

EmPower New York Procedures Related to Health and Safety

For all jobs:

- A. Emergency situations must be treated as per Section 5.
- B. Contractor is responsible to procure, maintain and calibrate Carbon Monoxide (CO) and natural gas/propane testing equipment. The Contractor must maintain calibration of instruments according to manufacturer specifications.
- C. Prior approval must be obtained for any health and safety measures with a total cost greater than \$150.
- D. On all jobs in homes with combustion appliances or attached garages, the Contractor must test the ambient air for Carbon Monoxide, in accordance with BPI procedures.
- E. In dwellings served by EmPower in which the customer is the owner of the dwelling, which have either a combustion appliance or attached garage, the Contractor must ensure that a working CO detector is present. Household must be instructed in its use, and provided with instruction manual and warranty information. CO detectors that are provided by the Contractor must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Comply with UL-2034
 - 2. Employ an electro-chemical sensor
 - 3. Be powered by a lithium battery
 - 4. Conform to all local codes
 - 5. Make, model and price must be prior-approved by Program Implementer.
- F. In homes where a non-venting dryer exists:
 - 1. Workslope must include a proposal to vent the dryer to the outside in the following situations:
 - a. Customer owns home
 - b. Customer is a tenant, and a Landlord Agreement exists which allows invasive measures.
 - 2. If customer is a tenant and no Landlord Agreement exists, contractor must recommend that tenant pursue venting of dryer with landlord.
 - 3. In situations where the cost of venting the dryer outside exceeds the Contractor Participation Agreement price, contractor must propose a plan and cost to the Program Implementer. Program Implementer must then determine whether to proceed.
- G. In homes where the dryer is vented by a vent that is not code-compliant, the contractor must recommend to the household that the vent be replaced with a code-compliant vent.
- H. If a contractor finds that the safety discharge pipe for the pressure relief valve on the water heater is not present, contractor must recommend that the safety discharge pipe be installed.
- I. In homes in which the customer is the owner of the dwelling and no working smoke detector exists, Contractor may provide the household with a smoke detector. Household must be instructed in its use, and provided with instruction manual and warranty information. The smoke detector must meet the following criteria:
 - 1. Be powered by a lithium battery
 - 2. Conform to all local codes
 - 3. Make, model and price must be prior-approved by Program Implementer.
- J. In homes where the customer is a tenant, and either a CO or smoke detector is needed, Contractor must make a recommendation to the tenant.
- K. If the Contractor identifies Health and Safety concerns beyond the scope of EmPower New York the Contractor must notify the building owner the concerns exist. In presenting health

and safety concerns, it is crucial that Contractor state these concerns appropriately. Conditions must be described objectively; it is important that Contractors make no statements based on judgments beyond their own expertise.

On Home Performance jobs:

- A. The Contractor must follow BPI procedures for Health and Safety as outlined in “Building Performance Institute Technical Standards for Certified Building Analyst I” (www.bpi.org). This includes, but is not limited to;
 1. Testing of gas lines for leaks. Exact locations of leaks must be noted on audit paperwork. Photographs can serve as useful documentation.
- B. No Home Performance measures that reduce air movement may be implemented in a home with an unvented dryer. This includes air sealing and insulation.
- C. In the event that an unvented space heater exists in the home:
 1. Contractor must follow BPI 1200 standards, Section 7.8.4 as follows:
 - Check appliance for *ANSI Z21.11.2 –Gas Fired Room Heaters-Volume II* (ANSI Z21.11.2) label.
 - Recommend removal of any unvented heater that is not listed to *ANSI Z21.11.2*.
 - Verify that the heater input is a maximum of 40,000 BTUh, but not more than 10,000 BTUh where installed in a bedroom, and 6,000 BTUh when installed in a bathroom.
 - Recommend removal of any unvented heater that exceeds the maximum allowable BTUh as specified in Section 7.8.4.3.
 2. Inhabitants must be educated as to the dangers of CO and the correct use of the space heater.
 3. The contractor should explore options for eliminating usage, such as installation of a vented space heater or repairs to a primary heating system. The viability of the project will then be evaluated on the basis of the combined health and safety and Home Performance costs.

On Electric Reduction jobs:

- A. Gas leak testing is not required. However, if a gas leak is suspected, contractor must follow procedures as outlined in CRM Section 13.
- B. Combustion Appliance Zone (CAZ) testing is only required in situations in which the contractor performs measures which impact air movement in the home, such as the installation of a natural gas-fueled hot water tank or dryer, or if a dryer has been vented to the outdoors. If such testing requires a return visit to the home, an additional fee may be charged. Prior approval from the Program Implementer must be obtained.