



## MINUTES OF THE FIRST PRESSURE EQUIPMENT SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2018

**DATE:** February 1, 2018

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:55 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Radisson Hotel, Edmonton

**PRESENT:** **Sub-Council Members**  
Izak Roux, Chair  
Mike Clancy  
Dr. Magdi Ghobrial  
Henry Hau  
Marvin Kossowan  
Geoff Kutz, Vice Chair  
Billy Lee  
Todd Loran  
Nyssa Moore  
Grant Peuramaki  
Jacques St-Onge  
Ward Wagner  
John Wolff

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

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

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

**REGRETS:** Brian Grantham  
David Miller, Vice Chair

**RECORDER:** Sandi Orr

**2018 MEETINGS:** 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. and a round table introduction was held.

### **1.1. Agenda Adoption**

It was questions and clarified that feedback of AB-526 document will be addressed under Action Items.

It was recognized that agenda item 2.3.5. would be deferred until the next meeting.

**Henry Hau / Mike Clancy moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated, with a flexible order of business to allow for presentations; CARRIED**

### **1.2. Previous Minutes**

#### **1.2.1. Adoption of December 7, 2017 Minutes**

**Ward Wagner / Geoff Kutz moved to adopt the minutes of December 7, 2017 as circulated; CARRIED**

## **2. Matters for Decision**

### **2.1. Power Engineers Regulation Amendment**

Correspondence from the Assistant Deputy Minister, the 3-column document of proposed changes with comments from Municipal Affairs, and the draft Power Engineers Regulation Amendment were included in the portal and reviewed.

The 3-column document was reviewed in detail and additional explanation of why each recommendation is or isn't moving forward was provided by Municipal Affairs policy staff. It was explained that when there are grey areas, often it is best for the sub-council and industry to work with the regulatory body (e.g. ABSA) to clarify and manage, rather than writing it into the regulation. ABSA would work with government to ensure that they are staying within their authority when making interpretations.

It was reported that relative to Issue 8, work has already been started by ABSA.

Regarding the recommendation for Issue 9, further clarity was provided regarding why the reason "examination" is an incorrect word.

Relative to the recommendation for Issue 12, further clarity was provided regarding why reference to Plant Registry is important, namely that it was believed there was no law that forces the plant to provide any additional information. It was clarified that an SCO can demand additional information under its authority provided by the Safety Codes Act.

Overall, it was explained that for those recommendations that are not moving forward, ABSA has the ability to address the recommendations through other means instead of changing regulation.

A motion was moved and duly seconded. The floor was opened for discussion and it was requested that this type of document be provided to sub-council members sooner and that, when it isn't feasible to provide documents more than 24 hrs in advance, hard copies be provided at the meeting for review. The motion was tabled for consideration later in the meeting.

It was agreed that the proposed changes that are not being considered are largely for clarification purposes and there would be no significant impact to safety by not including them in the regulation. It was further recognized that the Administrator has the ability to address some of those recommendations that were not approved through other means. Members expressed appreciation for being provided with a better understanding of the regulation amendment process and it is hoped that the Council and Government can learn and improve for future regulation amendments. David Miller was commended for all his hard work in managing the working group and organizing this task.

**Grant Peuramaki / Todd Loran moved to recommend to the Minister through the Technical Coordinating Committee and Board the adoption of the Power Engineers Regulation Amendment, as circulated, and to waive the 90-day review period; CARRIED**

It was suggested that the Council, with assistance from the Government, develop a process regarding proposed changes to the regulations. It was clarified that the Council will be working closer together with AMA but that it would likely be challenging to develop a process document without making it specific for each regulation. The Manager of Stakeholder Relations will look into whether an overarching process chart is feasible. [Rossmann]

## **2.2. Policy 4.20 Certification Levels – Pressure Equipment**

The redrafted Policy 4.20 Certification Levels – Pressure Equipment was included in the portal and reviewed. It was explained that this will look a bit different from previous versions because the Council has updated the policy templates.

