

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Unvented Heaters in Restaurants

Code: 2012 Fire Prevention Code
Section: 603.4

Date: September 1, 2011

Question:

Can a portable propane patio heater be used on an outdoor restaurant patio that has been enclosed from the cold weather with a temporary membrane such as clear plastic?

Answer:

No, Section 603.4 states that unvented fuel-fired heating equipment is prohibited in Group A occupancies. A restaurant/patio (Group A-2 Occupancy) would be required to have a vented fuel fired heater installed in accordance with Section 620 of the North Carolina Fuel Gas Code or an electric heater in accordance with Section 603.5 of the Fire Prevention Code.

Keywords:

LP, kerosene