



**MINUTES OF THE  
THIRD PRESSURE EQUIPMENT SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2017**

**DATE:** May 4, 2017

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Radisson Hotel, Edmonton

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Izak Roux, Chair  
Mike Clancy  
Brian Grantham  
Henry Hau  
Marvin Kossowan  
Geoff Kutz, Vice Chair  
Billy Lee (until 1:45 pm)  
Todd Loran  
David Miller, Vice Chair  
Grant Peuramaki  
Jacques St-Onge  
John Wolff

**Alberta Boilers & Safety Association**  
Djordje Srnica, Robin Antoniuk

**Alberta Municipal Affairs**  
Allan Hantelmann, Harry Li

**Safety Codes Council**  
Gerald Baron

**GUEST:** Danya Chmelyk, ASET (until 12:00 noon)

**REGRETS:** Dr. Magdi Ghobrial  
Ward Wagner

**RECORDER:** Sandi Orr

**2017 MEETINGS:** Jun 22 (Special), Sep 7, Oct 12 (Special), Dec 7

## **1. Meeting Opening**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and a round table introduction was held.

Safety Moment: We are great at ensuring Personal Protection Equipment is used at work but tend to be less diligent at home. With spring coming, the lawnmowers will be used more often. We should remind everyone to use the proper personal protection equipment at home also.

### **1.1. Agenda Adoption**

**Mike Clancy / Marvin Kossowan moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated; CARRIED**

### **1.2. Previous Minutes**

#### **1.2.1. Adoption of March 30, 2017 Minutes**

As the minutes were only posted in the portal yesterday, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

## **2. Matters for Decision**

### **2.1. Power Engineers Regulation Recommended Changes**

A three-column document titled “Power Engineers: Issues and Feedback” was circulated at the meeting. The working group reviewed the document and provided their recommendations for consideration by the PESC members. The PESC members reviewed these recommendations in the meeting, and the following decisions were made item by item:

1. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
2. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
3. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
4. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
5. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
6. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
7. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
8. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
9. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
10. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
11. It was agreed that further discussion be held by the working group and brought back to the sub-council for consideration
12. It was agreed that further discussion be held by the working group and brought back to the sub-council for consideration
13. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
14. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group
15. Consensus reached to accept the recommendation of the working group

Regarding historic boilers, a discussion was held whether a 4<sup>th</sup> Class Power Engineer is permitted to operate historic boilers. It was clarified that only those with a Steam Traction Engine Operator (STEO) certificate can operate a Steam Traction Engine.

Regarding the development of a supervision practice document, it was clarified that this would provide consistency and then owners or operators aren't making up their own requirements. It was questioned regarding “experience acceptable to the Administrator” and it was clarified that once the PEIM is approved by ABSA, it is deemed acceptable to the Administrator.

Regarding power engineering technology programs, it was questioned why it would not be further clarified to ensure consistency in training requirements. It was suggested that the regulation should state that a technology program should consist of a 2-year program. It was suggested that further discussion should be held with the educational institute before making any recommendations for changes. It was further suggested that competency-based should be considered more relevant than a time-based program.

Regarding plant registration, it was explained that the value of plant registry will ensure staffing of the plant is in compliance and recognition of experience is suitable. This registry will have benefits to both the employees and the plants themselves. It was further suggested that a timeline be considered for mandatory registration.

**David Miller / Grant Peuramaki moved that the sub-council accept the recommendations of the Power Engineers Working Group, with the exception of #11 and #12, to be submitted to Alberta Municipal Affairs for inclusion in the next draft of the Power Engineers Regulation.; CARRIED**

The three-column document titled Parked Items for Next Review of the Power Engineers Regulation 2018 was included in the portal. It was noted that the working group has not yet reviewed this and will be bringing forward any further recommendations at the June 2017 meeting.

A discussion was held regarding AMA expectations regarding this project (revision of the PER). It was clarified that the Regulation development process has changed and justification will be needed for changes. Although the working group and the sub-council may believe that proposed changes make sense, providing the justification in the rationale document is important. . If the rationale, justifications and recommendations are not clear to the AMA lawyers, policy people, government people, they may not be in position to accept the proposal for change. Some of the commonly asked questions at the Government level are: “why does it need to be changed” and “what would happen if it wasn’t changed?”

It was questioned if the process is documented to ensure the working groups are providing clear and workable information to government. It was clarified that there is no process document. The Technical Advisor was asked to provide the feedback to the sub-council when he becomes aware that something (e.g. request for regulation change) is unlikely to be accepted. An overview was provided of the Council’s processes regarding recommendations to the Minister, through the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) and the Board. Gerald Baron provided an overview of the process from the Council’s perspective.