An overview was provided on the changes within the policy, primarily to technical requirements. It was explained that 4.c.iii. needed to be changed to address changes by the National Board. It was questioned and clarified that all three items in 4.c. are required. Clarification was provided regarding experience versus competencies. It was further clarified that this document is a Council policy used by the Administrator of Certification to issue SCO certification. Terms of employment are worked out between the employer and the employee. Although it was suggested to reference Section 32 of the Safety Codes Act in the policy, it was clarified that this policy is strictly used for certification and does not speak to what type of work the certified individual is able to do. Designation of Powers, which is issued jointly to the SCO and employer, is what provides the authority for the SCO to exercise the duties and powers of an SCO. Members were reminded that ABSA's hiring practices are also outside of the scope of this policy.

It was questioned regarding entry qualifications relative to those with many years of experience who do not meet the minimum educational requirements. It was clarified that the Administrator of Certification has broad latitude to consider and evaluate equivalency which is granted through the Act and the Certification and Permit Regulation.

**Harry Hau / Madgi Ghobrial moved to recommend to the Board the redrafted Policy 4.20 Certification Levels – Pressure Equipment, as circulated; CARRIED**

## **2.3. Appointments**

### **2.3.1. Welcome Nyssa Moore, Public-at-Large Member**

Nyssa Moore was welcomed to the sub-council as the Ministerial Appointment to the Pressure Equipment Sub-Council and an overview was provided of her career background.

### **2.3.2. Nomination of Gregory C. Gaudet to represent Heavy Oil and Oil Sands for a term ending January 31, 2021**

The letter of nomination was included in the portal and reviewed. It was questioned regarding reporting back to industry and clarified that this nomination is now through the Association of Accredited Corporations of Alberta.

**Geoff Kutz / Marvin Kossown moved to recommend to the Board the appointment of Gregory Gaudet to the Pressure Equipment Sub-Council, representing the Heavy Oil and Oil Sands industry segment for a term until January 31, 2021, effective immediately; CARRIED**

### **2.3.3. Nomination of Tony McWhannel to represent Pulp and Paper Industry for a term ending January 31, 2021**

The letter of nomination was included in the portal and reviewed.

**Marvin Kossowan / Magdi Ghobrial moved to recommend to the Board the appointment of Tony McWhannel to the Pressure Equipment Sub-Council, representing the Pulp and Paper industry segment for a term until January 31, 2021, effective immediately; CARRIED**

### **2.3.4. Re-appointment of Ward Wagner to represent Labour for a term ending January 31, 2021**

Correspondence was included in the portal and reviewed. Ward Wagner left the meeting during the discussion of this agenda item.

**Henry Hau / Mike Clancy moved to recommend to the Board the reappointment of Ward Wagner to the Pressure Equipment Sub-Council, representing the Labour industry segment for a term until January 31, 2021, effective immediately; CARRIED**

### 2.3.5. Re-appointment of Marvin Kossowan to represent Pressure Vessel Manufacturing for a term ending January 31, 2021

Correspondence was included in the portal noting that this is being reviewed at an upcoming meeting. As an official renomination was not included in the correspondence, this item was deferred to the next meeting.

### 3. 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	The Chair will report after the upcoming ASME meeting
June 22, 2017	Draft document (Accident Reporting) to the Integrity In-Service Inspection Group for further feedback <b>UPDATE:</b> Robin Antoniuk reported that he has compiled all input and provided a copy to Geoff Kutz for feedback from the In-Service Inspection Working Group.	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> Further discussion has been held between ABSA and the Alberta Institute of Power Engineers and it is believed there is opportunity to address gaps.	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> Met with ABSA and utilities in early January 2018. Another meeting is scheduled. It is recognized that something needs to be done, but uncertain what that might look like. Target dates have been established for major milestones. <b>NEW ACTION:</b> It was requested that two members from the Design Working Group be added to the In-Service Task Group. [Ghobrial]	Wolff	Work in progress
Oct 12, 2017	Determine Status of Thermal Liquid Heating Systems in Pressure Equipment Exemption Order <b>UPDATE:</b> Bohdan Yard reported that he has met with ABSA to develop briefing notes for the Minister specific to Thermal Liquid Heating Systems.	Hantelmann, Yard	In progress
Dec 7, 2017	Review the redrafted AB-526 and corresponding 3-column document for further discussion and endorsement, keeping in mind any potential implementation issues	All	See below, item closed, will be removed from the action list

