed for the temperature specified by the boiler manufacturer.
- (8) All stack clearance from combustible material shall be as specified in NFPA Standard 31, 54, or 58 as applicable.
- (9) All steam boilers over 15 psi and over 10 boiler horsepower must be in a 2 hr. fire rated room, (except for Group F Occupancy). All heating boilers installed in places of Assembly (Group A), or place of Hazardous Occupancy (Group H) must be in a 2 hr. fire rated room.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-13, 25-15-17, 25-15-18, 25-15-25, 25-15-27. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Design and Certification Expenses" adopted. F. Feb. 26, 1971; eff. Mar. 18, 1971. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Deputy Inspectors" adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "New Installation, Reinstallation, or Secondhand Boilers" adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987.

Amended: F. Nov. 14, 1988; eff. Dec. 4, 1988. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "New Installation of Boilers, and Installation of Secondhand Boilers or Pressure Vessels" adopted. F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. **Amended:** F. June 17, 1997; eff. July 7, 1997. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000. **Amended:** F. Sept. 5, 2001; eff. Sept. 25, 2001. **Amended:** F. Mar. 4, 2003; eff. Mar. 24, 2003.

120-3-26-.08 Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspection Requirements.

- (1) On and after January 1, 1986, each boiler and pressure vessel used or proposed to be used within this State, except for boilers and pressure vessels exempted under O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-16, shall be thoroughly inspected as to their construction, installation, and condition as follows:
 - (a) Power boilers and high pressure, high temperature water boilers shall receive a permit (certificate) inspection annually. The inspection shall be an internal inspection where construction permits; otherwise, it shall be as complete an inspection as possible. These boilers will also receive an external inspection while under pressure, if possible.
 - (b) Low pressure steam or vapor boilers shall receive a permit inspection biennially.
 - (c) Hot water heating and hot water supply boilers shall receive a permit inspection biennially.
 - (d) Pressure vessels shall receive a permit inspection triennial with an internal inspection at the discretion of the Inspector.
 - (e) All certificate inspections under this section shall be done in accordance with the NBIC, Parts 1 & 2. The boiler owners and user shall be responsible for ensuring that the installation, maintenance, operation, and testing of controls and safety devices are in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements. The maintenance and testing of controls and safety devices shall be conducted by a contractor with a valid certificate of authority with the appropriate classification. The inspector will witness or review that all controls and safety devices have been tested to manufactures requirements. Appendix C in the current adopted edition of CSD-1 is an example of a report or checklist. If the boiler is governed by a different standard, it will be used as a guide to which controls and safety devices and systems need to be tested.
 - (f) The Commissioner, the Chief Inspector, or any Deputy Inspector shall have free access during reasonable hours to any premises in the State where boilers or pressure vessels are being constructed, installed, operated, maintained, or repaired for the purpose of performing any required safety inspections in accordance with the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act, Chapter 15 of Title 25 and these Rules and Regulations. Any owner, user or other person responsible for boilers or pressure vessels that denies access to Inspectors shall be in violation of the Act.
 - (g) An internal boiler inspection may be increased from an annual inspection frequency to eighteen (18) months for Black Liquor Boilers and a twenty-four (24) month inspection frequency for a Power Boiler by approval of the Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner. An employee delegated by the industrial facility shall apply for the extension. The following information shall be sent to the office for review:
 - (1) Operator_training.

(2) Boiler maintenance records.

(3) Water chemistry.

(4) Letter of approval of extension from an authorized inspection agency.

State inspector may be present with the in-service inspector during the internal inspection, these expenses will be the responsibility of the industrial plant.

A copy of the in-service inspector's detailed summary report of this inspection will be supplied to this office within 30 days of inspection. If a Black Liquor Boiler, a copy of the ESP test (Emergency Shutdown Procedure) will also be supplied.

(2) Cessation orders on unsafe equipment or equipment operating in violation of these Rules.

(a) The Commissioner or his authorized representative may issue a written order for the temporary cessation of operation of a boiler or pressure vessel if it has been determined after inspection to be hazardous or unsafe. Operation shall not resume until such conditions are corrected to the satisfaction of the Commissioner or his authorized representative.

(b) If a boiler or pressure vessel is found to be operating after a cessation order has been issued, and/or prior to the required inspections, a penalty may be assessed as specified in Rules 120-3-26-.05 and/or 120-3-26-.18 as applicable.

(c) Any person aggrieved by an order or an act of the Commissioner or the Chief Inspector may appeal in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-28. (3) Reserved.

(4) All boilers or pressure vessels overdue for inspection as specified by Rule 120-3-26-.07, by more than 6 months, a State Deputy Inspector shall inspect such boilers or pressure vessels and may invoice the Owner/User for a special inspection as specified by Rule 120-3-26-.05(2), in addition to the standard inspection fees.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-13, 25-15-19, 25-15-20. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Special

Inspectors" adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Boiler and

Pressure Vessel Rules" adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspection Requirements" adopted. F. June 10, 1991; eff. June 30, 1991. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000. **Amended:** F. Feb. 24, 2003; eff. Mar. 16, 2003.

