To: Heads of Fire Departments, Regulated Community

From: Peter J. Ostroskey
State Fire Marshal

Date: June 5, 2017

RE: PEMALL Watchman Model PGS-70 Gas Station Suppression Systems

In 2014 PEM Systems, Inc. the previous manufacturer of two PEMALL brand gas station suppression systems was liquidated in the U. S. Bankruptcy Court.

This memo concerns only one of those systems, the PEMALL Watchman Model PGS-70 Gas Station Suppression Systems (PGS-70).

Since the bankruptcy, no company has acquired an ownership interest in the PGS-70 system. Because no company acquired an ownership interest or the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) listing for the PGS-70, availability of listed parts for these systems is limited and will most likely be exhausted in the next 12 months. The Massachusetts State Fire Code (527 CMR 1.00) and NFPA 17-2009 edition require that only replacement parts listed for this specific system be used.

In addition the PGS-70 system does not meet the UL-1254 standard. The UL-1254 standard has been a requirement for all installations in Massachusetts since 1996.

For the reasons stated above, effective immediately: Companies holding a Certificate of Registration for Servicing Fixed Fire Suppression Systems shall tag any PGS-70 system in need of replacement parts NON-COMPLIANT where listed parts are unavailable.
Effective June 1, 2018:

Companies holding a Certificate of Registration for Servicing Fixed Fire Suppression Systems shall upon inspection tag all PGS-70 systems NON-COMPLIANT.

I would ask that all companies holding a Certificate of Registration for Servicing Fixed Fire Suppression Systems notify their affected customers of this advisory as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the Code Compliance & Enforcement Unit at (978)567-3375.