



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

**DATE:** December 7, 2017

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Radisson Hotel, Edmonton

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Izak Roux, Chair  
Mike Clancy  
Henry Hau  
Marvin Kossowan  
Geoff Kutz, Vice Chair  
Billy Lee  
Todd Loran  
David Miller, Vice Chair  
Grant Peuramaki  
Ward Wagner  
John Wolff

**Alberta Boilers & Safety Association**  
Mike Poehlmann, Administrator, Robin Antoniuk

**Alberta Municipal Affairs**  
Allan Hantelmann, Bohdan Yard

**Safety Codes Council**  
Allison Karch, Danielle Paradis

**REGRETS:** Dr. Magdi Ghobrial  
Brian Grantham  
Jacques St-Onge

**RECORDER:** Sandi Orr

**2018 MEETINGS:** Feb 1, Mar 29, May 3, Jun 21, Sep 6, Oct 25, Dec 6

## 1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### 1.1. Agenda Adoption

David Miller / Mike Clancy moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated, with a flexible order of business; CARRIED

### 1.2. Previous Minutes

#### 1.2.1. Adoption of October 12, 2017 Minutes

Mike Clancy / Grant Peuramaki moved to adopt the minutes of October 12, 2017 as circulated; CARRIED

## 2. 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	In progress
Jan 12, 2017	Review of Policy 4.20 Certification Levels – Pressure Equipment based on recent appeal (policy references certification that no longer exists) <b>UPDATE:</b> Policy revisited, ABSA provided some background, reviewing all Council policies, streamlining some of the language, will continue working with the Manager of Policy and hopefully can bring something to the February 2018 meeting.	Ziarko, Paradis, Roux, Loran	In progress
June 22, 2017	Draft document (Accident Reporting) to the Integrity In-Service Inspection Group for further feedback	Kutz, Antoniuk, Loran, Wolff	In progress
Sept 7, 2017	Take information about continuing education for Power Engineers to the Alberta Institute of Power Engineers for further discussion. <b>UPDATE:</b> A brief update was provided regarding the research conducted by Henry Hau. Although most believe it is a good idea, more consultation is needed. <b>UPDATE:</b> A meeting is scheduled in the new year.	Hau	In progress
Sept 7, 2017	Both PESR working groups to begin discussions re. The implications of the proposed change for lowering allowable stress values for Gr. 91 materials to identify concerns and recommendations to address the concerns. <b>UPDATE:</b> Working Group Chairs to consider a joint task group to begin discussions <b>UPDATE:</b> Meeting scheduled in January 2018	Ghobrial, Wolff	In progress

Oct 12, 2017	Determine Status of Thermal Liquid Heating Systems in Pressure Equipment Exemption Order <b>UPDATE:</b> Report provided to the Assistant Deputy Minister, could result in changes to the Exemption Order	Hantelmann, Yard	In progress
Oct 12, 2017	Provide the sub-council with statistics on incident reports this year compared to last year	Srnic	Completed, remove from action list

REGULATION	EXPIRY DATE	CURRENT STATUS
Pressure Equipment Exemption Order	August 1, 2019	Working Groups to be mindful of deadlines to move proposed changes forward
Pressure Welders Regulation	May 31, 2020	Working Group to be mindful of deadlines to move proposed changes forward

### 3. Matters for Discussion

#### 3.1. Council Connect – presentation

A presentation was shown on screen of the new “Council Connect” (formerly referred to as the ACT project) that will simplify the way stakeholders connect with the Council. Council Connect will enhance services, streamline processes and empower users. There are 8,000 clients with over 30 processes and will be integrated into two new systems. The user will only see it as one system.

Relative to empowerment, instead of a client contacting the Council and ask for information, clients will be able to create an online account, keep contact information updated, submit information online and check real-time status updates, receive deadline alert notifications, make payments online and access receipts.

A status update was provided on the Learning Management System (LMS) and CRM System, as well as an idea of what communications to look for.

Launch date is scheduled for June 28, 2018. It is understood there will be training for users closer to the launch.