120-3-26-.09 Notification of Inspection.

(1) All insurance companies shall notify the Chief Inspector, within thirty days, of all boilers or pressure vessels on which Insurance is written or canceled, not renewed or suspended.

(2) Special inspectors to notify Chief Inspector of unsafe boilers and pressure vessels.

(a) If an inspector, upon first inspection, finds that a boiler or pressure vessel, or any appurtenance thereof, is in such condition that he would refuse to issue an inspection certificate, the Inspector shall immediately notify the Chief Inspector and submit a report on the defects.

(b) If, upon inspection, an Inspector finds a boiler or pressure vessel to be unsafe for further operation, he shall promptly notify the owner or user, stating what repairs or other corrective measures are needed. The Inspector shall immediately notify his supervisor or the Chief Inspector. Until such corrections have been made, no further

operations of the boiler or pressure vessel involved shall be permitted. If an inspection certificate for the object is required and is in force, it shall be suspended by the Chief Inspector. When reinspection establishes that the necessary repairs have been made or corrective actions have been taken and that the boiler or pressure vessel is safe to operate, the Chief Inspector shall be notified. At that time, an inspection certificate, where applicable, may be issued.

(c) If an Inspector, while making a required inspection, becomes aware of any other boilers or pressure vessels on the premises which are not registered in accordance with applicable law, he shall report this information to the owner or user of the boiler pressure vessel and to the Chief Inspector within thirty days.

(3) Owner-User: Each Owner-User inspection agency as required by the provision of the Act and these Rules and Regulations shall:

(a) conduct inspections of pressure vessels utilizing only qualified inspection personnel, as provided in this Chapter;

(b) retain on file, at the location where the equipment is inspected, a true copy of each of the latest inspection reports signed by the Inspector;

(c) execute and deliver to the Chief Inspector a true report of each inspection together with appropriate requirements or recommendations that result from such inspections;

(d) promptly notify the Chief Inspector of any pressure vessel which does not meet the applicable requirements;

(e) maintain inspection records which will include a list of each pressure vessel covered by the Act, showing a serial number and such abbreviated descriptions as may be necessary for identification, the date of last inspection of each unit and approximate date for the next inspection record is compiled. Such inspection record shall be readily available for examination by the Chief Inspector or his authorized representative during business hours.

(f) If upon an external inspection there is evidence of a leak or crack, sufficient covering of the pressure vessel shall be removed to permit the Inspector to satisfactorily determine the safety of the boiler or pressure vessel. If the covering cannot be removed at that time, he may order the operation of the pressure vessel stopped until such time as the covering can be removed and proper examination made. The Chief Inspector shall be notified immediately.

(4) All boiler or pressure vessels overdue for inspection as specified by Rule 120-3-.26-.07, by more than 6 months, a State Deputy Inspector shall inspect such boilers or pressure vessels and may invoice the Owner/User for a special inspection as specified by Rule 120-3-26-.05(2), in addition to the standard fee.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-20. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Examinations" adopted. F. Nov. 19, 1985; eff. Dec. 9, 1985. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Notification of Inspection" adopted. F. Sept. 28, 1987; eff. Oct. 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. Mar. 4, 2003; eff. Mar. 24, 2003.

120-3-26-.10 Notification of Accident.

(1) When an incident occurs to a boiler or pressure vessel, the owner or user shall promptly notify the Chief Inspector by submitting a detailed report of the incident.

In the event of a personal injury or any explosion, notice shall be given immediately by telephone, followed by an emailing a detailed report of the incident and neither the boiler nor pressure vessel, nor any parts thereof, shall be removed or disturbed before permission has been given by the Chief Inspector, except for the purpose of saving human life and limiting consequential damage. (2) If an inspection is made as a result of an incident, the inspector will inform the owner, or user of the requirements set forth in paragraph (1)

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-21. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Commission Suspension and Revocation" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Notification of Accident" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992.

120-3-26-.11 Validity of Operating Permit.

The Commissioner or his authorized representative may extend the expiration date of any operating permit. Requests for an extension must be in writing to the Office stating the reason for the extension.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-20, 25-15-23, 25-15-26. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Certificate of Competency and Examination" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Validity of Inspection Certificate" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Validity of Operating Permit" adopted F. Jun. 10, 1991; eff. Jun. 30, 1991. **Amended:** F. Feb. 15, 1994; eff. Mar. 7, 1994.

120-3-26-.12 Non-Vaporizing Fluid Heaters.

- (1) A non- vaporizing fluid heater is a heater designed to not vaporizes a fluid in a closed system.
- (2) The owner shall insure that a non-vaporizing fluid heater is constructed in accordance with current adopted editions of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and is National Board registered.
- (3) The installation shall have stop valves located at an accessible point in the supply and

return pipe connections as near to the heater as practicable.

