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Document No. 4621

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING AND REGULATION**

**OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

CHAPTER 71

Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 23‑9‑60, 23‑9‑550, 23‑35‑45, and 23‑36‑80

71‑8306. Hydrogen Facilities.

**Synopsis:**

The Office of State Fire Marshal proposes to eliminate redundant and unnecessary provisions of the regulations; update, correct, and/or otherwise improve by amending the remaining existing regulations; use a standardized format for all regulations; and to make the current regulations compatible with current federal and state statutes.

A Notice of Drafting was published in the *State Register* on September 25, 2015.

**Instructions:**

Regulation 71‑8306 is amended as shown below.

**Text:**

SUBARTICLE 7

HYDROGEN FACILITIES

71‑8306. Hydrogen Facilities.

(Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Section 23‑9‑550)

71‑8306.1. General.

A. The purpose of these regulations are to provide reasonable safety and protection to the public, public property, private property from the hazards associated with the handling, use, storage, transfer and dispensing at a hydrogen facility.

B. This regulation shall apply to:

1. Hydrogen dispensing stations for public or commercial use as a transportation fuel and motor vehicle fuel or in a fuel cell;

2. Bulk hydrogen compressed gas systems for a hydrogen facility;

3. Bulk liquefied hydrogen gas systems for a hydrogen facility;

4. Commercial hydrogen generation systems connected to a hydrogen facility; and

5. Engineered and pre‑engineered hydrogen fuel cell systems.

C. This regulation shall not apply to:

1. The manufacture, sale, or storage of small scale hydrogen generation or consumption systems where hydrogen is held in containers of one liter or less and Maximum Allowable Quantities (MAQ) are not exceeded.

2. The transportation, handling, and/or use of hydrogen by the State Fire Marshal, his employees, or any commissioned law enforcement officers acting within their official capacities.

3. The manufacture or transportation of bulk hydrogen.

4. Hydrogen used as an ingredient or by product in the manufacture of a product.

71‑8306.2. Codes and standards.

A. All references to codes and standards found in these regulations refer to the editions adopted in R.71‑8300.2 and are modified by the following regulations as shown below.

B. All facilities shall be designed and installed in accordance with the adopted codes and standards listed in R.71‑8300.2.

71‑8306.3. Engineered and pre‑engineered systems.

A. Engineered hydrogen systems.

1. All installations shall be in accordance with South Carolina Laws, Regulations, and adopted Codes.

2. Plans and specifications prepared by a licensed engineer or prepared under the licensee’s direct supervision must be stamped with seals prior to submission and review by OSFM.

B. Pre‑engineered hydrogen systems.

1. All installations shall be in accordance with South Carolina Laws, Regulations, and adopted Codes.

2. Plans and specifications are not required to be prepared by a licensed engineer nor be stamped with seals prior to submission and review by OSFM.

71‑8306.4. Permit application requirements for hydrogen facilities.

A. The OSFM may issue a permit to a location when presented a completed application that contains at least the following, where applicable:

1. A site plan, drawn to scale, which shows equipment locations and point(s) of transfer with respect to property lines, nearby structures, roads & dikes, power lines, and other potential ignition sources;

2. An accidental release plan;

3. The piping layout with valves and fitting details;

4. Normal and emergency ventilation designs;

5. Container capacity (or capacities) and design standards;

6. Electrical plan;

7. Container and piping support details;

8. Information concerning onsite fire protection equipment;

9. Information concerning the project’s beginning and ending points, if part of a larger system;

10. Listed equipment with listing agency;

11. Unless exempted, design documents sealed by an engineer licensed in South Carolina; and,

12. All applicable fees paid in full.

71‑8306.5. Licensing and permitting fees.

A. All fees are due at time of application for licenses, tests, or permitting.

B. Permit applications are due in the OSFM prior to construction or installation.

C. Approval of plans for hydrogen facilities are to be obtained prior to start of construction or installation.

D. The OSFM is responsible for all administrative activities of the licensing program. The OSFM shall employ and supervise personnel necessary to effectuate the provisions of this article and shall establish fees sufficient but not excessive to cover expenses, including direct and indirect costs to the State for the operation of this licensing program.

E. Fees shall be established for the following:

1. Application fee $10

2. Permitting fee (includes plan review and initial site inspection) $250.

3. Inspection fee (semi‑annual) $100.

4. Renewal of permits (annual – includes inspection) $100.

F. The application fee is due at time of application for license.

G. All fees paid to the OSFM are nonrefundable.

**Fiscal Impact Statement:**

There will be no cost incurred by the State or any of its political subdivisions for these regulations.

**Statement of Rationale:**

The updated regulations will eliminate redundant and unnecessary provisions of the regulations; update, correct, and/or otherwise improve by amending the remaining existing regulations; use a standardized format for all regulations; and to make the current regulations compatible with current federal and state statutes.