## **2.2. Draft Interpretation PESR Section 35 Accident Reporting**

Robin Antoniuk reported that this has been a struggle for ABSA for many years. A draft interpretation was included in the portal and reviewed. It was noted that user groups have been consulted during the development of this document.

After thorough review of the document, the following suggestions were provided:

- 1.1. b) some wording is missing
- 1.3. a) wording “within 20 metres of pressure equipment” should be added to the definition of “fire”
- Consider separating requirements based on type of fluids (hazardous materials).
- Consider risk approach – Categorise them by hazard, consequence etc. Like tear 1, tear 2, tear 3 accidents...

- API is petroleum industry. Other industries may have other needs. Does the proposed document consider the other industry needs?
- Did ABSA check the AER requirements for reporting of accident, incidents, etc.?
- Can we implement 80/20 rules for this IB?
- Clarification was sought on what an SCO “shall” investigate
- The definition of accident has been expanded and will have significant impact and reports that will have little value
- A discussion was held regarding the extent of reporting and the ease of reporting
- It was questioned regarding whether the Fire discipline was consulted as there are some parallels, slight differences in terms, etc. and clarified that this was not done
- It was suggested that examples of exclusions of what does not have to be reported should be included
- A discussion was held regarding thresholds (e.g. OHS, plant standards, etc.)
- It was clarified that the intent was to keep the process simple, but recognizing that one size does not fit all
- It was suggested that the revisions be made to ensure that the majority of the information is captured without making the reporting cumbersome and costly
- Reference other areas that need to be reported to (e.g. OHS)

Geoff Kutz will bring the draft document forward to the integrity in-service inspection group for further feedback. [Kutz]

It was requested that all user groups review this document, keep the intent / spirit of the document, but making recommendations for changes that will work for industry. It was further suggested that additional revisions are needed before further consultation.

### **3. Matters for Discussion**

#### **3.1. Pressure Welders Working Group**

It was reported that there have not been any meetings since the last sub-council meeting. The working group is still waiting for feedback from AWOC

#### **3.2. Power Engineers Working Group**

The next working group meeting will be held on May 12, 2017 to further discussion the draft regulation and recommendations.

#### **3.3. PESR- Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Inspection Working Group**

The working group (WG) met and reviewed the following:

- ASME B31.1 mandatory and non-mandatory appendices were reviewed to determine recommendations for revision of Section 6 in the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation.
- ABSA’s document “Summary of Changes in ASME B31.3, 2016 Edition” was reviewed. Based on the result of this review, the WG recommended to the PESC to adopt 2016 Edition of the ASME B31.3 Process Piping Code for use in Alberta. The PESC members reviewed the summary of changes and discussed the recommendation to adopt 2016 Edition of the ASME B31.3 Process Piping Code for use in Alberta.
- Reviewed upcoming changes in Section I of the ASME BPV Code. It was reported that the work on this item has not been completed. The WG will continue their work and try to provide recommendations for the next PESC meeting.

- Reviewed upcoming introduction of class 1 and class 2 vessels in Section VIII, Division 2 of the ASME BPV Code. It was reported that the work on this item has not been completed. The WG will continue their work and try to provide recommendations for the next PESC meeting.

ABSA's document "Summary of Changes in ASME B31.3, 2016 Edition" will be included in the portal.  
[Council Administration]

**Billy Lee / David Miller moved to recommend to the Minister, through the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Board, the adoption of the 2016 edition of ASME-B31.3 – Process Piping Code for use in Alberta; CARRIED**

A discussion was held regarding automatic code adoption and there are a lot of unanswered questions. The process is not clear and further discussion needs to be held with the AMA policy group to determine the proper processes to adopt ASME codes within six months of publication. The working group is also struggling with understanding how automatic code adoption process will address the situation when a part of the new code edition is not acceptable for use in Alberta without additional controls and restrictions. An in-depth discussion was held regarding the new changes and it was suggested that the Administrator should have the authority to refuse stock equipment as designer needs to consider the operating environment and conditions where the equipment is going to.