- (4) The owner shall ensure that a non-vaporizing fluid heater has the following as a minimum:
- (5) One operating temperature control and one high limit temperature control.
- (6) An ASME relief device to be of sufficient capacity to relieve the excess fluid as a result of thermal expansion, verified by engineering calculations provided by the owner.
- (7) A thermometer graduated to no less than 133% of the expected operating temperature.
- (8) A pressure gauge graduated to no less than 150% of the expected operating pressure.
- (9) A low level or flow sensing device suitable for operating conditions.
- (10) The owner shall ensure that a fuel train meets the requirements of State laws and regulations and the current adopted edition of CSD-1 or NFPA 87.

120-3-26-.13 Georgia State Special Boilers and Pressure Vessels.

If a boiler or pressure vessel is of special design and one that cannot be constructed to the ASME Code, the owner shall forward welding procedures and welder certifications details of the proposed construction, including shop drawing, material specifications, calculations, to the Chief Inspector for approval. All such boilers and pressure vessels must be inspected and ~~by~~ hydrostatically tested and documented on forms provided by the Commissioner. The owner's application shall be certified by a registered professional engineer or an appropriate ASME stamps holder.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-24, 25-15-13. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Inspection and Fees" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Filed December 30, 1986; effective January 19, 1987. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Georgia State Special Boilers and Pressure Vessels" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** Filed November 14, 1988; effective December 4, 1988. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000.

120-3-26-.14 Non-Conforming or Non-Standard Boilers and Pressure Vessels.

- (1) Boilers or unfired pressure vessels that do not conform to the ASME code may be operated as a hobby or for educational or historical purposes only, provided an inspection in accordance with these Rules is made annually. Lapseam boilers under this section are limited to 100 psig.
- (2) Boilers or unfired pressure vessels normally located outside this State may be, upon application to the Commissioner, permitted to operate for a period not exceeding 7 days provided the object has an operating certificate from the State in which it is normally operated.
- (3) Non-standard boilers, or pressure vessels being installed or reinstalled in the State shall receive a State Special Permit and an operating permit prior to the operation of the boiler, or pressure vessel.
- (4) No boiler, or unfired pressure vessel shall be installed in a system or operated in a service that the boiler or pressure vessel is not designed and manufactured to the intended service, (as specified on the data report or receive a State Special Permit for that intended service).
- (5) A miniature hobby locomotive boiler is designed to be operated on a narrow gauge track of less than twenty-four (24) inches.

- (6) At the initial inspection of a miniature hobby locomotive boiler, the owner shall provide the Chief Inspector with design specifications and calculations for review and acceptance.
- (7) The owner shall ensure that a miniature hobby locomotive boiler has the following minimum equipment:
 - (a) A pressure gauge graduated to approximately 1.5 times the operating pressure, but no more than 4 times the operating pressure.
 - (b) A means to extinguish the fire in the fire box, if a low water condition exists.
 - (c) Two means of feeding water to the boiler, one of which shall be operable while the locomotive is stationary.
 - (d) A water level gauge glass located so that the top of the bottom nut of the gauge glass is approximately 10% of the distance between the crown sheet and the shell, but not less than ½ inch above the crown sheet.
 - (e) Two safety valves set no more than 10% above the operating pressure for boiler fabricated after the effective date of the rules. The capacity of the safety valves shall be equal to or greater than the calculated steam generating capacity of the boiler.
- (8) Triennially, during the certificate inspection, the owner shall hydrostatically test the Boiler per the NBIC, in the presence of the inspector. All certificate inspections, both internal and external, will be conducted to the current adopted edition of the NBIC, Part 2, and all boiler laws and regulations with the exception of Ultrasonic thickness reading, which will not be done, unless noted on the inspection report, when visually evidenced during the internal inspection.
- (9) All repairs will be conducted by an "R" stamp holder in accordance to the current adopted edition of the NBIC, Part 3.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-28. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Procedure for Contested Cases" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Non-conforming Boilers and Pressure Vessels" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** Rule retitled "Non-conforming or Non-Standard Boilers and Pressure Vessels." F. Jul. 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989.

120-3-26-.15 Boiler and Pressure Vessel Repair or Alteration.

- (1) Repairs and alterations to Boilers and Pressure Vessels shall be performed in accordance with the National Board Inspection Code or as otherwise specified by the jurisdiction. All repair facilities must have a valid contract with an approved inspection agency.
- (2) When repairs or alterations are to be made, permission shall be obtained from an inspector and shall be done in accordance with the latest edition of the National Board inspection code by an authorized repair facility holding a valid National Board "R" stamp or jurisdictional approval for owner/users repairing their own boilers or pressure vessels. Welded repairs to cast iron boilers, pressure vessels or parts thereof shall not be allowed. (3) A request for permission to restamp the boiler or pressure vessel shall be made to the Chief Inspector and proof of the original stamping shall accompany the request. The Chief Inspector may grant such authorization. Restamping, authorized by the Chief Inspector, shall be done only in the presence of an Inspector and shall be identical to the original stamping except for the ASME Code symbol stamp.
- (4) The repair facility shall provide the Chief Inspector with a copy of a completed R-1 repair

form with the inspector's signature when a welded repair has been done within 30 days of the repair. An electronic or paper copy is acceptable.

