MINUTES OF THE
FIFTH GAS TECHNICAL COUNCIL MEETING OF 2010

DATE: November 18, 2010

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

LOCATION: Delta Edmonton South

PRESENT: Darrel Hilman, Chair

Mayor Glenn Andersen
Bob Bush
Keith Carter, Vice Chair
Bradley Gaida
Mel Hess
Gerald Kitchen
Verne Quiring
Dave Schroeder
Russell Wintersgill

Sidney Manning, Alberta Municipal Affairs
Celia McDonagh, Safety Codes Council (9:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.)

ABSENT: Glen Aspen
 Brad Diggens
  Larry Robinson
  Dave Scheideman
  Darren Smith

RECORER: Sandi Orr

NEXT MEETINGS: March 17, June 23, October 20, 2011
A. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:06 a.m. and a round table introduction was held.

B. **Adoption of Agenda**

Bradley Gaida / Russell Wintersgill moved to adopt the agenda, as circulated; CARRIED

C. **Adoption of Minutes**

Mel Hess / Bob Bush moved to adopt the minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

D. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

E.1.01.09 **Side Wall Vent Termination**

It was noted that this item remains on the agenda to review the results or incidents based on the newly published STANDATA. Several council members have asked their representative organizations to be on the lookout for issues that may arise. With the colder weather just beginning there have only been a few instances reported.

A form, similar to the malfunction report, may assist in gathering the necessary information. This will better assist the council in understanding the root causes and issues for consideration of future code changes. It was suggested that standard criteria or perimeters be developed by the Working Group relative to the submission of incidents (e.g. distance from property line, direction of the vent, etc.).

E.1.02.09 **Materials used for Air Intake to Appliances – Draft STANDATA**

The redrafted STANDATA – G-03-10 – Direct Vent Appliances and Equipment that Require Two Pipe Vents of ULC S636 Certified Systems and Combustion Air Pipe was circulated and reviewed (Handout #1). An overview was provided of the major changes to the STANDATA. A title change was recommended to read: Direct Vent Appliances and Equipment Requiring ULC S636 Certified Systems.

The Chief Gas Administrator is still waiting to confirm specific temperature ratings from manufacturers. The approval of the STANDATA was deferred to the next meeting to include further information.

It was noted that the CSA Standard does not require the temperature rating to be stamped on the piping. It was suggested that a docket be submitted to include this as a requirement.

E.1.05.09 **Mechanically Vented Appliances - Depressurization**

Originally this STANDATA was going to be issued as a Gas STANDATA. However, this is now been changed to a Building Interpretation STANDATA. This draft Building STANDATA – 06-BCI-XXX – Mechanically Vented Appliances was circulated with the agenda.
The Chief Gas Administrator reported that this STANDATA was approved at yesterday’s Building Technical Council meeting and will be published on the website in short order.

Being no further action, this item will be removed from the agenda. [Paches]

E.4.01.10 STANDATA review

A summary list of Gas STANDATAs on the Municipal Affairs website was circulated (Handout #2).

All STANDATAs were reviewed and the following decisions were made:

- **G-99-02-SCA (R1)** – Gas Installation Permits in Alberta Municipal Affairs’ Jurisdiction – this STANDATA has expired and it was recommended that this not be reissued.

- **G-99-03-STDS** – Storage Water Heaters, with Input Ratings Above 75,000 Btu per Hour (21 980 W), Instantaneous and Circulating Water Heaters (Handout #3) – it was recommended that this STANDATA be expired.

- **G-99-04-STDS [rev 1]** (Handout #4) – Certification of Gas-fired Water Heaters for Installation in Alberta – it was recommended that if this STANDATA be expired and that if future clarification is required that a STANDATA be issued by the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Administrator.

- A redrafted **G-00-01-CSA** – Product Advisory Regarding the Installation of Gas Fired Infra-red Radiant Tube Heaters was circulated and reviewed (Handout #5). It was recommended that the redrafted STANDATA be approved and published. It was recommended that the STANDATA be revised to highlight the last sentence of the first paragraph.

- **G-00-03-B149** – Product Advisory Regarding the Installation of Gas Log Lighters in Wood Burning Fireplaces. It was recommended that this STANDATA be expired as it is unlikely that this would be permitted in accordance with the current Alberta Building Code.

- **G-00-05** – Product Advisory Regarding Rheem Canada Ltd.’s Voluntary Corrective Action Program for Models PV40 and PV50 Gas-fire, Power-vented Water Heaters. It was recommended that this STANDATA be expired.

- A redrafted **G-01-03-B149 [Rev1]** – Replacement Parts for Gas-fire Appliances was circulated and reviewed (Handout #6a) along with recommended revisions (Handout #6b). It was recommended that the redrafted STANDATA be approved and published with the recommended revisions. The STANDATA was revised to read: …with certified parts. Uncertified or counterfeit parts in place of...