Dec 7, 2017	<p>Send a prospectus of the industry project to establish best practices for low-carbon steels to Billy Lee and Todd Loran.</p> <p><b>UPDATE:</b> Djordje Sronic provided a brief update on the industry project where funds are being contributed to conduct testing, but results will only be available to participants for the first year. Discussions are being held with CSA to determine if any research is being done and a case is being built by compiling ad hoc research from several Alberta companies. It was questioned regarding ABSA's participation in the project. ABSA explained that this type of project which limits the access to data is against ABSA's principles of supporting the overall industry.</p> <p><b>NEW ACTION:</b> Continue to monitor low-carbon steel project. [Sronic]</p>	Sronic	<p>Original action completed</p> <p>New action assigned</p>
Dec 7, 2017	<p>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.</p>	Antoniuk	<p>Completed, will be removed from action list</p>

**AB-526 Feedback**

The revised document was circulated. The most significant change is in relation to the creation of certification for piping inspectors. Although there was no issue with the concept of the changes, it was suggested that a table be added for clarity. It was agreed that an Information Bulletin should be issued to provide the rationale for the changes. It was recognized that Alberta would no longer be consistent with international requirements and this was deemed appropriate in this case.

**Geoff Kutz / Grant Peuramaki moved to support the revised AB-526 document, as circulated; CARRIED**

**4.1. Understanding Government Policy**

Colin Robertson was welcomed to the meeting and provided a presentation on Understanding Government Policy. Highlights of the presentation included:

- What Policy is
- Government is best defined as the Executive Branch (Cabinet)
- Government Policy Authority comes from the Constitution and Acts
- Acts allow the government to take action through many tools including Regulations
- An overview was provided on:
  - How Government Policy is developed
  - How policy makers determine which policy to use
  - How laws are created
  - How Government decisions are made, including the Flow Chart used for making decisions
  - How laws are drafted

- What the Department does
- How the Council fits in for Safety Codes Policy
- How the Council and the Government can work together
- It was emphasized that the Minister is ultimately accountable for making the decision

The floor was opened for questions and the following was noted.

Frustration was expressed that, after the sub-council works to identify issues, conduct research, and bring forward recommendations on how to address issues, there is often little explanation from Municipal Affairs about why certain recommendations aren't being pursued. It was suggested that a stronger communication loop back to sub-councils would ease this frustration. Members were reminded that there must be a strong and clear rationale for changes to regulations and that the government needs to fully understand the rationale in order to act on it. Feedback was provided that if Municipal Affairs staff don't understand the rationale provided by the sub-council, this should be communicated to the sub-council so that they have the opportunity to provide better rationale.

It was believed that the 3-column document with the current code, the proposed change, and the rationale was the best tool to use, but if there is a better tool, it should be brought to the sub-council's attention.

A brief overview was provided of the consultative process and instances when the sub-council is sufficient consultation versus when government may require public consultation due to a fundamental change in regulation. It was recognized that Municipal Affairs is working to develop a better understanding the issues. The Quality Assurance Framework project and the data collected by ABSA is expected to be a driver for change in the future.

It was recognized that in the past, the sub-council has been focussed on the technical issues and there is a need to understand what policy tools will be used when considering the technical changes. It was also suggested that this needs to be understood earlier in the process. It was requested that an overview of policy considerations for the upcoming review of the Pressure Equipment Exemption Order be provided to the sub-council at the next meeting. [Robertson]

This led to a discussion regarding a sub-council planning session that was held in the past, and it was suggested that perhaps this could happen again with more feedback from Government on what the sub-council's focus should be so that members feel their time is being used efficiently and effectively.

## **4.2. Working Group Reports**

### **4.2.1. Pressure Welder Working Group**

An AWOC townhall meeting is scheduled Friday, February 9, 2018. All sub-council members are invited.



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

There was nothing new to report.

#### 4.2.3. Power Engineers Working Group

Other than the Power Engineers Regulation Amendment, there was nothing further to report.

#### 4.2.4. PESR – In-Service Inspections Working Group

The Accident and Unsafe Condition Reporting document will be reviewed at the next working group meeting. The Fitness for Service document is still a work in progress.

