



Building Services  
808 West Spokane Falls Blvd  
Spokane WA 99201-3343  
(509) 625-6300

**EL-04**  
**Use of Natural Gas to Fuel  
a Required Emergency or  
Standby Power Generator**

---

The National Electrical Code (NFPA 70) Article 700.12(B) (3) and Article 701.11(B) (3) require that the prime mover of a generator set not be solely dependent upon a public utility gas system for their fuel supply. The extension to both of these requirements is "Exception: Where acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction, the use of other than on-site fuels shall be permitted where there is a low probability of a simultaneous failure of both the off-site fuel delivery system and power from the outside electrical utility company."

Based upon a history of a reliable supply of natural gas, even during events such as a firestorm or ice storm, natural gas is approved as fuel source for emergency power generators for most low-rise buildings.

An on-site fuel supply **will be required** for hospitals, high rise buildings as defined by IBC 403.1 and places of assembly with an occupant load over 1,000.