(a) The repair stamp holder shall complete a repair form on all welded repairs. The distribution shall be to the owner/user and jurisdiction and others as required by the National Board Inspection Code within 30 days of the repair. An electronic or paper copy is acceptable.

(b) An R-2 report for alternation shall be completed on all alterations and distributed in accordance with the National Board Inspection Code. The Chief inspector will receive a copy within 30 days. An electronic or paper copy is acceptable.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-28. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Restrictions" was filed on November

19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Boiler and Pressure Vessel Repair" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** Rule retitled "Boiler and Pressure Vessel Repairs or Alterations." F. Jul. 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. **Amended:** F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992.

Amended: Rule retitled "Boiler and Pressure Vessel, Repair or Alteration." F. Feb. 15, 1994; eff. Mar. 7, 1994. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000.

120-3-26-.16 Reinstallation of Certain Boilers and Pressure Vessels.

(1) A Boiler or Pressure Vessel that is not constructed pursuant to the ASME Code or is not registered with the National Board shall not be reinstalled at any location in this State, when the reinstallation is accompanied by a change of ownership of the boiler or pressure vessel unless the Owner, User receives a State Special Permit.

(2) Secondhand boilers or pressure vessels cannot be installed unless an application for "Permit to Install" has been approved by the Chief Inspector followed by a certificate inspection by a Deputy Inspector.

(3) When a standard boiler or pressure vessel located in this jurisdiction has been removed outside the jurisdiction for temporary use or repair, application shall be made

for a permit to install by the owner or user to the Chief Inspector for permission to reinstall the boiler or pressure vessel in the jurisdiction.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-23. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules" was

filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Reinstallation of Certain Boilers and Pressure Vessels" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. Jul. 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989.

120-3-26-.17 Boiler and Pressure Vessel Construction.

(1) All boilers and pressure vessels must be manufactured in accordance with Sections I, IV, VIII and X of the ASME Code. Shop inspection of boilers and pressure vessels (except cast iron boilers and unfired UM pressure vessels) is mandatory and must be made by Inspectors holding National Board Commissions.

(2) Rules for construction and stamping must comply with the Code and with National Board stamping and registration. In addition to the above requirements, electric boilers shall have the underwriter's laboratories' label.

(3) Cast Iron /Cast Aluminum Boilers are not required to be registered with the National Board.

(4) The code stamping shall not be concealed by lagging or paint and shall be exposed at all times unless a suitable record is kept of the location of the stamping so that it may be readily uncovered when required, or there has been a duplicate name plate attached on the outside cover.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-13, 25-15-14, 25-15-15, 25-15-16. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Exemptions" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Boiler and Pressure Vessel Construction" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000.

120-3-26-.18 Certificate of Authority to Install, Maintain and/or Service Boilers.

(1) All companies as contractors or individuals as owner/users, who install, maintain or service boilers shall have a certificate of authority for the activity performed. Certificate of Authority must be renewed every two years, on or before January 1st. The activity performed shall be Class I for power, high pressure hot water boilers, high temperature fluid heaters, Class II shall be for hot water or steam heating boilers, and Class III shall be for hot water supply boilers or lined potable water heaters. A -1 after the class number shall indicate owner/user location only. An asterisk (**) after the class number shall indicate a restriction, the restriction will be specified on the certificate

(2) All companies as contractors or individuals as owner/users who perform one or more of the above activities on power boilers, high pressure high temperature water boilers, high temperature fluid heaters, hot water or steam heating boilers, hot water supply boilers, electric boilers, heat recovery boilers, lined potable water heaters, miniature boilers, unfired steam boilers, or waste heat boilers as defined by O.C.G.A. Chapter 15 of Title 25 and these rules shall be required to show their competency by examination given by Safety Engineering for the scope of work being performed.

(3) Each Applicant will provide documentation which shows experience and training in the area where certification is requested. The documentation will be evaluated by Safety Engineering for competency prior to administering the exam.

(4) Installing equipment is the act of connecting piping and/or electrical circuits to the equipment and set the equipment up for use. Electrical circuits may be connected, by the installer, from the electrical disconnect to the equipment. All piping that is not connected to a water supply system, sanitary drainage system or storm drainage systems, may be connected by the installer.

(5) Maintenance and Servicing is defined as keeping the equipment in good working order: Any person or company who performs maintenance and service to equipment, shall be responsible for the following: cleaning, replacement of component parts with like parts, testing, blowing down, checking for proper operation, testing equipment after maintenance and service has been performed and starting or stopping of equipment or any other boiler related activity.

