January 22, 2018

**Q:** How is IDPH looking at the fuel supply issue for generators under the new Emergency Preparedness requirements?

**A:** LTC facilities are required to have an alternate source of power, distribution system, and associated equipment that is designed to ensure continuity of electricity to selected areas and functions during the interruption of normal electrical service. The alternate source of power is typically a generator. The alternate source of power/generator must:
- Maintain Temps (heating and cooling) to Protect Health and Safety
- Allow for Sanitary Storage of Provisions
- Provide Emergency Lighting
- Provide Fire Detection, Extinguishing and Alarm Systems
- Provide Sewage and Waste Disposal

In addition, NFPA 99 identifies the 2010 edition of NFPA 110 – *Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems* as a mandatory reference, which addresses the performance requirements for emergency and standby power systems and includes installation, maintenance, operation and testing requirements.

NFPA 110 permits fuel sources for generators to be liquid petroleum products (e.g., gas, diesel), liquefied petroleum gas (e.g., propane) and natural or synthetic gas (e.g., natural gas). With regard to fuel supply:
- If a LTC facility has installed a new generator since the effective date of the 2012 Life Safety Code (July 5, 2016), NFPA 110 requires those LTC facilities in seismic zones/areas to maintain a minimum 96 hour fuel supply.
- All other LTC facilities must maintain an onsite fuel supply in order to implement a plan to keep the emergency electrical supply operational for the duration of emergencies as defined in the facility’s emergency plan. Each facility must determine through their risk assessment how much fuel is needed to handle an emergency and how /when refueling can be accomplished.