

Carbon monoxide testing and video

Victorian Building Authority - Email newsletter 20 July 2018

The VBA is embarking on an extensive carbon monoxide safety program to retrain all registered or licensed plumbers, making sure they know how to conduct a carbon monoxide spillage test, and understand the effect of negative pressure on the safe operation of a gas appliance.

This is the best way of knowing if a gas appliance is leaking dangerous carbon monoxide.

Training sessions will be held in Melbourne and major regional centres across the state throughout August. Experts from the plumbing industry will be on hand to talk about the latest information and procedures for carbon monoxide spillage testing and gas appliance maintenance.

The VBA will soon be releasing a short video on its website and social media channels about carbon monoxide spillage testing. The video gives gasfitters a step-by-step guide to completing effective negative pressure and carbon monoxide spillage tests, and also provides safety tips to follow when carrying out these important tests. The video also shows what to do if an appliance is unsafe. All plumbing practitioners registered with the VBA will soon receive an email with a link to the video.

American Gas Association - electrification study

The AGA has released its study on assessing the costs of electrifying the gas networks. This appears to be a fairly comprehensive study comparing the costs of a policy push to electrifying domestic heat to the reference case. Many of the findings are similar to what we have seen in other studies (e.g. the UK KPMG study). However, the chart below provides a comparison of the cost of GHG reduction for the different options.

The two triangles on the right-hand side represent the two sets of policy driven electrification (one market driven, the other limited to renewables) with costs between \$572 and \$806/ tonne CO₂. Also shown on the chart are other options, and I note the Renewable Natural Gas box in the middle, with costs up to \$100/ ton.

A key conclusion is that converting networks to renewable gas is more cost effective than electrifying.



**Gas Appliance
Manufacturers
Association of
Australia**

**GAS
Connections**

ES-4.1

Cost Effectiveness of Policy-Driven Residential Electrification as a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Policy

The study of policy-driven electrification of residential fossil fuel heating load (space and water) indicates that residential electrification would be a more expensive approach to greenhouse gas reduction relative to many of the other options being considered—based on considerations related to the emissions reduction potential and the cost competitiveness of this approach relative to other GHG emission reduction options.

**Figure ES-1:
Comparison of Cost Ranges for GHG Emissions by Reduction Mechanism**