(a) Owner/users who perform only the daily operation of the equipment by starting and stopping, blowing down, testing of safety devices or other related equipment operation practices shall be exempt.

- (6) It shall be the responsibility of the owners/users or lessees to ensure the company, contractor and/or persons performing the work has the proper certificate of authority.
- (7) It shall be the responsibility of all owners/users or lessees who are not exempted under paragraph (2) to have persons within their organization qualified and have a certificate of authority to perform installations, maintenance or service on their own boilers, or they may contract companies who have a certificate of authority to perform the scope of work requested.
- (8) All installations shall meet the applicable ASME Code, CSD-1 and state adopted standards (see 300-6-1-.01).
- (9) All maintenance and servicing shall meet the applicable requirements of ASME CSD-1, State adopted Standards, Manufacturer requirements and good Engineering Practice. Also may meet the requirements of ASME Sections VI and VII.
- (10) The fee for the certificate of authority shall be \$50.00 for the original issue and for each renewal.
- (11) All procedures to implement the rules in this section shall be approved by the advisory committee.
- (12) This section shall be effective January 1, 2021 and required to be fully implemented by January 1, 2022.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-26, 25-15-13, 25-15-22. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Notification of Inspection" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Installation of Piping" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987, effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed November 14, 1988, effective December 4, 1988. **Amended:** New Rule entitled "Maintenance Inspection, Testing and Operation of Boilers and Pressure Vessels" adopted. F. Jan. 30, 1992; eff. Feb. 19, 1992. **Amended:** Rule retitled "Certificate of Authority to Install, Maintain and/or Service Boilers." F. Jun. 17, 1997; eff. Jul. 7, 1997. **Amended:** F. Sept. 22, 1998, eff. Oct. 12, 1998. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000, eff. Jan. 30, 2000.

120-3-26-.19 Preparation for Certificate Inspection.

- (1) The owner or user shall prepare each boiler or pressure vessel for inspection, and shall prepare for and apply a hydrostatic or pressure test, whenever necessary, on the date arranged by the Inspector.
- (2) Boilers — The owner or user shall prepare a boiler for internal inspection in the following manner:
 - (a) Water shall be drained off and the boiler washed thoroughly;
 - (b) Manhole and handhole plates, washout plugs, and inspection plugs in water column connections shall be removed as required by the Inspector, and the furnace and combustion chambers shall be cooled and thoroughly cleaned;
 - (c) All grates of internally fired boilers shall be removed;
 - (d) Insulation or brickwork shall be removed as required by the Inspector in order to determine the condition of the boiler, headers, furnace, supports, or other parts;
 - (e) The pressure gauge shall be removed for testing, as required by the Inspector;
 - (f) Any leakage of steam or hot water into the boiler shall be prevented by disconnecting the pipe or valve at the most convenient point or any appropriate

means approved by the Inspector, and

(g) Before opening the manhole or handhole covers and entering any parts of the steam generating unit connected to a common header with other boilers, the nonreturn and steam stop valves shall be closed, tagged, and preferably padlocked, and drain valves or cocks between the two valves opened. The feed valves shall be closed, tagged, and preferably padlocked, and drain valves or cocks located between the two valves opened. After draining the oiler, the blowoff valves shall be closed, tagged, and preferably padlocked. Blowoff lines, where practicable, shall be disconnected between pressure parts and valves. All drains and vent lines shall be opened.

(3) Pressure Vessels. Pressure vessels shall be prepared for inspections to the extent deemed necessary by the Inspector and the applicable procedures outlined in Rule 120-3-26-.17(2).

(4) No employer or owner/user shall permit entry to nor shall an employee or inspector enter a boiler furnace, drum, or header or pressure vessel until all requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Office of Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, 29 CFR 1910.146, Permit-Required Confined Space Standard, requirements have been met, and until the plant inspector or supervisor and the person entering the boiler or pressure vessel have confirmed all stop valves on inlet and outlet piping (not vented to the atmosphere have been closed and tagged. Where not valved off and tagged, the piping shall be disconnected or blanked. In addition, plant personnel shall make appropriate test to assure there is no oxygen deficiency of hazardous or toxic gases in the boiler drums or pressure vessels to be entered by the inspector. Prior to and during entry an approved person must be outside the boiler or pressure vessel to ensure confined space procedures are complied with.

(5) Boilers and pressure vessels improperly prepared for inspection. If a boiler or pressure vessel has not been properly prepared for an internal inspection, or if the owner or user failed to comply with the requirements for a pressure test as set forth in these Rules, the Inspector may decline to make the inspection or test and the inspection certificate shall be withheld or suspended until the owner or user complies with the requirements.

(6) Removal of covering to permit inspection. If the boiler or pressure vessel is jacketed so that the longitudinal seams of shells, drums, or domes cannot be seen, sufficient jacketing, setting wall, or other form of casing or housing shall be removed to permit reasonable inspection of the seams and other areas necessary to determine the condition and safety of the boiler or pressure vessel provided such information cannot be determined by other means.

