

**PHILIPPINE NATIONAL  
STANDARD**

DPNS \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
ICS \_\_\_\_\_

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**Natural Gas Quality Specification**



**BUREAU OF PRODUCTS STANDARDS**

**Philippine Natural Gas Quality Standards**

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**Foreword**

Natural gas is made up of a mixture of “predominantly methane” hydrocarbon gases and this mixture can vary widely between sources. Current natural gas supply in the country is mainly based on Malampaya gas. To prepare for the time when the decline in Malampaya gas resources, gas supply will be supplemented by importation in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and/or another indigenous natural gas resource, establishing a natural gas quality standard specification will ensure safe use of gas, ensure supply security as well as maximize cost efficiency of the natural gas value chain.

To support its economic growth, the Philippines will need other sources of energy and will require additional production from indigenous sources as well as imported LNG. Since natural gas comes in different forms such as LNG and CNG, the country will need to expand its sources to meet the growing demand for natural gas and as the option for the country’s gas supply expands; e.g. indigenous or LNG imports, there will be the need to develop quality standards in order to have more efficient supply acquisition and distribution of natural gas.

In order for the DOE to achieve setting the natural gas quality standard specification, a Technical Working Group (TWG) was created. The TWG was tasked to identify the relevant parameters and range of values that should be in the gas quality standard with consideration to internationally accepted quality standards as well as compliance to local laws such as the Clean Air Act of 1999.

This standard would be applicable to all natural gas to be commercially used and sold in the Philippines, be it from imported LNG or indigenous natural gas, i.e., natural gas would have to be treated first to conform to the standard before being commercially sold in the Philippines if necessary<sup>1</sup>.

Certain exemptions are allowable in case natural gas does not conform to this standard such as “own-use” purchases of imported LNG and “bilateral agreements” between two parties, i.e., as long as the end-user in a bilateral party agrees to use the natural gas provided by the supplier.

A separate Department Circular will be issued by the DOE on the Policy Guidelines on the Standardization of Natural Gas for commercial use and sale in the Philippines.

“ISO/FDIS 13686: Natural gas – Quality designation” was used as the main reference document for the drafting of this standard.

This entire standard is subject to review and/or revision when necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> Following the Policy Direction of the Downstream Oil Industry in the Philippines.

## **1 Scope**

This standard specifies the requirements for all natural gas that will be commercially sold in the Philippines.

## **2 References**

The titles of the standard publications referred to in this standard are listed on the Annexes.

## **3 Definition of Terms**

For the purposes of this standard, the terms and definitions given in ISO 14532 apply.

## 4 Requirements

### 4.1 Chemical and Physical Properties

Natural Gas that will be allowed to be used in the Philippines shall conform to the chemical and physical requirements specified in Table 1.

**Table 1 – Chemical and Physical Properties with corresponding Test Methods**

Parameters	Units	Department of Energy Proposal		
		Min	Max	Test method
Superior Calorific Value	MJ/m <sup>3</sup>	36.50	43.75	ASTM D 3558 ISO 6976
Wobbe Index	MJ/m <sup>3</sup>	45.60	53.90	ISO 6976
Methane	% mol	80		ASTM D1945 ISO 6974
Relative Density		0.555	0.680	ASTM D 3558 – ISO 6976
Total Sulfur	mg/m <sup>3</sup>		30	ASTM D 5504 ISO 6326
Hydrogen Sulfide	mg/m <sup>3</sup>		6 <sup>(A)</sup>	ASTM D 5504 ISO 6326
Oxygen	% mol		0.005	ASTM D1945 ISO 6974
Total Inerts (N <sub>2</sub> + CO <sub>2</sub> )	% mol		10	ASTM D1945 ISO 6974

#### NOTES:

<sup>1</sup> The numerical figures for Gross Heating Value, Gross Wobbe Index, Methane % and Relative Density are inter-connected and were derived based on Standard Temperature and Pressure (STP) of 288.15°K (15°C) and 1.01325 bars (1 atm) as required by ISO 13443 for Natural Gas. A separate "Reference Document" was made for the computation of the derived values.

<sup>1</sup> Water Dewpoint (H<sub>2</sub>O DP at -6°C) and Hydrocarbon Dewpoint (HC DP at -2°C) at a specified pressure will be taken into consideration for natural gas pipeline operational requirements.

<sup>1</sup> Mercaptan will not be required for natural gas supply-side. Applicable only if natural gas use is defined for residential, commercial and transport sector. A separate end-use policy will address Mercaptan requirements through another PNS.

<sup>1</sup> Methane Number (MN) will not be a mandatory specification for natural gas quality. Applicable only if natural gas is defined for reciprocating engine use. A separate end-use policy will address Methane Number (MN) requirements through another PNS. Methane Number (MN) can be computed based on ISO 15403, page 19. *Notes:* (A) As per Article 3, Section 19 of the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999, maximum permissible Hydrogen Sulfide is 7 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>.

**5 Review of Literature****References**

PNS \_\_: \_\_

- ASTM D 3558: Procedure for Calculating Calorific Value and Specific Gravity of Gaseous Fuels
- ASTM D1945: Standard Method for constituents of gases by gas chromatography
- ASTM D 5504: Sulfur Compounds in Natural Gas and Gaseous Fuels by Gas Chromatography and Chemiluminescence.
- ISO 6974: Natural Gas – Determination of composition from C1 to C8 with defined uncertainty by gas chromatography.
- ISO 6976: Natural Gas – Calculation of Calorific Values, Density, Relative Density, and Wobbe Index from composition.
- ISO 6326: Natural Gas – Determination of Sulfur Compounds.
- ISO/FDIS 13686: Natural Gas – Quality designation
- ISO 14532: Natural Gas - Vocabulary
- ISO 15403: Natural Gas – Designation of the quality of natural gas for use as a compressed fuel for vehicles.

## Philippine Natural Gas Quality Standards

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**Philippine Natural Gas Quality Standards**

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