Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Minutes of the Boilers, Pressure Vessels, and Operating Engineers Advisory Council – Plenary
Thursday, October 9, 2025

Minutes of the Boilers, Pressure Vessels, and Operating Engineers Advisory Council meeting for the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held by teleconference at **12:00 pm** on Thursday, October 9, 2025

Attendance

Present	
David Little	Yan Huang
Justin Awoyomi	Brian Taylor
Jason Brimble	Mario Gogic
Jamie Webb	Randy Purves
Nick Pantaleo (alt for Greg Black)	Ryan Jones
Ryan McLachlan	Ralf Klopf
Ronald Morrison	
TSSA	
Alexandra Campbell	Kim Semper
Iuliana Afanase	Shaun Montano
Gaya Nair	Gus Peterson
Eva Lannon	Bonnie Rose
Tahoura Soltani	Sue Hadley
Jennifer Walkey	Shakir Majeedi
Viola Dessanti	Neil FitzGerald
Louis Costa	Phil Simeon
Trent Angiers	Sandra Cooke
Guests	
Nathan Fahey	Sarah Jeffrey-Hampton
Veronica Zeballos	
Regrets	
Greg Black	Justin Clappison
Mark Lambert	Peter Michieli
John Milton	

Action Items

There were no action items from the last meeting.

1. Constitution of Meeting

1.1. *Safety Moment presented by I. Afanase, covering ladder safety.*

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2. Adoption of the Agenda of October 9, 2025

2.1. *The agenda was adopted as presented.*

3. Adoption of Minutes of March 27, 2025

3.1. *The council approved the minutes as presented.*

4. Operating Engineers

4.1. *Qualifying Experience Time – Update was provided as part of the meeting package. D. Little mentioned that TSSA was going to look at giving colleges the ability to help students obtain their qualifying time for their fourth-class certification. A. Campbell responded by indicating that there would be a specific initiative to address this matter later in the meeting.*

4.2. *Path 1 & Path 2 Update. There were no questions or comments from the council.*

5. Expectations for In-Camera Sessions

A. Campbell clarified the purpose and expectations of the in-camera sessions. Council members are encouraged to provide substantive feedback during plenary sessions to ensure it is captured in the minutes and acted upon. In-camera sessions are intended for informal discussion and reinforcing points raised during the meeting. Council members are encouraged to use the agenda item request form to formally raise new issues.

No questions or comments from the council.

6. TSSA President & CEO's Report

B. Rose presented an update for the council on the progress of the TSSA corporate strategic plan. Key themes include outcome-based regulation, ease of doing business, future readiness, and rewarding purpose driven work.

K. Semper provided an update on agricultural boiler inspections, noting that inspections have been conducted at just under 200 sites.

D. Little raised a hypothetical question about denying the TSSA entry into a greenhouse with an agricultural boiler, to which A. Campbell responded that the facility is legally required to allow entry to the TSSA. R. Morrison inquired about the involvement of the insurance industry in identifying boilers on agricultural sites, and Y. Huang mentioned that there is limited information from insurers on agricultural boilers.

7. Boilers & Pressure Vessel Inspection Data Collection

V. Dessanti provided the council with an update on the status and lessons learned from this initiative. She reported that since the new process went live in April 2025, 17 high-risk violations have been reported to TSSA, which is lower than anticipated.

B. Rose questioned why the number of reported violations was low, to which J. Awoyomi responded that high-risk violations are a small percentage and some are resolved before being reported. He also noted that the new process was creating a sense of urgency with clients.

R. Morrison inquired if and how the TSSA is utilizing the data, and B. Rose mentioned that there isn't enough data yet to draw conclusions. Y. Huang noted that the low number of high-risk violations is a positive sign, indicating effective resolution of issues. V. Dessanti clarified that insurers are expected to report violations that have already been complied with as well as open ones.

8. Boilers & Pressure Vessels (BPV) Certificate of Inspection (COI): Review & Redesign Process

G. Peterson outlined the challenges faced with the current system based on input from stakeholder interviews. These challenges include difficulties accessing inventory lists, identifying exempt devices, and inefficiencies in the ROI process. The goal of the BPV COI Enhancement project is to simplify and optimize the ROI submission and COI process, improve data access and update capabilities, modernize the portal and reduce the number of unauthorized devices.