### 4.3. 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
2018-01-14	0	0	The contents in a closed pressure vessel froze resulting in failure of the pressure vessel shell.	Yes
2018-01-10	0	0	A small bore piping (tubing) leak resulted in a fire in a compressor skid.	Yes
2018-01-09	0	0	A process upset resulted in a reaction fire inside a pressure piping system.	No
2017-12-21	0	1	Heating boiler exhaust piping failed causing flue gas to accumulate in a building. A worker died from exposure to carbon monoxide.	No

#### Information Bulletins Issued / Revised

Interpretation	2018-01-30	IB18-001	<a href="#">Pressure Equipment Repair and Alteration Requirements</a>	PESR
Interpretation	2017-12-18	IB17-023	<a href="#">Display of Certificates of Competency</a>	PER

#### AB-500 Documents Issued / Revised

AB-513 Edition 3, Revision 0

#### ASME Code Committee Activities

There have been no ASME committee meetings since last PESC meeting. The next Boiler Code week meetings are scheduled for February 5 through 9.

A copy of the 2017 ABSA Annual Report was provided to each member.

#### 4.4. AMA Report

There were no changes to report on behalf of AMA.

It was suggested that the Regulations List be revised to add all applicable regulations, the expiry date if applicable, and the date the last amendments were made. It was reported that the last full review of the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation was in 2006, with minor amendments in 2015, and it has no expiry date.

The Regulation list was revised to read:

REGULATION	EXPIRY DATE	LAST REVISED	CURRENT STATUS
Power Engineers Regulation	April 30, 2018	2014	Draft Regulation recommended to the Minister
Pressure Equipment Exemption Order	August 1, 2019	2014	Working Groups to be mindful of deadlines to move proposed changes forward
Pressure Welders Regulation	May 31, 2020	2014	Working Group to be mindful of deadlines to move proposed changes forward
Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation	No expiry date	2015	

#### 4.5. Council Updates

It was reported that the application forms for the Dr. Sauer, Certification and Accreditation awards are now available in the portal.

Effective Meetings Training and Appeals Training workshops are scheduled for April 11-12 and October 17-18, 2018.

Members were reminded that if they receive invitations from other entities to speak or provide updates on behalf of the sub-council, please inform the Council as assistance with presentations, etc, is available.

##### 4.5.1. Results of Matrix Change Recommendations

It was reported that no substantive matrix changes will be made to any sub-council until after the Council's governance review is completed.

#### 5. Meeting Finalization

##### 5.1. Meeting and Agenda Feedback

An overview of new action items was provided.

It was suggested that a new planning session be considered as well as a review of the Terms of Reference for all Working Groups. The Chair will discuss this with the Vice Chairs and will work with the Council to determine how this could be organized.

## **5.2. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was reconfirmed for Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton.

### **5.2.1. 2018 AGM**

The 2018 AGM and conference will be held from May 30 – June 1 at the Rimrock Hotel in Banff. It was requested that members inform the Council if they know of any discipline-specific topics that might be of interest to this sub-council or others. [All]

## **5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Todd Loran / Mike Clancy moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

--- NEW ACTION ITEMS ---

**2.1. Power Engineers Regulation Amendment**

The Manager of Stakeholder Relations will look into if an overarching process chart is feasible.  
[Rossmann]

**3. Review Matters Arising/Action List – New Action Items**

It was requested that two members from the Design Working Group be added to the In-Service Task Group.  
[Ghobrial]

Continue to monitor low-carbon steel project.  
[Srnica]

**4.1. Understanding Government Policy**

It was requested that an overview of policy that will be taken into consideration when reviewing the Pressure Equipment Exemption Order be provided to the sub-council at the next meeting.  
[Robertson]

**5.1. Meeting and Agenda Feedback**

Reference for all Working Groups. The Chair will discuss a planning session with the Vice Chairs and will work with the Council to determine how this could be organized.  
[Roux / Miller / Kutz / Council Administration]

**5.2.1. 2018 AGM**

It was requested that the sub-council consider whether there are any discipline-specific topics that might be of interest to this sub-council and others for the conference to provide this information to the Council.  
[All]

--- MOTIONS ---

**1.1. Agenda Adoption**

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**1.2. Previous Minutes**

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**3. Review Matters Arising/Action List – New Action Items**

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**5.3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Todd Loran / Mike Clancy moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**