(7) Lap Seam Cracks. The shell or drum of a boiler or pressure vessel in which a lap seam crack is discovered along a longitudinal riveted joint, shall be immediately discontinued from use. Patching shall be prohibited. (A "Lap seam crack" is defined as a crack found in a lap seam, extending parallel to the longitudinal joint and located either between or adjacent to rivet holes.)

(8) Pressure Tests.

(a) A hydrostatic pressure test, when applied to boilers, shall not exceed one and one-half times the maximum allowable working pressure. The pressure shall be under proper control so that in no case shall the required test pressure be exceeded by more than six percent.

(b) A hydrostatic pressure test, when applied to pressure vessels, shall be a minimum of one and one-half times the maximum allowable working pressure except as permitted by ASME Code Section VIII, Division 1.

(c) During a hydrostatic test, the safety valve or valves shall be removed or gagged; if gagged, each valve disk shall be held to its seat by means of a testing clamp and not by

screwing down the compression screw upon the spring. A Plug device designed for this purpose may be used.

(d) The minimum temperature of the water used to apply a hydrostatic test shall be not less than 70 degrees Fahrenheit and the maximum metal temperature during inspection shall not exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

(e) When a hydrostatic test is applied to determine tightness, the pressure shall be equal to the normal operating pressure but not exceed the release pressure of the safety valve having the lowest release setting.

(f) When the contents of the vessel prohibit contamination by any other medium or when a hydrostatic test is not possible, other testing media may be used providing the precautionary requirements of the applicable section of the ASME Code are followed.

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-13, 25-15-26. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Notification of Accident" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Preparation for Certificate Inspection" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** F. Jul. 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. **Amended:** F. Feb. 15, 1994; eff. Mar. 7, 1994.

120-3-26-.20 Notice of Hearing and Penalties.

(1) Cessation Order.

(a) The Office may issue a written order for the cessation of operation of a boiler or pressure vessel when it has been determined to be hazardous, unsafe, or the failure to comply with any of the provisions of these rules or the safety act. Operation shall not resume until such violations are corrected to the satisfaction of the Commissioner or the Commissioner's authorized representative.

(b) In the event a person knowingly commits a violation or allows a violation to be committed after being issued a cessation order, or warning the Commissioner or the Commissioner's authorized representative may initiate a Citation as stated below.

(2) Issuance of Citation or Notice of Administrative Proceeding:

(a) If upon inspection by an inspector or deputy inspector;

1. A boiler or pressure vessel is deemed to be in an unsafe condition,
2. The owner, operator, user, contractor, or installer has not complied with the Boiler & Pressure Vessel Laws or Rules, or
3. When a written warning citation has been issued and the violation continues, then the deputy inspector shall issue the violator a citation stating the date, time and place of the violation, the specific violation, the recommended penalty, and shall offer the respondent the opportunity for a hearing as set forth in this section.

(b) If upon receiving information from any source, the Chief Inspector determines that there is a reasonable belief that:

1. A boiler or pressure vessel may be in an unsafe condition,
2. The owner, operator, user, contractor, or installer has not complied with the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Law or these Rules, or
3. When a warning has been issued, and the violation is a continuing violation, the Chief Inspector or the Director, Safety Engineering, on behalf of the Office, may issue Notice of Administrative Proceeding stating the date, time, and place of the violation, the specific violation, the recommended penalty, and shall offer the respondent the opportunity for a

hearing as set forth in this section.

(c) The Director, Safety Engineering, upon review of a citation issued under subsection (a) above, may, in his sole discretion, dismiss the citation and substitute therefore a Notice of Administrative Proceeding pursuant to subsection (b) above on the same, similar, or different violation, as required by the evidence.

(d) The Commissioner, upon review of a Citation or Notice of Administrative Proceeding, in his sole discretion, may refer the matter to the appropriate prosecuting official for criminal or injunctive relief as permitted under law. In such event, the Commissioner may, in his sole discretion, elect to dismiss, suspend, or continue with the civil penalty proceeding.

(3) Hearing Procedure:

(a) If request for a hearing is not received from the respondent within the allotted time, the Director, of Safety Engineering, on behalf of the Commissioner, may without further process impose a civil penalty not greater than the total of civil penalties set forth on the citation or in the Notice of Administrative Proceeding. An administrative order under the authority of the Commissioner may be issued to collect the civil penalty assessed.

(b) Upon receipt of a request for a hearing pursuant to any Citation or Notice of Administrative Proceeding, further actions or proceedings shall be governed by the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. Chapter 50-13, O.C.G.A. §25-2-29, O.C.G.A. §25-15-28, and applicable Rules and Regulations of the Commissioner.

(c) All hearings, whether before the Commissioner or an appointed adjudicator, shall be conducted in accordance with the statutes and regulations cited in the preceding subparagraph.