It was questioned regarding how this would interface with ABSA as they maintain their own databases. It was clarified that the Council and ABSA will be working together to ensure smooth transition.

#### 3.2. Building Operators – presentation

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

### **3.3. Initial Discussion of Proposed Revisions to AB-526 In-Service Pressure Equipment Inspector Certification Requirements**

The redrafted AB-526 and the three-column document explaining the rationale for the proposed changes were included in the portal. The purpose of this agenda item is to formally seek input from the sub-council on the proposed changes to AB-526. It was clarified that the task group is making the recommendations generally agreed upon amongst user groups.

It was suggested that further information be included regarding piping inspections. It is understood that the industry is using piping inspection as a progression for inspectors. Clarification was provided that the changes are on a go-forward basis and shouldn't change any existing in-service inspectors. It was suggested that further clarity be provided on what is needed and when it is needed.

Clarification was provided regarding the 4 years of experience relative to someone with a high school diploma. At least one year of that experience must be with in-service pressure equipment inspection. This led to a discussion regarding the review of experience and education. It was clarified that applications are scrutinized thoroughly to validate applicants.

A brief discussion was held regarding the recertification process. Alberta's renewal process requires continuing involvement. When this was first developed several years ago, industry was opposed to any recertification examination. Any changes to this would need industry input.

Members were asked to review the documents for further discussion and endorsement at the next meeting, keeping in mind any potential implementation issues that could arise. [All]

It was questioned and clarified that these documents could be shared with industry.

It was suggested that more information should be included for Chief Inspector qualifications and it was suggested this is already addressed in AB-527 – Inspector Competency.

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

Confidential hard copies were circulated and reviewed on screen. The Technical Advisor reported that from a policy perspective, the AMA staff were asked to find alternative ways to address some of the Working Group concerns, rather than embedding more prescriptive clauses in the regulation. Regarding UCIA suggested changes, there was insufficient rationale and information to make regulation changes. This led to a discussion regarding the variance process.

The three-column document was reviewed and the following noted:

- Delete s.2(4) – no objection to the changes
- Amend s.2(11) – no objection to the changes
- Delete s. 18(4) and s. 18(5) – no objection to the changes
- Amend s. 18.1(1)(b)(iii) – no objection to the changes
- Amend s. 18(2) – after further explanation was provided, there no objection to the changes

- Amend s.20.1 – no objection to the changes
- Delete s.22.1(5) – no objection to the changes
- Amend row 8 of Table 1 – no objection to the changes
- Delete Table 3 – no objection to the changes
- Delete section 31 – no objection to the changes

Regarding s. 18(2), questions arose about the concerns that were brought forward around the need to define a course in power engineering. Clarification was provided regarding the review process for granting equivalencies. Historic background was provided regarding when this sentence was originally added to the regulation.

Relative to Table 1, it was suggested that notes be included for better clarification.

It was clarified that legal has already been through the changes. The final draft of the regulation will be provided for review at the next meeting and to make recommendations to the Minister.

The Working Group's list of Issues and Feedback was shown on screen. Each of the issues were reviewed and it was explained how these issues have been or can be addressed. The following was noted:

- 25(1) needs to include Thermal Liquid Heating Operator – it was noted that there is a need to provide the rationale

Frustration was expressed regarding the process used for the regulation review and that outcomes are different than expected.

It was recommended that owner/operator should be required to develop supervision practice specific to each plant as part of their PEIM and that this be acceptable to the Administrator. It was suggested it would be advantageous to include something like this within the regulation. This is particularly to address qualifying experience for reduced supervision plants.

It was noted that 6 of the working group's proposed changes were accepted, one will be reviewed further regarding the PEIM and 8 can be addressed in a different manner than regulation. It was recommended that those 8 should be kept on the parking lot list for future consideration. It was questioned about the full review and revamp that the sub-council recommended, and it was reported by AMA that there was uncertainty when or whether this will occur.

### **3.5. Working Group Reports**

#### **3.5.1. Pressure Welder Working Group**

It was reported that AWOC will be having an open house town hall meeting on Friday, February 9, 2018 at the Alberta Research Centre where several proposed changes will be presented.

