

## **Enbridge Gas Distribution - Residential Temporary Heat (Construction and Finishing) Frequently Asked Questions**

Builders are required to contact Enbridge in order for the company, or its authorized contractor, to initially activate an Enbridge meter for temporary heat (construction and finishing).

### **What is Temporary Heat?**

Temporary heat refers to the use of natural gas prior to initial installation inspections, and homeowner occupancy. It includes the activation of an appliance which is approved for either construction or finishing heat as outlined by manufacturers, local code, Technical Standards & Safety Authority (TSSA) requirements, and Enbridge policy.

**Note:** The premise must remain unoccupied during temporary heat activation and operation. Once a premise no longer requires temporary heat, Enbridge must be contacted and initial installation inspections must be performed after construction is completed and prior to homeowner occupancy.

### **What is Construction Heat?**

- Construction heat is the use and activation of an appliance such as a portable construction heater, and/or approved furnace for heating a premises under construction, as outlined by the manufacturer of the appliance and local code requirements.

### **What is Finishing Heat?**

- Finishing heat is the use and activation of a residential furnace to heat the home during the finishing stages of construction, prior to occupancy as outlined by [the TSSA advisory \(FS-232-17\)](#).

### **What is the definition of Finishing Stages of Construction?**

- This is the stage within construction after the drywall, sanding, and first coat of wall primer have been applied. The premises must be cleaned of all loose debris and drywall dust, and caution must be taken on a regular basis by the builder/constructor to ensure the indoor remains in this cleaned condition.

### **What is required for finishing heat activation?**

- If the furnace manufacturer has indicated limitations on its use during construction of the home, this residential gas furnace will only be activated by Enbridge provided the builder and installing contractor have completed the [finishing heat activation form](#), and the site and furnace(s) meet all required conditions and applicable codes, as outlined in the Builder Site Preparation for Residential Temporary Heat Activation (Construction and Finishing) [bulletin](#).

## What is a finishing heat activation form? What do I do with this form? Where should it be placed?

- The [finishing heat activation form](#) is a document that contains a checklist of points that must be signed off by the builder and furnace installer prior to finishing heat activation.
- Enbridge requires the heating contractor's/builders to complete, sign, and post the finishing heat activation form in advance of a furnace being activated for finishing heat.
- The [finishing heat activation form](#) can be placed on the furnace's return air ducting or in a readily accessible location (on-site) near the furnace that will not result in the removal during finishing heat or initial installation inspections. It is recommended a second copy be made and stored safely with the builder.

**Note:** Failure to complete and maintain the steps outlined in the [finishing heat activation form](#), (checklist points) will result in the interruption of gas service.

## Where can I get this finishing heat activation form?

- The finishing heat activation form can be downloaded online at [buildwithgas.com](http://buildwithgas.com) in the [Technical Resources](#) section.

## Will I require having the [finishing heat activation form](#) present when Enbridge conducts Initial Installation Inspections?

- If a furnace was used for finishing heat, Enbridge will inspect it to compare the state of the furnace with the finishing heat requirements included in the finishing heat activation form.

## What happens if a furnace is found to be operated outside the scope of the finishing heat requirements?

- If at the time of finishing heat activation and/or initial installation inspections the furnace appears to have been activated and it is not approved for construction heat or the furnace was not protected and operated in accordance to the requirements in the [TSSA Advisory \(FS-232-17\)](#), Enbridge **will** reject the furnace installation and the furnace will no longer be able to be used in any permanent installation.

## Can a residential furnace be used for both construction and finishing heat?

- If a builder has a furnace that is approved for construction heat, as indicated in the manufacturer's instruction, he/she can either follow the construction heat **or** finishing heat activation process - provided **all** requirements for the chosen process are in place during activation.

**Note:** Site and furnace preparation requirements are more stringent for finishing heat. If the builder's furnace is approved for construction heat it is recommended to request construction heat activation rather than finishing heat. Refer to [TSSA Advisory \(FS-232-](#)

[17](#)) and Enbridge's Site Preparation for Residential Temporary Heat Activation (Construction and Finishing) [bulletin](#) for site requirements.

- If a builder has a furnace that is **not** approved for construction heat, they can only follow the finishing heat process.

**Note:** the builder must ensure they request the correct type of temporary heat depending on the appliance and site conditions they have available.

**Important:** The process to use a furnace for construction heat and the process to use a furnace for finishing heat each have different requirements. Builders cannot switch between these two processes with the same furnace.

### **Can I use the furnace for construction “cooling” or air conditioning?**

Construction cooling is not allowed unless the builder chooses to do it under either the construction heat or the finishing heat requirements.

This means that if a furnace is pre-activated in a site that did not apply for any of the temporary heat options then the appliance will be rejected during the initial installation inspection conducted by Enbridge.

### **As a builder/contractor how do I ensure my site is ready to be activated for Temporary Heat?**

- In order to ensure that your site is ready for Temporary Heat activation, please refer to our Builder Site Preparation for Residential Temporary Heat Activation (Construction and Finishing) [bulletin](#).

### **What type of appliances can be used for residential temporary heat? And who can connect these appliances to the meter set?**

- Residential temporary heat includes the use of the following appliances if approved for such use:
  - Portable construction heaters;
  - Residential furnaces approved for construction heat;
  - Residential furnaces used for finishing heat. This furnace must meet the requirements of [TSSA Advisory \(FS-232-17\)](#) and Enbridge's Builder Site Preparation for Residential Temporary Heat Activation (Construction and Finishing) [bulletin](#).