(d) The decision of an appointed adjudicator made after a hearing before the Office of State Administrative Hearings shall be initial agency decision as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-41(d) and shall be subject to review by the Commissioner, Insurance and Safety Fire, as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-41(e). A hearing before the Commissioner shall be the final agency decision in the matter and shall be subject to judicial review as set forth in O.C.G.A. §50-13-19.

(4) Guidelines for Imposition of Civil Penalties:

(a) Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other business entity, which violates this part, shall be subject to the imposition of civil penalties. Each day on which a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. Repeat offenders, whom a violation occurs, shall constitute a separate offense. Repeat offenders, including those who refuse to adhere to orders of the inspectors, exceed the limitations of operating permits, or refuse to adhere to the requirements of these rules and regulations, may be referred appropriate prosecuting official for criminal (misdemeanor) or injunction relief as permitted under law. Serious violations, including those causing serious bodily injury or death, or which exhibit gross negligence or serious disregard for public safety, may also be referred appropriate prosecuting official for criminal (misdemeanor) or injunctive relief as permitted under law.

(b) Notwithstanding the recommended minimum penalties set forth below, a serious violation, including those causing serious bodily injury or death, or which exhibit gross negligence or serious disregard for public safety, may receive the maximum penalty of \$5,000.00 for each violation including a first offense. The imposition of a penalty for a violation of this part shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue.

(c) The deputy inspector issuing a Citation shall, at the time of issuance, specify a recommended civil penalty amount for each specific violation in accordance with these Rules and Regulations. The Director is charged with the responsibility to insure that recommended penalties for violations are graduated with the more serious violations receiving the heavier penalty and with assuring uniformity of recommended penalties such that offenders in similar circumstances with similar violations receive similar penalty recommendation. In this regard, the Director may dismiss a Citation and issue a Notice of Administrative Proceeding solely for the purpose of making an appropriate penalty

recommendation.

(d) The recommended civil penalty set forth in the Citation or Notice of Administrative Proceeding shall be given great deference by the appointed adjudicator. The minimum recommended penalties set forth below is normally for the first offense with only one violation being cited. The appointed adjudicator shall, after hearing the case, consider factors in mitigation of the violation as well as those in aggravation. The appointed adjudicator shall impose a penalty less than the recommended minimum penalty only upon finding unusually signification mitigating factors, and shall set forth those factors in the order.

The appointed adjudicator may impose a penalty substantially greater than the Office recommended penalty upon finding signification aggravating factors associated with violations, and shall set forth those factors in the order. The appointed adjudicator shall consider the provision of these Rules and Regulations guiding the assessment of penalties. In particular, the appointed adjudicator shall, in cases involving structural damage, bodily injury, or death; or continued operation after an unsafe condition is detected or after the equipment is taken out of service by an inspector or deputy inspector, consider the imposition of separate penalties for each day of violation. The appointed adjudicator shall not assess a penalty exceeding \$5,000.00 for each violation and each day of violation.

(e) The appointed adjudicator may, in addition to a civil penalty, recommend in the order that the Commissioner suspend for a period of time or indefinitely, operating certificate, permits to install, or certificates for contractors.

(4) Minimum recommended penalties.

(a) Specific Violations:

1. Operating equipment without an operating certificate. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-26 & Rule 120-3-26-.09)

First offense \$250.00

Second offense \$500.00

2. Operating equipment in an unsafe condition. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-22 & Rule 120-3-26-.09)

First offense \$500.00

Second offense \$1000.00

3. Failure to permit access for the purpose of inspecting or investigating equipment. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-23 & Rule 120-3-26-.07)

First offense \$500.00

Second offense \$1000.00

4. Failing to notify the Chief Inspector of any violation involving structural damage or injury. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-10 & Rule 120-3-26-.08)

First offense \$500.00

Second offense \$1000.00

Offense involved in death \$5000.00

5. Placing unit back in service, which has been "Red Tagged" and placed out of service by a deputy inspector without first having the unit inspected. (O.C.G.A. 25-15-10 & Rule 120-26-18)

First offense \$1000.00

Second offense \$2500.00

6. Placing unit back in service, which has been involved in an accident prior to first having the unit inspected. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-10 & Rule 120-3-26-.10)

First offense \$1000.00

Second offense \$2500.00

7. Turning equipment over for use without a final acceptance inspection. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-14 & Rule 120-3-26-.07)

First offense \$500.00

- Second offense \$1000.00
8. Installing equipment without a permit. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-14 & Rule 120-3-26-.07)
- First offense Double Permit Fee
- Second offense..... Triple Permit Fee
9. Inspecting without qualifications. (Rule 120-3-26-.10)
- First offense \$500.00
- Second offense
- \$1000.00 (b) General Violations:
1. Violating adopted Codes, Standards, Rules, Regulations or Orders. (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-14 & Rule 120-3-26-.01)
- First offense \$250.00
- Second offense \$500.00
2. Certified company performing an activity which violates the law or regulations: (O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-14 & Rule 120-3-26-.16)
- Any Offense \$2500.00 and Suspension of Certificate
3. Any third repeated offense might subject the violator to the maximum civil penalty permitted under the Act (\$5,000.00).