- A redrafted **G-03-03-B-149 [Rev1]** – Add-on Furnace Control Devices was circulated and reviewed (Handout #7). It was recommended that the updated STANDATA be adopted and published.
- An updated G-02-01a-IB [Rev4] – Uncertified Appliances and Equipment Requires Special Inspection and Approval was circulated and reviewed (Handout #8). It was recommended that the updated STANDATA be adopted and published. Concern was expressed regarding keeping certification body contact information current.

- A redrafted P/G-08-02 [Rev2] – Requirements for Combination Heating Systems – was circulated and reviewed (Handout #9). The STANDATA was revised to include reference to CSA Standard B214. It was recommended that the revised STANDATA be approved and published. It was further recommended that a Working Group be established to review and update this STANDATA after the new Alberta Building Code is published.

- An updated P-03-02 Gas [Rev1] – Gas Permits was circulated and reviewed (Handout #10). It was recommended that this updated STANDATA be adopted and released.

- It was recommended that G-04-01-B149.1 – Concealed Piping and Tubing be reissued as currently published.

- It was recommended that G-04-02-B149.1 [Rev2] – Clearances from an Appliance Vent Termination be expired.

- G-05-01-B149 [Rev1] Outdoor Propane Appliances located on Decks and Balconies was circulated and reviewed (Handout #11). It was recommended that this STANDATA be updated, adopted and released. It was suggested that a brochure could be published targeted to the public to highlight awareness. Recommendations for distribution methods included the Propane industry and local fire departments.

- An updated G-05-02-B149.1 [Rev1] – Residential Appliance Venting, Vent Connectors and Liners was circulated and reviewed (Handout #12). It was recommended that this updated STANDATA be adopted and released.

- The review of STANDATA G-05-B149.2 – Propane Container Filling/Safe Storage and Handling of Propane was deferred from publishing at this time pending further updates. This will be brought forward at a future meeting.

- It was recommended that STANDATA G-06-01-B149.1 – Damage Due to Strain from Building Settlement be issued as is.

- An updated G-06-02-B149.1 [Rev2] – Damage Due to Deterioration or Stress Conditions was circulated and reviewed (Handout #13). The updated STANDATA was updated to changed ...cement / cement and... to ...cement or cement and... and to include “Some chemicals found in common construction insulation, sealants and adhesives may react with and damage the vent system. Ensure interactions are considered for building penetrations involving insulation, sealants and adhesives that may come in contact with the vent system”. It was recommended that this updated and revised STANDATA be adopted and released.
An updated G-06-03-B149.1 – Air Supply Openings and Ducts was circulated and reviewed (Handout #14). It was recommended that this updated STANDATA be adopted and released.

An updated G-08-01 – B149.1/B149.2 [Rev1] – Temporary Heat for Construction Sites was circulated and reviewed (Handout #15). It was recommended that this updated STANDATA be adopted and released.

It was recommended that STANDATA G-01-10 – Sidewall Vent Termini be published as is.

It was recommended that STANDATA G-02-10 – Appliances and Equipment Require Special Certification for Installation at High Altitude be published as is.

Verne Quiring / Bradley Gaida moved to accept the Chief Gas Administrator’s recommendations to either expire or adopt and release the STANDATAs as listed above; CARRIED

The updated VAR-GAS-05-05 [Rev3] – Variance for Alberta Oil and Gas Industry for Gas-fired Equipment Used for Process Applications in Petroleum Refineries, Petrochemical Plans and Upstream Oil and Gas Sites was circulated and reviewed (Handout #16). It was recommended that the updated Variance STANDATA be adopted and released.

Gerald Kitchen / Keith Carter moved to adopt and release STANDATA VAR-GAS-05-05 [Rev3] – Variance for Alberta Oil and Gas Industry for Gas-fired Equipment Used for Process Applications in Petroleum Refineries, Petrochemical Plans and Upstream Oil and Gas Sites; CARRIED

STANDATA VAR-GAS-08-04 [Rev2] – Service Regulators with a Limited Capacity Relief and an Over Pressure Cut Off was circulated as information (Handout #17). The variance has expired and will not be republished.

E.6.01.10 How to Address Part 10 Structures Relative to Alberta’s Policy Decision on out of Province Travel

The QMS for Manufacturing Plants Outside of Alberta relative to Part 10 Structures was circulated with the agenda package as information. A brief overview was provided of the changes for outside of Alberta. Being no further action, this item will be removed from the agenda. [Patches]

E.3.02.10 Matrix Alterations

A package was circulated containing the Gas Technical Council matrix, along with the matrices of all other technical councils. Members were reminded that this review is ongoing to ensure that each council is accurately represented in order to make the right decisions in the interest of public safety.

