Minutes of the Boilers and Pressure Vessels (BPV) Advisory Council meeting of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held in Boardrooms 1433 and 1434, 14th Floor, Centre Tower, 3300 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario at 9:30 a.m. on the 6th day of May, 2015.


In attendance: Michael Beard, President and CEO, (all items except items 9-13), Mike Adams, Director of Boilers and Pressure Vessels and Operating Engineers (all except item 13), Sorin Corlaci, Regional Supervisor, BPV (items 1-8), Maram Khalif, Council Coordinator (all except item 13), Wilson Lee, Director of Stakeholders Relations, (items 7 & 8); Supraka Sridharan, Public Safety Risk Analyst (item 9), Cathy Turylo, Manager of BPV Engineering, (all items except item 13); Ellen White, Policy Advisor (all items except 13), and Peter Wong, VP of Operations (all items except 13).

Guests: Judith Borts, Senior Policy and Program Analyst, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS) (all items except 13), Nathan Fahey, Policy Advisor, MGCS (all items except 13); Hussein Lalani, Manager, MGCS (all items except 13).

Regrets: Fal Desai, Cleaver-Brooks of Canada Limited and and Steve Lawrence (Chair), OPG Nuclear.

1. Constitution of Meeting

H. Prits, as Acting Chair, welcomed council and called the meeting to order.

D. Stek was elected unanimously as a new member of Council. He will be representing the Ontario Petrochemical Inspectors Association (OPIA). A roundtable introduction followed.

As part of the safety moment, council viewed a safety video about the prevention of Carbon Monoxide poisoning.

2. Approval of Agenda

Council approved the agenda of the May 6, 2015 meeting.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the December 10, 2014 Boilers and Pressure Vessels Advisory Council meeting as drafted, as being a true and correct record of that meeting.
4. Review Action Items from Last Meeting December 10, 2014

C. Turylo reviewed the action items with council members noting that the highlighted items have been completed and included in today’s agenda as item 10.

The other outstanding items were updated as follows:

- NPSAC does not meet until later in May and as a result, an update on the Counterfeit Working Group will be provided at the next meeting.
- A Propane Working Group will provide their findings under item 11 of today’s agenda.

Regarding standardized orders, M. Adams noted that draft TSSA BPV Standard Orders had been presented to the Canadian Boiler & Machinery Underwriters’ Association on March 25, 2015. It was noted that the industry is interested in being involved in the development of the rating system and being informed.

ACTION: M. Adams will present information regarding the process of developing standardized orders to council at the next meeting.

5. Council Chair’s Report

The Chair’s annual report to the President and CEO was deferred to the next meeting.

6. TSSA President & CEO’s Report

As part of the advanced material for this meeting, council received a report from the President and CEO regarding TSSA’s key activities over the last quarter, which was treated as read.

M. Beard highlighted the creation of TSSA’s external safety award launched March 2015, which will be presented under item 7.

7. TSSA’s External Safety Award

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, S. Corlaci provided an overview of the eligibility and the selection criteria, as well as the nomination and recognition processes.

Council recommended ways to display the award in the recipient’s location or at TSSA’s office or website. They also recommended ensuring each award have a time limit; for example, the year it was given should be noted in a prominent place or on the award itself.


With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, N. Fahey provided an update of the progress of MGCS and TSSA collaboration on the BPV regulatory compliance initiative.

H. Lalani informed council at the last meeting that the KPMG report presented a summary of regulatory model options, including administrative and financial costs. Today’s presentation provides a view of progress on MGCS and TSSA’ regulatory model development since the last meeting.
Three models were presented as follows; (more details provided in the presentation):

- Model 1 – existing BPV regulation - authorization from TSSA
- Model 2 – licensing - authorization from TSSA
- Model 3 – insurer authorization (authorization from insurers)

Discussion included:
- Each model’s principles and other related issues;
- how to manage the situation where companies withdraw their insurance coverage;
- The issue of transferring data from the insurers to TSSA; and
- Aging vessels and their impact on future insurance coverage.