Relative to the new changes in Section I of the ASME BPV code, there are a few items that need discussion at the sub-council. It will be officially published on July 1, 2017. One major concern is the use of Division 2 rules for Section I boiler components. Such use would result in different safety margins for different boiler components. An Information Bulletin (IB) regarding the use of the 2017 edition of the code in Alberta will be drafted and presented for input at the June 2017 PESC meeting. The intention of the IB will be to heighten awareness that some restrictions could apply as new parts of the code are still under review and a discussion is needed to determine whether to recommend a postponement of adoption of the code or recommend a variation like Design by Analysis which requires acceptance by the Administrator. It is believed that the acceptable approach should be in place before July 1, 2017. It was suggested that the IB document should also promote awareness of the potential challenges. It was noted that there could be impacts to the inspectors. It was suggested this IB document be placed in the portal before the next meeting to allow time for everyone to review. [Poehlmann / Sronic / All]

The second issue concerning the upcoming new edition of Section I is related to thermal liquid heating systems. It was inquired about the status of providing a partial exemption for thermal liquid heating systems in the Exemption Order and reported that it will be going to the Cabinet in the fall.

A brief overview was provided on non-mandatory appendices where in some cases language suggests mandatory use of non-mandatory appendices. It is believed that further review of those non-mandatory appendices might be necessary. A further discussion will be needed by the working group before recommendation is presented to the PESC members.

**3.4. PESR – In-Service Inspections, Repairs & Alterations and PEIM Working Group**

The following was reported:

- A presentation will be provided at the Gas Sub-Council on May 25, 2017 pertaining to the expiration of the province-wide Variance on unapproved equipment
- Accident reporting will be discussed with industry and the working group
- An overview was provided on research being conducted by NOVA regarding the failures of material if not using low temporary material

Concerns were expressed that even though the ABSA bulletin has been released, there is a need to heighten awareness on understanding how this could impact safety.

Low Temperature Failures to be added to the next agenda.

[Roux / Council Administration]

### 3.5. ABSA/Administrator Report

#### Accidents/Incidents

Nine incidents reported since last meeting:

Date Reported	Injuries	Fatalities	Description	Loss of Containment
2017-04-04	0	0	During operation of a fired treater, the firetube failed due to localized overheating caused scale fouling on the process side. Process fluid leaked into the firetube, causing a fire.	Yes
2017-03-31	0	0	A leak at a weld released process fluid, which auto-ignited resulting in a small, localized fire, with no collateral damage.	Yes

#### Information Bulletins

IB17-004 Quality Plan for Design Submissions – AB-530 and AB-531

#### AB-500 Documents

AB-530 Quality Plan Requirements for an Alberta Certificate of Authorization Permit Holder Pressure Vessel Design Submission”

AB-531 Quality Plan Requirements for an Alberta Owner-User Pressure Piping Design Submission

First annual updates per the implementation schedule: editorial changes, harmonization of definitions with other ABSA documents

Follow-up from 2017-03-30 PESC Meeting – Fitting design registration statistics

For the date range 2012-01-01 to 2016-12-31

Total fitting submissions (all Categories)	9946
Total “clean” submissions (accepted for registration with a single review)	3694
Category A, B, C and G fitting submissions (subset of total fitting submissions)	2683
Category A,B,C and G clean submissions	999

Distribution of A, B, C and G Fitting Submissions			
Category	Submissions	Clean	Deficiencies
A	626	253	1435
B	377	121	978
C	1591	582	3617
G	89	43	180
Total	2683	999	6210
Fitting Categories: A – Pipe fittings – couplings, tees, elbows, caps, etc B – Flanges C – Line Valves G – Certified capacity-rated relief devices			

Code Meetings

ASME code committee meetings and National Board Annual General Meeting are scheduled for the week of May 8, 2017.

The ASME Code activity update includes the following important items:

- Djordje reported on the status of ABSA’s MOC project to implement the 2017 Edition of the ASME BPV Code.
- Section I Part PA will be published in the 2017 Edition and it will allow the use of Div. 2 to design and construct boiler components. The PESC WG on Design, Construction is reviewing this item and it should recommend path forward.
- Section VIII, Div. 2, 2017 Edition will include vessel classes. Div. 2 will have two classes in the future. The PESC WG on Design, Construction is reviewing this item and it should recommend path forward.
  - o The changes in Div. 2 will require IB14-004 to be revised. IB14-004 allows the use of Code Case 2695.
  - o What will we do about UDS and P.Eng. involvement (we want both for all D2)
  - o Update the D2 Variance – Include Section I use?
- Section VIII D1 scope has been revised but it will be issued in 2019 edition of the code.
- ABSA noted at the last ASME Committee meeting that there were questioned about:
  - o How the Div 1 shops would be accredited to build D2 Class 1
    - Note: We brief the PESC members on the input ABSA provided to ASME and will be providing re the code case
  - o New Part in Section I covering things that we would call TLHS

- Note: AMA is working on the TLHS exemption into the PEEO based on concern that some may interpret henceforth all TLHSs **must** be built to Section I (that would be unnecessarily restrictive in my view). The PESC WG on Design, Construction is reviewing this item and it should recommend path forward.
- A few questions, about Section XIII
  - Aggressive plan is to have it ready for the 2019 Edition
    - Requirements would be in Section XIII and would remain in the other books
    - Requirements would be withdrawn from the other books in subsequent editions

### **3.6. P.Eng., P.L.(Eng.) and P.Tech.**

A document was included in the portal regarding professional stamping of boiler and pressure vessel design submissions. The document was reviewed in relation to whether there is a need to broaden the requirements for what types of vessels need to be stamped and who is authorized to stamp documents.

