

CPSC 6 (b)(1) Cleared

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MEETING LOG
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Industry Activities to Address Water Heater
Ignition of Flammable Vapors

PLACE: La Mansion Del Rio, San Antonio, TX

MEETING DATE: January 9-10, 1995 ✓

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Donald W. Switzer DWS

ENTRY DATE: January 17, 1995

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Donald W. Switzer ES

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

See attached attendance sheet

MEETING SUMMARY

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Flammable Vapor Ignition was formed by the Gas Research Institute (GRI) to provide technical oversight of the development of a test protocol to screen water heater resistance to igniting flammable vapors. The protocol will be provided to the ANSI Z21 water heater subcommittee to be used as the basis for a standard test method in the ANSI Z21 residential water heater standard. The TAG consists of experts from the gas-fired water heater manufacturing industry, from natural gas utilities, and from CPSC. The protocol is being developed by Arthur D. Little, Inc., (ADL) under contract to GRI.

The purpose of this meeting was to provide ADL with a technical review of the approach being suggested for the test protocol. ADL has proposed a methodology wherein a water heater would be operated in a chamber containing flammable vapors. This approach was suggested by CPSC staff at the previous TAG meeting, and has the advantages of being straight forward, reproducible and containing few variables. Protocol development will be in two phases. The first phase will be characterization of the vapor cloud formed when gasoline is spilled under "worst case" conditions. The information from phase one will be used to establish the vapor volume and rate of introduction into the chamber during the second phase of testing when the water heater will be operating in the chamber.

The TAG agreed to the approach being taken. Initial testing will begin shortly, and ADL will present the results of the testing and a detailed test facility design at the next TAG meeting, tentatively scheduled for March, 1995.

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01/08/1995

FROM GAS RESEARCH INSTI.
GAS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Attendee List
alpha by last name

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Meeting:
Flammable Vapor TAG
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01/09/1995 to 01/10/1995

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