

Board of Boiler Rules Meeting Minutes
August 16 – 17, 2022
Department of Labor & Industries, Virtual Meeting

Board Members:

Terry Chapin, Chair
Tim Barker
Stephanie Gross
Steve Pacheco
Mike Carlson, Secretary

Other Attendees:

Mike Low, State of Washington
Alicia Curry, State of Washington
Brian Betsworth, FM Global**
Rick Gaethle, Chemtrade
Bob Burns, Chemtrade
Kim Benner, Chemtrade*
Justin Kelsay, Chemtrade*
Eric Allen, Chemtrade*
Mike Czerski, Aguagga **
Chris Woodruff, Aguagga**

- * Attended Study Session only
- ** Attended Board Meeting only
- *** Attended Public Hearing only

Board member Lisa Hawkins was not in attendance for this meeting.

The Board of Boiler Rules meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 am.

Agenda Item 1.

Steve motioned to approve agenda. Tim seconded. All voted aye, motion carried. Agenda approved.

Agenda Item 2.

Stephanie motioned to approve minutes as written. Steve seconded, motion carried. Minutes approved.

Agenda Item 3

Boiler frequency extension for Chemtrade

This is a request for a waste heat boiler extension for one year, due to a maintenance issue. Rick Gaethle from Chemtrade presented this extension request. Marathon Refining owns the SRU (Sulfur Recovery Unit) and it is operated and maintained by Chemtrade. Chemtrade is contracted to process hydrogen sulfite gas 365 days a year at a certain percentage. If Chemtrade is required to shut down SRU because of a needed boiler inspection, that have an adverse effect on Marathon Refining. Marathon does a CAT outage every 5 years and takes the entire plant

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offline. This extension request would align Chemtrade with Marathon operations and production. Tim expressed some concerns regarding the amount of corrosion on the chamber side of the boiler on the right side of the drawings and some thinning in the 24 inch nozzle. He was initially concerned, but during discussion, it was shown that it is not a pressure boundary and only in the combustion area so there is no water or steam there. There was also a little bit of thinning in a 4 inch nozzle in south end and the previous readings did not include tube sheet thickness readings and he is hoping that is added to the scope of work in the spring during the April 2023 outage. Other than that, he thinks the boiler and water treatment look good. All of Tim's concerns were addressed and stipulations for extension approval will be put in place.

Mike Carlson questioned what date Chemtrade wants to do the internal? Rick clarified that it will be between April and May 2023, they have a 50 day window of time.

Tim motioned to approve the extension with the following stipulations:

1. Satisfactory completion of the internal inspection in April 2023. The Internal inspection will include removal and testing/refurbishment of the safety relieve valves, appropriate NDE of the boiler pressure parts including, tube sheets, tubes, shell and nozzles and calibration of all limit controls. Any findings during the internal inspection will be addressed prior to operation including any pressure parts that are expected to go below minimum wall prior to the next 5 year internal inspection in 2028 based on expected corrosion rates.
2. The annual certificate will continue to be issued upon a satisfactory external inspection with the boiler in operation. The External inspection would include review of operating records, limit controls, testing, water chemistry, etc.
3. Chemtrade to notify the AIA and the Chief Inspector should the unit experience any pressure part failures between internal inspections so that a revaluation of the 5 year frequency can be made. Inspection and operating records may be audited by Chief to determine boiler useful life. .

Agenda Item 4

WAC 296-104-260 – What are the required clearances for unfired pressure vessels?

This was presented by Mike Carlson. There were concerns from the board regarding how the change should be worded to make it as clear as possible and minimize impacts on stakeholders. The board would like to spend more time on this request and revisit it at the next meeting. Board is tabling this request until the next meeting.

Department Notes:

Terry Chapin's term as chairperson has expired and the board member position for boilermakers/stationary engineers/pressure vessel operators is still open to be filled. He will continue to serve on the board until a replacement for the Boilermakers position is filled.

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Terry brought up an agenda item for the next meeting: Nominated Tim for the chairperson position to replace himself. The board will move forward with voting on a new chair. Terry motioned to nominate Tim, Stephanie seconded. All voted aye, motion carries. Tim will be the new chair of the board, starting at the November meeting. If issues with voting on the chair at this meeting, the board will vote again at the November meeting.

Discussed future meeting locations. The board is willing to go back to in person meetings. Tukwila is the preferred location, but can use Tumwater location(s) as a backup. Board asked about vaccination requirements and it is believed that social distancing/masks are the requirement. Board members did request a video option. Also was noted that none of the board members have received stipend payments for a long period of time. Mike will reach out to Jamie to resolve.

Mike Carlson provided quarterly program reports.

Inspections completed May 1, 2022 – July 31, 2022, for 128 commissioned inspectors:

353 Internal boiler inspections
+ 1,685 External boiler inspections
+ 11,081 Pressure vessel inspections
= 13,119 Total inspections

New objects:

347 Boilers
+ 2,431 Pressure Vessels
= 2,778 New objects

Current total of objects is 116,846.

Statewide overdue rate is 12.6%, with about 14,721 objects (60 days or more overdue) without a valid certificate.

Violations:

There were 322 violations opened, 309 violations closed.

220 boiler and 898 pressure vessels with open violations for a total of 1,118.

0 red tag violations opened.

Meeting adjourned at 10:49am.