It was reported that the Council has arranged to have a 3-column document put together for the Working Group of proposed changes. The Working Group Chair will be calling a meeting in the next week or two.

#### **3.5.2. PESR – Codes and Standard, Design Survey/Registration and New Inspection Working Group**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **3.5.3. Power Engineers Working Group**

A brief update was provided on the working group's meeting a few weeks ago:

- Relative to the 5th class engineer, a presentation is being put together from BOMA on the major issues so that a solid basis of proposed changes with technical justification are brought forward
- AB-528 discussion was held and will continue next meeting
- Parking lot items were reviewed that were left over and not included in the changes moving forward

It was questioned whether there have been any incidents between 3000 and 5000 kW heating plants and none were known. It is the understanding that they have different instrumentation and important that operators recognize the threshold of when the equipment should be shutdown. ABSA can review this but there was uncertainty of the usefulness of the information that could be provided.

The Administrator provided a brief report on a recent NPSAC meeting he attended. NPSAC has endorsed the concept of developing a standard for rating of boiler plants. An assessment will be needed to determine the impact if this new plant rating method is to be considered for implementation in Alberta.

#### **3.5.4. PESR – In-Service Inspections Working Group**

It was reported that the working group continues to work with Robin Antoniuk on the Accident, Fire and Unsafe Condition Reporting document.

### **3.6. ABSA/Administrator Report**

#### Accidents, Fires and Unsafe Conditions

Four incidents were reported since the last PESC meeting.

Date Reported	Injuries	Fatalities	Description	Loss of Containment
2017-11-17	0	0	An ammonia leak in an ice arena resulted in the evacuation of the building. There were no injuries reported.	Yes
2017-11-16	0	0	Hydrocarbon leaked from a valve packing gland in a process facility. The leak was detected, and activated the plant alarm.	Yes
2017-11-01	0	0	A hose used to transfer liquid hydrocarbon was over-pressurized.	No
2017-10-19	0	0	Hydrocarbon leaked from a threaded plug in small bore piping vent. The leaked fluid caught fire.	Yes

#### Information Bulletins Issued / Revised

IB17-022 Authority Having Jurisdiction for CSA B52 (PESR)

IB17-021 Permanent Tack Welds (PWR)

#### AB-500 Documents Issued / Revised

No new or revised AB-500 series document issued since the last PESC meeting.

#### ASME Code Committee Activities

Some interesting items that are the result of the ASME Code Committees work are:

- Proposal for lowering allowable stress values for Gr. 91 materials (up to 19 %) passed the letter ballot with one negative
  - EPRI Gr. 91 project
- ASME continues to work through low toughness issues
  - Joint Industry Partnership – project to develop best practice
- Section XIII development continues

#### CSA B51 Technical Committee

- New edition 2019
- Ballots on proposed revisions to:
  - Annex I – calculating MAWP for historical boiler
  - Revisions to Annex G – moving requirements to B149.5
  - Revision to Clause 6 – liquid phase thermal fluid heaters (not the same as Alberta TLHS)

#### CSA B52 Technical Committee

- New edition 2018
- Ballots on proposed revisions to:
  - Clause 4.4.1 - new refrigerant groups
  - Clause 6.10 – emergency discharge

- Clause 5.7.2.4 – mechanical joints

A brief discussion was provided regarding an industry project to establish a best practice for procurement and use of low carbon steels that have been widely reported as having low toughness properties. A prospectus of the project will be sent to Billy Lee and Todd Loran. [Poehlmann]

A presentation was shown on screen of accident statistics:

- 43 accidents, fires and unsafety conditions reported in the 2017 fiscal year
- 3 did not require investigation
- 37 investigations completed
  - 6 involved fires that were not caused by pressure equipment failure
  - 31 involved failure of pressure equipment failure
- 3 investigations in progress
- The purpose of reporting and investigating to prevent similar accidents in the future
- Statistics shown on screen comparing 2015, 2016 and 2017
- Statistics were shown by category, consequence and cause

It was noted that the new reporting document doesn't really address timeliness of reporting and it was suggested that information from this presentation be incorporated. [Antoniuk]

An in-depth discussion was held on the intent of the reporting and what's been learned. It was noted that this was the catalyst for the review of the reporting processes to ensure consistent and reliable data is received so that value-added reporting can be provided to industry to heighten awareness of potential safety issues.

