Incorrect storage of bulk LPG is a public risk

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(Previously titled - Temporary bulk LPG storage for hospitals and aged care facilities)

Incorrect installation of bulk Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) poses a risk to the public

During the current gas crisis some hospitals and aged care facilities have installed temporary bulk LPG storage.
To assist in the establishment of these installations the following guidance is provided:

- If practicable tanks of 8000 litre capacity or larger should be located approximately 10 metres from occupied buildings and 6 metres from public streets. Otherwise people in adjacent buildings should be moved to a distance of approximately 10 metres from the tank
- Pipework must be adequately supported on the ground, against a solid surface or on suitable trestles
- Pipework before the first stage regulator must be steel
- Use a registered plumber to install tanks and pipework
- Provide adequate security such as a 1.8 metre wire fence around the installation, a 24 hour security guard or protect fittings by a lockable enclosure
- Clear combustible material and vegetation from around tanks
- Do not locate tanks near any pits or drains.
- Pits or drains within 3 metres of the tank should be sealed to prevent gas vapour from entering
- Contact the Fire Protection Authority for advice on fire protection measures and preparation of emergency plans
- Contact the electricity supplier for advice if overhead power lines are located in proximity to the tanks
- Protect tanks and fittings from being damaged by vehicular traffic
- Liase with your supplier to determine if any additional measures need to be adopted when refilling
- Provide training to employees on the properties and hazards associated with LPG
- Consult Australian Standard AS 1596 for guidance on the points in this Alert