



Technical Standards and Safety Authority

Minutes of the Natural Gas Advisory Council

Meeting on April 7, 2022

Minutes of the Natural Gas Advisory Council meeting of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) held by teleconference at 9:00 a.m. on the 7th day of April 2022.

Present: David Hammond, A.O. Smith; Shawn Khoshaien, Enbridge Gas Inc.; Martin Luymes, Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Institute (HRAI); Greg St. Louis, Kitchener Utilities; Andy Vella, Canadian Standards Association (CSA); Neil Waugh, NPL Canada Inc.

Alexandra Campbell, VP, Communications & Stakeholder Relations; Danielle Fernandes, Advisory Council Coordinator; Gary Highfield, Manager, Engineering, Fuels Safety Program; Kristian Kennedy, Manager, Government Relations; Anil Lal, Manager, Engineering & Technical Services, Fuels Safety Program; Bonnie Rose, President & CEO.

Guests: Geoffrey Holloway alt. for David Hammond, A.O. Smith

Regrets: Sunaina Menezes, TSSA Consumers Advisory Council & Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM); Alan Reitzel, Reitzel Heating and Sheet Metal Ltd; Ron Vanhevel, Rheem Canada.

1. Welcome & Constitution of Meeting

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

a) Safety Moment

For the safety moment, Council was shown a short video on the safety implications of stress and the importance of stress management.

2. Adoption of the April 7, 2022 agenda

Council adopted the agenda as presented.

The Chair requested update on any developments in relation to Skills Trade Ontario (STO) and the Red Seal initiative underway for Gas Fitter 1 (G-1), Gas Fitter 2 (G-2), and Oil Burner Technician-1 (OBT-1) certificate holders. B. Rose advised that there is not much more to share that was not already shared at the TSSA Fuels Plenary meeting. She explained that the key direction is for TSSA to transfer all training and certification of G-1, G-2, and OBT-1 to STO, noting that the goal is to recognize these three fuel certificates as Red Seal trades. She advised that TSSA and STO are in the early stages of reviewing and assessing the change, noting that the transition can take anywhere from 18-24 months due to the complexity involved. She added that once more information is available it will be shared with the council.

There were no additional questions of comments from council.

3. Approval of November 11, 2021, minutes

The minutes of November 11, 2021 were approved as presented.

4. Review of Action items from last meeting

D. Fernandes provided an overview of open action items advising that all items would be addressed at the meeting today and would be considered closed thereafter.

There were no questions or comments from council.



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5. Chair's Update

The Chair spoke to the recent (March 23-25, 2022) CMPX trade show, noting it was the first in four years. The early data for the show suggest that it was well received by exhibitors and attendees. There were approximately 15,000 attendees and overall feedback was positive.

He noted the light council agenda and acknowledged that TSSA worked diligently to solicit agenda items, but the absence of items is in some respects a sign of success.

There were no questions or comments from council.

6. Council Administration

a. Membership Matrices Update

D. Fernandes confirmed that the membership matrix as amended by council at the November 11, 2021 NGAC meeting has been approved by TSSA's President and CEO B. Rose. She advised that TSSA, in collaboration with the Chair, has undertaken a member realignment exercise to ensure current members are aligned appropriately with the membership categories under the revised matrix. She advised that based on the realignment exercise, any open positions on council would be posted to a call for nomination. She asked if council had any issues with the realignment as presented.

There were no member realignment issues noted.

b. Membership Renewal – D. Hammond

D. Fernandes advised that D. Hammond has decided to retire from the NGAC Council. She on behalf of TSSA, along with the Chair, thanked him for his contribution and dedication to the council. D. Fernandes advised that the position would be open to a call for nomination.

There were no questions or comments from council.

7. NGAC Issues arising from Fuels Plenary Meeting

The Chair opened the floor to a discussion about the new format of council meetings. He shared his personal view that the format was beneficial, effective, and efficient. A council member echoed the sentiments and noted that a topic of interest for future industry meetings could be the "energy transition." He explained this is one topic that is having an impact on the industry. The Chair noted that in the past this was a standing item on the NGAC agenda given the longer-term nature of the transformation required of the industry due to a reduction on use of fossil fuels. B. Rose noted the climate adaptation angle to the energy transition, such as Technical Safety BC's work on device resilience. The Chair acknowledged this as an important consideration. He explained that given the long-term nature of this transition for industry it is important to stay abreast of developments. K. Kennedy reminded council that they can utilize the agenda item request form to raise for discussion purposes technical issues resulting from this transition toward the electrification of energy.

8. Adjournment

In his closing statement the Chair encouraged the submission of agenda item request forms. He noted that the changes being initiated under STO are seen favourably by the industry, cautioning that the details will matter. He explained that industry involvement in these discussions will be critical. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

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