D. Little raised concerns about the negative consequences of sending people to collections when an invoice has already been paid. He also noted that the receipts are generic and don't provide enough of a description. B. Rose mentioned that the financial module would be reviewed as a Year 3 initiative. A. Campbell stated that proposed solutions would be presented to the councils before the spring meeting for feedback

9. Harmonization of Engineering Process Review

L. Costa provided an overview of the goals and areas of focus for the initiative. The enhanced search function for BPV accounts in the BPV portal aims to create a 100% online experience and improve process flow. The future state will manage applications more efficiently, reducing turnaround time for BPV by almost a third.

J. Webb inquired about the service level goal for engineering turnaround time, and L. Costa responded that the goal is 40 days initially, with a target of an average of 30 days. B. Rose questioned the need for expedited services if the goal is 30 days, and J. Webb emphasized the value of expedited services for time-sensitive projects. M. Gogic agreed with J. Webb, noting the importance of expedited services for customers needing quicker turnaround times, particularly if there has been a breakdown and the costs of downtime are high.

L. Costa confirmed that the portal would provide the status of submissions.

S. Jeffrey-Hampton asked about the inconsistency of expedited services provided by TSSA. K. Semper explained that while expedited services are available, they are not available for all registration types.

10. Customer Journey Mapping: Exam & Certifications

J. Walkey provided an update on the 39 recommendations aimed at improving customer experience with the certifications and exams process. Key changes included updates to the client portal for increased self-service, real-time

scheduling, and faster turnaround times for exam results. The faster turnaround time was well received. Implementation is anticipated for April 2026.

S. Jeffrey-Hampton inquired about the availability of test centres across the province, and J. Walkey confirmed that service level agreements for the future provider have been established to ensure coverage, including northern locations.

D. Little noted that digital communications is the way to go but raised concerns about clients maintaining current contact information for digital communications, and J. Walkey mentioned that email would be the default for new customers, with the option to switch to paper. 48-hour turnaround time for exam results will apply to multiple choice exams. Essay exams for 1st class engineers will continue to take longer to mark.

During the discussion on Labour Mobility Changes, J. Walkey provided an update on TSSA's role with Bill 2. Certified professionals from other provinces can work in Ontario for up to six months after notifying TSSA they are in Ontario. During that time professionals can apply for an equivalent TSSA certificate and TSSA has 30 days to issue a certificate if all requirements are met.

D. Little inquired if the changes will include Quebec and refrigeration. J. Walkey responded that if there is no equivalency, then it would not be included. They mentioned that TSSA has reviewed every certificate offered and identified where there is mutual recognition or equivalency. The table with this information is available on the TSSA website.

Y. Huang also asked about the timing of COC testing and whether the waiting time to book could be reduced.

10.1. ***Action****: I. Afanase to share the equivalencies between provinces with the council.*

11. Ministry of Public & Business Service Delivery & Procurement Report

N. Fahey provided an update on mutual recognition efforts. The goal is to facilitate the movement of goods and services approved in other provinces to

Ontario without needing re-designation. N. Fahey noted that not all provinces and territories are currently designated, and there is a process to work through to achieve this.

There were no questions or comments from the council.

12. Introduction to Enhanced Authorizations

P. Simeon provided an update on the development of TSSA's new enhanced authorizations program. He explained that the enhanced authorization program aims to use license renewal as an opportunity to share critical safety information with authorization holders, starting with liquid fuels facilities and expanding to other sectors in the future. It will be targeted based on data and relevant information. The process is intended to be easy for the client and should only take a short amount of time.

There were no questions or comments from the council.

13. Upcoming Changes to Contractor & Insurer Audits

P. Simeon outlined efforts to standardize and digitize contractor audits across all programs, including audits of insurers and third-party agencies, to improve efficiency, data collection, and consistency, with Y. Huang supporting the need for clearer and more consistent audit practices. TSSA will be coming back with more details. Y. Huang raised concerns about the inconsistency of audits today, noting that audit results are often hand-written.

There were no questions or comments from the council.

14. Compliance Standards for Operating Engineers (OE)

S. Cooke explained the concept of compliance standards, how TSSA uses compliance standards, and the steps for developing them. The standards are evidence-based and data-driven, focusing on high-risk orders for periodic inspections.