Authority O.C.G.A. Secs. 25-15-26, 25-15-13, 25-15-31 **History.** Original Rule entitled "Validity of Inspection Certificate" was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "General Requirements" adopted. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** Filed November 14, 1988; effective December 4, 1988. **Amended:** F. Jul. 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989. **Amended:** F. Sept. 22, 1998; eff. Oct. 12, 1998.

120-3-26-.21 Safety/Safety Relief Valves.

(1) Minimum Relieving Capacity, Safety Valve, and/or Safety Relief Valves.

TABLE
1

MINIMUM POUNDS OF STEAM PER HOUR PER SQUARE FOOT OF SURFACE

	Firetube Boilers	Watertube Boilers
Boiler Heating Surface		
Hand Fired	5	6
Stoker Fired	7	8
Oil, Gas, or Pulverized Fuel Fired	8	10
Waterwall Heating Surface		
Hand Fired	8	8
Stoker Fired	10	12
Oil, Gas, or Pulverized Fuel Fired	14	16

(a) These numbers may not be adequate for boilers installed after 1976 or for boilers with updated fuel burning equipment. If in doubt, an accumulation test is recommended.

(b) When a boiler is fired only by a gas giving a heat value not in excess of 200 BTU per cu. ft., the minimum safety valve or safety relief valve relieving capacity may be based in the value given for hand-fired boilers above.

(2) The minimum relieving capacity of the valve or valves shall be governed by the capacity marking on the boiler vessel, or the minimum valve capacity in pounds per hour shall be the greater of that determined by dividing the maximum BTU output at the boiler nozzle obtained by the firing of any fuel determined on the basis of the pounds of steam generated per hour per square foot of boiler heating surface as given in Table 1. In many cases, a greater relieving capacity of valves will have to be provided than the minimum specified by these Rules.

Example: $\text{BTU/hr} = \text{lbs/hr} \times 1000 = \text{BTU/hr} \times 1000$

(3) The minimum safety valve or safety relief valve relieving capacity for electric boilers shall be 3 - 1/2 pounds per hour per kilowatt input.

(4) No person shall attempt to remove or do any work on any safety appliance prescribed by these Rules and Regulations while the appliance is subject to pressure, excluding setting or resetting of safety valves or safety relief valves.

(5) Should any of those appliances be removed for repair during an outage of a boiler or pressure vessel, they shall be reinstalled and in proper working order before the object is again placed in service.

(6) No person shall alter any safety or safety relief devices in any manner to maintain a working pressure in excess of that stated on the boiler or pressure vessel inspection certificate.

(7) Alterations to, resetting, recalibration of, or repairs to safety or safety relief valves shall be made only by an organization which holds a valid certificate of authorization for use of the National Board "VR" stamp or by an owner user's maintenance organization, approved by the Chief Inspector which is limited to repairing of only those valves for its own use.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-13. **History.** Original Rule entitled "Georgia Standard Pressure Vessels" was

filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985. **Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed September 28,

1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** New Rule entitled "Safety/Safety Relief Valves" adopted. F.

Jul. 12, 1989; eff. Aug. 1, 1989.

120-3-26-.22 Exceptions.

(1) Boilers and pressure vessels exempted from the requirements of the Safety Act. The following is in addition to the exceptions listed in O.C.G.A. Section 25-15-16.

(2) Espresso coffee and similar machine boilers, providing these boilers meet look this up the following requirements:

(a) The boilers shall be manufactured and tested to a National Standard, and

(b) shall not be more than (3) three U.S. gallons in size, and

(c) shall not operate more than 15 pounds per square inch, (PSI) and have a safety relief valve set to relieve at or below 15 psig.

(d) The boiler shall not be repaired by welding.

(3) Boilers with outlets open to the atmosphere when there are no valves or restriction in the outlet system and pressure cannot rise to above 0 psig at maximum operating condition and temperature cannot rise above 212 degrees Fahrenheit.

(4) Hot water supply heaters with storage capacity of six gallons or less and 400,000 BTU/hr. or less used for spas or swimming pools with open systems (unrestricted flow) shall meet all requirements of an adopted standard and ASME CSD-1 as applicable for construction, installation, repairs, or alterations.

Authority O.C.G.A. Sec. 25-15-13. **History.** Original Rule entitled “Georgia Special Boilers and Pressure Vessels” was filed on November 19, 1985; effective December 9, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed. Filed September 28, 1987; effective October 18, 1987. **Amended:** New Rule entitled “Exceptions” adopted. F. Feb. 27, 1996; eff. Mar. 17, 1996. **Amended:** F. Sept. 22, 1998; eff. Oct. 12, 1998. **Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2000; eff. Jan. 30, 2000.