It was reiterated that this regulation review is focused on periodic inspections and will not affect installation and shop inspections. All models presented will be analysed further and the decision on which model to recommend will be based on a collaboration of TSSA, MGCS, industry, and public input before a draft is sent to the Minister.

The insurance sector highlighted that they were not involved in the development of today’s presentation and raised questions and concerns pertaining to model 3. It was reiterated that a formal consultation will start in the fall and will include all affected stakeholders.

The council requested that they continue to be involved in discussions. Council advised that they preferred providing collective feedback as opposed to individual feedback by June 12. Council recommended resuming the original RRG lead by M. Adams. The Council also recommended having similar roundtable as the method used in the Propane Regulation Review.

ACTION: MGCS and TSSA will follow up with council to collect feedback by June 12, 2015.

9. Compliance Safety Report for Boilers and Pressure Vessels

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, M. Adams provided an overview of the compliance rate (periodic inspections) FY10 Q4 to FY15.

Discussion ensued around the percentage of vessels inspected by TSSA in Ontario. The compliance rate for TSSA inspected vessels versus those inspected by the insurance industries were not statistically significant; however, the results did correlate with one insurer’s results, as well as the National Board’s results covering over 29 North American jurisdictions.

The relationship between insurance industry, business owners, and TSSA was further explored. It was noted that TSSA was also involved with some plant owners through the Operating Engineers (OE) program that may be using unidentified vessels. Therefore, council recommended that TSSA conduct a comparison of the relative BPV and OE data to locate unidentified boilers or pressure vessels.

10. Ontario Greenhouse Status

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, C. Turylo provided the background of the Ontario greenhouses exemption under BPV.
In summary, during the last regulation review BPV, Council did not support continuation of the agriculture exemption since there was no supporting technical rationale. The regulation was published without the exemption. A Minister's Order was issued in order to allow time to evaluate and determine the impact this exemption will have on the industry and appropriate implementation plans. It was also noted that the Operating Engineers regulations were not directly impacted by the Minister's Order. The minister's Order is still in effect over the BPV regulation. More details provided in the attached presentation.

Council discussed ways to approach the MGCS in regards to the above-mentioned exemption. The process for regulation review for targeted issues was discussed in detail. The MGCS requires evidence based data for initiating a regulation review for a specific topic. Establishing an RRG to tackle this issue may be considered. Having a RRG may allow sufficient data to be collected for requesting a regulation review on this issue.

11. Discussion of Member Topics

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, which forms part of the record of the meeting, J. Adams and P. Sterescu provided the findings of the Propane Tank In-Service Inspection Working Group.

As part of the advanced material for this meeting, council received a report from Propane Tank In-Service Inspection Working Group, which was treated as read.

The issue addressed is that propane tanks in-service are regulated under the Fuels Safety regulations not under the BPV regulations. Therefore, periodic inspections of propane tanks are conducted in accordance with requirements specified by the Fuels Safety Program and not inspection requirements for pressure vessels. The main concern identified by BPV Council is whether the inspectors conducting the current inspections of the propane tanks have sufficient training and certification.

The Task Group determined that the overall inspection framework was reasonable; however, a few improvements were suggested. The Task Group advised that their review was complete and that the recommendations be shared with the Propane Advisory Council for consideration and implementation. Council supported the proposal with the request that the Propane Advisory Council share their conclusions with the BPV AC Task Group to close this initiative.

ACTION: The Task Group will provide their findings to the Propane Advisory Council with the request for Propane Advisory Council to share conclusions with the Task Group. Task Group to provide an update of the conclusion of this task with BPV Council at next meeting.

12. Questions on Information Items and Other Business

K. Ramcharan requested the following areas for TSSA to follow up offline:

- Some condensing boiler nameplates provide insufficient information to determine whether the boilers are exempt from the BPV Regulation. A periodic inspection has been requested on items that have been found to be exempt – another approach needs to be considered.
- “Stop Leak” is being used to repair boilers that contractors are saying cannot be repaired by any other means.

M. Adams will follow up on the above issues with K. Ramcharan offline.
13. In Camera Discussion

Council members met in camera without management and guests.

14. Termination

The meeting was terminated at 2:08 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2015.