Subject: Audit Program for Existing TSSA Digester, Landfill and Biogas Facilities

In November 2007, TSSA assumed jurisdiction for Digester Plants and Landfill Sites from the Ministry of Environment. Since then TSSA has audited Digester Plants. Starting in 2014 TSSA will be auditing existing Landfill Sites using the TSSA-DLB-2012 – “TSSA Digester, Landfill and Biogas Approval Code” which adopts the CSA- B149.6-11 – “Code for digester gas and landfill gas installations” with amendments. Depending on the age of the landfill site, one or more sections may be eligible for grandfathering to the code of the day when the site was constructed and put into operation. This is contingent on evidence when the site was put into operation and it had not been modified.

Codes
The above codes cover the production, transmission, storage and utilization of the gas regulated by the Ontario Regulation 212/01. Section 4(1) of this regulation in turn requires all appliances to be approved. The required approval may be gained by certification of an appliance as complying with an approved standard or test report by a testing agency accredited by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) or by having the appliance field approved by TSSA. Since there is no certification standard available for appliances fuelled with digester, landfill or biogas, the only option available is a TSSA field approval.

Please note that:
1. Since 2007 all appliances fuelled with landfill gas only are required to be approved and,
2. Since 1957 all appliances fuelled with or which use a natural gas or propane fuelled pilot(s) are required to be approved.

Please use the following link/address for more information regarding the TSSA field approval program and the application: http://www.tssa.org/regulated/fuels/fuelsField.asp

Qualified Workers - Certificate Holders.
In accordance with the Ontario Regulation 215/01, any person who installs, activates, repairs, or services any fuel-fired appliance, equipment or component shall be certified for the purpose.

The following certificates would be considered appropriate for work in the landfill, digester or biogas areas as defined by their scopes of certificate in Fuels Industry Certificates Regulation 215-01; Gas Technician 1 (G1), Gas Technician 2 (G2), Gas Pipe Fitter (GP) and IMT (when employed directly with the specific plant).

Aside from this required certification, it is incumbent upon both employer and employee to ensure that workers are appropriately qualified for specialized tasks that may fall outside of existing certificate training programs and industry experience. Given the nature of these highly specialized fuel sector applications, additional training may be required. Trained personnel who operate & monitor equipment do not have to be a certificate holder however; they cannot perform the functions as covered in the specified certificates.

Inspections
Our inspectors will require access to all maintenance and repair records as well as procedures and checklists to ensure safety and regulatory expectations are being adhered to.