D. Little inquired if the compliance standard is linked to the inspector checklist, to which S. Cooke clarified that the compliance standard is a subset of the checklist. S. Cooke agreed to provide the updated checklist with the council.

14.1. ***Action:*** *I. Afanase to share the compliance standard with the updated inspector checklist with the working group.*

S. Hadley emphasized the importance of knowing what inspectors are looking for to better prepare for inspections. Y. Huang mentioned that the TSSA webinars help the industry better understand requirements and he encourages TSSA to continue such stakeholder outreach. R. Purves asked how the compliance standard applies to smaller plants such as curling rinks, and S. Cooke confirmed it applies to all plants. S. Cooke invited members to a working group meeting on October 23 where the compliance standard will be reviewed in detail. S. Cooke also mentioned that the compliance standard would be sent out to clients prior to periodic inspections and would be available on the website.

B. Rose explained that the compliance standard simplifies the focus on high-risk areas. It serves as a tool for communication between the owner, contractor/insurer, and TSSA to ensure that everyone is aware of the key areas that need attention.

J. Awoyomi asked whether the high-risk violations on the OE side would align with the high-risk violations on BPV. S. Cooke noted that there would be some specific OE high risk but that similar ones should align.

15. Licensing Modernization Initiative (LMI)

T. Angiers provided an update on the ongoing internal work and collaboration with N. Fahey's team. A. Campbell highlighted the goal of harmonizing licenses and approaches across all regulated areas. T. Angiers reiterated the project aim of bringing every area under one regulatory model.

There were no questions or comments from the council.

16. Safety & Compliance Report

T. Soltani presented a summary of the TSSA's Public Safety Report (PSR), which is published annually. She reported stable or improving trends in injury rates and no recent fatalities in BPV/OE programs. T. Soltani shared highlights from the report, emphasizing the inspection of uninsured devices by TSSA. The inspections revealed that a top high-risk finding was equipment that was not serviced in accordance with maintenance lists and manufacturer recommendations.

T. Soltani also reported that 116 OE plants were considered high risk (4%) compared to the previous fiscal year's 3.15%, indicating an increase in high-risk operating plants. Y. Huang mentioned that safety valves are not considered high risk in the BPV violations, but they are reported as high-risk by TSSA in the OE program. TSSA explained that the review of the OE compliance standard should address this discrepancy. In general, there was concern that lack of maintenance or replacement of safety valves was a common issue.

17. Issue Prioritization Update

K. Semper provided an update on the status of agenda priorities.

K. Semper explained that when TSSA onboards a new agricultural device they can notify the insurer if the client provides the insurer information. TSSA encouraged insurers to notify their clients to have the information to provide to TSSA including an email address.

Y. Huang inquired if the COI issued after the first inspection is attached to the client portal for access. K. Semper confirmed that it should be in the owner portal along with the inventory list, and if the insurer is linked to the owner, they can see the inventory.

K. Semper acknowledged that devices are operating without a COI and the BPV COI process is being enhanced to help address this issue.

K. Semper explained that the turnaround time for UID requests through email are being maintained within the expected timeframe.

Y. Huang mentioned that the national board sends out official results within 24 hours. An expedited TSSA process for COC exam results would help industry.

I. Afanase stated that once the flowchart for reporting violations in the insurer portal is uploaded to the website, she will send out a link. It outlines owner and insurer responsibilities. D. Little said that based on the prior discussion around lack of maintenance on safety valves there should be information provided to clients on that. A. Campbell responded that there could be an article in the TSSA client newsletter.

D. Little asked for an update on colleges being allowed to offer the entire QET mentioning that Alberta allows it for 4th class. S. Hadley noted that currently, 9 months of QET is offered through an approved college program at the 4th class level. There are discussions about the possibility of setting up a summer steam lab and do a condensed program. BCIT offers 10-week program where students come out with the time they need. S. Hadley responded that it is beneficial for students coming out of a college program to get additional training somewhere else after getting 9 months through college. D. Little said the question was based on the lack of opportunities to get qualified time. K. Semper and S. Hadley agreed to take that away and discuss it.

18. Adjournment

18.1. *The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m. after which council members held an in-camera session with B. Rose followed by an industry-only in-camera session.*