It was suggested that consequences include Equipment, Environment and People, with potential sub-sets under each category. This would assist industry when reviewing their risk policies.

### **3.7. AMA Report/Feedback**

The Technical Advisor reported on the following on behalf of AMA:

- The government is tightening budgetary expenditures
- A brief update was provided on the APEGA consultation and the ongoing discussion between APEGA and ASET regarding scopes of practice
- Dale Beesley is the new Assistant Deputy Minister
- Work continues on the Welders Regulation (reviewed as a separate agenda item)

Concern was expressed regarding potential safety issues relative to individuals and their scopes of practice. It was clarified that the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act is based primarily on safety. Although this is outside of the jurisdiction of the Council, when agreement is reached between APEGA and ASET, a detailed review will be needed of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation.

### **3.8. TCC Report**



The Vice Chair provided the following overview from the last meeting:

- Meetings will be moving to the new Council office
- No motions from the sub-councils to the Technical Coordinating Committee were presented

### **3.8.1. Continuing Education for SCOs Program**

It was reported that the Council will be looking for a member from each of the sub-council for the Continuing Education for SCOs Working Group. Initially, a working group designed and consulted on the program framework that was developed. Further information will be provided when a Terms of Reference has been approved by the TCC.

### **3.9. Correspondence to Minister re ASME B31.3-2016 and Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation**

Correspondence from the Council Chair to the Minister regarding ASME B31.3-2016 and Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation was included in the portal as information.

In this case, the recommendation went directly to the Chair of the Council. A brief overview was provided on the governance review and particularly regarding these types of recommendations.

It was suggested that for future correspondence, perhaps the letter to the Minister should include what Code it is replacing to provide further clarity. [Council Administration]

### **3.10. Council Updates**

The Council is moving offices in April 2018 and meeting space will be available for all sub-council meetings to be held there. Information is being gathered to assist Council Members like accommodations, parking, etc. Teleconferencing and video conferencing are being looked at. Members were asked to bring forward any concerns or suggestions they might have to ease the transition, which is planned for the fall.

Council's Christmas Open House will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2017 from 3 to 5 p.m.

The sponsorship package for the Conference is now available in the main page of the portal.

## **4. Meeting Finalization**

### **4.1. Meeting and Agenda Feedback**

There was nothing further to bring forward. Today's action items were reviewed.

### **4.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for Thursday, February 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton.

#### **4.2.1. 2018 AGM**

The 2018 AGM and conference will be held from May 30 – June 1 at the Rimrock Hotel in Banff.

#### **4.3. Meeting Adjournment**

An in-camera discussion was held.

**Mike Clancy / Geoff Kunz moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

--- NEW ACTION ITEMS ---

**3.3. Initial Discussion of Proposed Revisions to AB-526 In-Service Pressure Equipment Inspector Certification Requirements**

Members were asked to review the documents for further discussion and endorsement at the next meeting, keeping in mind any potential implementation issues that could arise. [All]

**3.6. ABSA/Administrator Report**

A brief discussion was provided regarding the fitness for service work being done in China and a prospectus of the project will be sent to Billy Lee and Todd Loran. [Poehlmann]

It was noted that the new reporting document doesn't really address timeliness of reporting and it was suggested that information from this presentation be incorporated. [Antoniuk]

**3.9. Correspondence to Minister re ASME B31.3-2016 and Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation**

It was suggested that for future correspondence, perhaps the letter to the Minister should include what Code it is replacing to provide further clarity. [Council Administration]

--- MOTIONS ---

**1.1. Agenda Adoption**

**David Miller / Mike Clancy moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated, with a flexible order of business; CARRIED**

**1.2.1. Adoption of October 12, 2017 Minutes**

**Mike Clancy / Grant Peuramaki moved to adopt the minutes of October 12, 2017 as circulated; CARRIED**

**4.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Mike Clancy / Geoff Kunz moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**