AMA is working with APEGA and ASET on the magnitude of the issue, to help the discipline get a better understanding of the scopes of practice and who can and can't stamp boiler and pressure vessel design submissions.

This item was brought forward to heighten awareness of the issues and the changes in Regulation that are forthcoming as the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act supersedes the Pressure Equipment Regulation and therefore, the Regulation cannot dictate what type of professional can do what type of work. Todd Loran explained similar challenges on the in-service side. It was suggested that the sub-council needs to focus on the requirements of the code.

The Technical Advisor will continue to work with both professional organizations and will report back at the September 2017 meeting. [Hantelmann]



#### 4. Review Matters Arising/Action List

Date	Action	Responsible	Status/Update
Nov 24, 2016	Further discussion about ASME task group looking at allocating risk during the design stage	Roux	Meeting on May 8, 2017
Jan 12, 2017	Follow up on review of Policy 4.20 Certification Levels – Pressure Equipment based on recent appeal Policy references certification that no longer exists	Karch	Nothing in progress
Jan 12, 2017	Provide feedback on proposed changes to Power Engineers Regulation	All	Completed, remove from action items
Mar 30, 2017	The updated documents relating to the Power Engineers Regulation will be included in the portal for everyone's review prior to the next meeting.	Karch / Hantelmann / Clancy	Completed, remove from action items
Mar 30, 2017	Council will advise everyone when updated documents relating to the Power Engineers Regulation are posted.	Karch	Completed, remove from action items
Mar 30, 2017	Further research could be conducted to gather more statistics that could justify the continued need for technical review regarding registration of Category A, B, C, & G fittings.	Poehlmann	Item completed. The Administrator provided the information in his report above (section 3.5). Remove the item from the action items

#### 5. Meeting Finalization

##### 5.1. Meeting and Agenda Feedback

There was nothing brought forward for further discussion.

##### 5.2. 2017 Meetings

The following meeting dates were reconfirmed:

- June 1 – Annual General Meeting – Banff
- Thursday, June 22 (Special Meeting)
- Thursday, September 7
- Thursday, October 12 (Special Meeting)
- Thursday, December 7

##### 5.3. Meeting Adjournment

**John Wolff / Geoff Kutz moved that meeting adjourned; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

--- NEW ACTION ITEMS ---

**2.2. Draft Interpretation PESR Section 35 Accident Reporting**

Geoff Kutz will bring the draft document forward to the integrity in-service inspection group for further feedback. [Kutz]

**3.3. PESR- Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Inspection Working Group**

A report of the changes to the ASME-B31.3 – Process Piping Code will be included in the portal. [Council Administration]

It was suggested this IB document be placed in the portal before the next meeting to allow time for everyone to review. [Poehlmann / Srnicek / All]

**3.4. PESR – In-Service Inspections, Repairs & Alterations and PEIM Working Group**

Low Temperature Failures to be added to the next agenda. [Roux / Council Administration]

**3.6. P.Eng., P.L.(Eng.) and P.Tech.**

The Technical Advisor will continue to work with both professional organizations and will report back at the September 2017 meeting. [Hantelmann]

--- MOTIONS ---

**1.1. Agenda Adoption**

**Mike Clancy / Marvin Kossowan moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated; CARRIED**

**2.1. Power Engineers Regulation Recommended Changes**

**David Miller / Grant Peuramaki moved that the sub-council accept the recommendations of the Power Engineers Working Group, with the exception of #11 and #12, to be submitted to Alberta Municipal Affairs for inclusion in the next draft of the Power Engineers Regulation.; CARRIED**

**3.3. PESR- Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Inspection Working Group**

**Billy Lee / David Miller moved to recommend to the Minister, through the Technical Coordinating Committee and the Board, the adoption of the 2016 edition of ASME-B31.3 – Process Piping Code for use in Alberta; CARRIED**

**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**John Wolff / Geoff Kutz moved that meeting adjourned; CARRIED**