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## Underground/Mounded LP-Gas Containers Maintenance & Testing

The City of Rehoboth Beach requires all LP-Gas containers and systems comply with the requirements of the NFPA 58, National Fire Protection Association – Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code.

NFPA 58 regulations require that all underground tanks must receive **cathodic protection** testing from a qualified cathodic protection professional at the following times:

- 1. Upon installation of the cathodic protection system, unless prohibited by climatic conditions, in which case testing shall be done within 180 days after the installation of the system.
- 2. For continued verification of the effectiveness of the system, 12 to 18 months after the initial test.
- 3. Upon successful verification testing and in consideration of previous test results, periodic follow-up testing shall be performed at intervals not to exceed 36 months.

Question: What is cathodic protection?

<u>Answer</u>: Cathodic protection is an electrochemical technique used to prevent corrosion of metal surfaces, especially in buried structures like underground propane tanks. It works by making the protected metal the cathode of an electrochemical cell, effectively preventing it from corroding.

Cathodic protection testing involves evaluating the effectiveness of the cathodic protection system by measuring and assessing various electrical and chemical parameters.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Homeowners are required to keep the results of the last two tests to prove that cathodic protection is working.\*\*\*