**Note:** An appliance can only be used during the construction phase if it is explicitly stated in the manual that this type of use is permitted, or if it has been authorized through local codes. Please also note that most appliance manuals do not allow this.

Under the Fuel Industry Certificates regulation (Regulation 215/01), the holder of a Record of Training (ROT) (i.e. CH-01, CH-02) is permitted to connect/disconnect, install, and operate a portable construction heater. A certified gas technician who holds a G2 (or higher) may also perform these functions, and with the addition of installing and operating an approved furnace used for construction and/or finishing heat.

**As a builder who utilizes portable construction heaters, am I required to have a Record of Training (ROT) holder install and operate a construction heater? Will I be required to provide this?**

- Yes. The Ontario Gas Code requires that anyone other than a certified gas technician complete training to install, activate, or operate a gas fired construction heater. A Record of Training (ROT) must be carried by the person(s) performing any of the above functions, as listed in regulation 215/01 – Fuels Industry Certificates. Enbridge will be collecting this information during construction heat activation.

**Can my ROT holder connect and install the construction heater to an Enbridge natural gas meter?**

- Yes, however only Enbridge or its authorized contractor is permitted to initially activate the meter. The construction heater must be installed in accordance with all local codes and regulations and be ready for initial activation by the Enbridge representative.

**Is a licensed ROT or certificate holder required on site for the initial activation of the construction heater and meter?**

- No. However, the ROT or licensed certificate holder is required for continuous operation of the construction heater. After successful inspection and activation of the construction heater, Enbridge will leave the construction heater off for the holder of an ROT or G2 (or higher) certificate holder to operate.

**Does Enbridge collect the fuels certificate information on meter activations for temporary heat? How can this information be provided?**

- Yes. Enbridge will be requesting the fuel industry certificate information on all activations for temporary heat. For portable construction heaters this can be attached directly to the connection point of the meter, and for furnaces this will be represented as the pressure test tag connected to the gas piping.

**How do I request gas for the purpose of temporary (construction/finishing) heat? Is there a cost involved in activating a new service for construction heat?**

- You can request the appointment by completing the online meter activation for temporary heat appointment form which can be found on [www.buildwithgas.com](http://www.buildwithgas.com), or by faxing the form to 1-800-494-6411. For residential temporary heat, please provide 72

hours (3 business days) notification. There is a charge \$70 to activate natural gas for temporary heat. This fee includes a site visit to assess your installation to determine whether it meets the criteria set forth in the Enbridge guidelines for temporary heat.

**Can I disconnect my portable construction heater from one site, and move it to another that is already activated for temporary heat?**

- Swapping of portable construction heaters among sites is permitted, provided each site has been individually activated for temporary heat in accordance with Enbridge's [temporary heat guidelines](#). Only Enbridge may initially activate a new service for temporary heat; for safety it's not permitted to feed separate premises off a single activated meter.

**Do I still require Enbridge to complete a safety inspection of all equipment installed prior to occupancy? Will there be a cost involved with this initial installation inspection?**

- Yes. A safety inspection of all natural gas equipment and piping is required upon construction completion and prior to final occupancy as per Regulation 212/01 – Gaseous Fuels. Enbridge provides one inspection per premise prior to occupancy free of charge.

**How long can my site be connected to gas for temporary heat purposes prior to final activation?**

- Gas may be supplied for temporary heat purposes as long as the building remains unoccupied and under construction/ finishing stages of construction. Model homes, sales offices, and inventory homes are not considered under construction/ finishing stages of construction.

**What if my construction heater or furnace cannot be activated or is not installed to code?**

- If during an initial activation for temporary heat the portable construction heater or furnace will not activate or is not installed in accordance with all local codes and regulations, the meter will not be activated. Enbridge or its authorized contractor will notify the site office. A new appointment for temporary heat activation will need to be scheduled. A charge will apply.

**Can I switch from a portable construction heater to an approved furnace used for construction heat or an approved furnace for finishing heat? Do I need to call Enbridge for another temporary heat inspection?**

- A licensed and qualified gas contractor (i.e. G1, G2) may disconnect the portable construction heater, tie in the permanent piping, and activate the furnace for temporary heat provided the appliance is installed per all applicable codes, approved for such use, and all site conditions are in place as outlined in the Builder Site Preparation for Residential Temporary Heat Activation (construction and finishing) [bulletin](#).



- Another temporary heat appointment is not required, provided the meter was previously activated by Enbridge for temporary heat, the appliance is a furnace approved for construction heat, or meets the [TSSA Advisory \(FS-232-17\)](#) requirements.

Note:

1. Installation inspections are still required prior to occupancy. \*
2. The builder/contractor shares the responsibility to ensure site conditions are maintained during the entire activation and operation of appliances being used during temporary heat.

**What happens if my meter is found activated, and Enbridge did not perform the initial activation?**

- All non-compliant meter activations will be reported to Enbridge's Customer Safety and Compliance department.

At Enbridge we take pride in the safe and reliable distribution of energy. This ongoing commitment to our customers ensures a cost effective approach is taken to deliver the fuel used to heat our homes, businesses, and to power industry. At Enbridge, we want to be your Go-To energy partner.

For more information, visit [buildwithgas.com](http://buildwithgas.com) or contact your local [Channel Consultant](#).