Consensus was reached that the Gas Technical Council matrix remain as is, as it is believed that this accurately reflects industry representation related to our discipline.

This item will be removed from the agenda. [Paches]
E.4.02.10  Sizing of the Gas Piping in a Single Family Dwelling

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

E.5.02.10  Gas SCO & A Class Gas Ticket

The Working Group reported that proposed changes are being made to the Entry Requirements in the SCC Policy. The redrafted policy will be forwarded to the council for review at the next meeting. [Atkinson]

E.6.02.10  ABSA Jurisdictional STANDATA Review

The following STANDATAs need to be reviewed:
- G-06-10 – Gas Pressure Piping in Excess of 15 PSI (circulated at the last meeting)
- G-05-10 – Liquid Petroleum Gas Storage Vessel Installations (circulated at the last meeting)
- G-01-xx-ABSA – Propane Storage Tanks Designed for 200 PSIG (included in the agenda package)

The Chief Gas Administrator reported that he is waiting for consistent direction from ABSA and the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Technical Council. Any further discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

E.8.02.10  Third Party Certification

The Chief Gas Administrator reported that industry must use either third party certification or utilize the applicable variance for uncertified equipment. A report was provided on the new Inspection Body program being developed by Standards Council of Canada. It was originally anticipated that this program would be rolled out before the end of 2010. This program will approve certification bodies. When there are a sufficient quantity of third party field approvers, the Gas Variance STANDATA can be expired.

It was requested that this item remain on the agenda to ensure this continues to get reviewed until just time as the variance is expired.

E.2.04.10  Gas Training Validation

The Manager of Training reported that a Working Group reviewed the course material for Course 100093, Gas, Group A, Code Update Training. Feedback was circulated and reviewed (Handout #19). The Chair provided further recommendations for revisions and these will be reviewed and incorporated accordingly.

Gerald Kitchen / Verne Quiring moved to approve the course material for Course 100093, Gas, Group A, Code Update Training pending incorporation of the Chair's recommendations; CARRIED

Russell Wintersgill / Gerald Kitchen moved that in order to maintain certification, Group A Safety Codes Officers in the Gas Discipline be required to successfully complete this code update training by no later than January 31, 2012 and that in order to verify learning completion of a mandatory examination be required; CARRIED
It was reported that the revised Gas, Group A Course will be available on the SCC FTP site for review and feedback. The review committee members are: Darrel Hilman, Gerald Kitchen and Glenn Andersen. [McDonagh]

E. New Business

E.1.05.10 ABC 9.32.3.13 – Outdoor Intake & Exhaust Openings

The Chief Gas Administrator reported on conflicts between the ABC 9.32.3.13 – Outdoor Intake & Exhaust Openings and the Gas Code. It was asked whether there is a need to prepare a code change to the Alberta Building Code or to consider a change to the Gas Code.

Discussion was held regarding changes to the CSA-B149 regarding openings. However, regardless of what is contained in this Standard, the Building Code is paramount. There is a need to assist the homebuilders and inspectors in clarifying the issues in the interest of public safety. It was suggested that the two disciplines work together to attempt to resolve the conflict between the two codes. [Manning / Salvian]

It was reported that the National Building Code will be published November 29, 2010. Alberta Municipal Affairs will be accepted proposed code changes until March 31, 2011. Members were encouraged to remind their representative organizations.

E.2.05.10 LPG/LNG/CNG Conversions, Stations & Storage – Update

The Chief Gas Administrator reported that CSA Standards B108, B109 and B149.5 are adopted for use in Alberta through reference.

It was reported that ATCO Gas will be building several new compressed natural gas fuelling facilities throughout Alberta (Fort McMurray, Lloydminster, Grande Prairie, Edson and Brooks) to provide natural gas to rural communities. As the Fort McMurray and Lloydminster facilities are built, further information will be provided.

E.3.05.10 Fibreglass Propane Cylinders

It was asked whether anyone has seen any Fibreglass Propane Cylinders in Alberta. It was reported that the advantage is that the user can see the level of gas in the container. An explanation was provided regarding previous issues relative to fibreglass storage tanks.

It was noted that the product is certified and approved for use in Canada and that these tanks fail in an unusually safe way. There is no catastrophe failure, because if it burns a leak occurs and then the gas simply burns off. These tanks have a 5-year life and have no means of being recertified.

Being no action required by the Gas discipline, this item will be removed from the agenda. [Paches]

E.4.05.10 Pyrotechnics

It was reported that Gasfitters are pulling permits for pyrotechnics and that they may not have the applicable level of knowledge or experience. It was suggested that perhaps there is a need to develop another pathway to allow individuals with the applicable level
of experience, training and certification with pyrotechnics to request permits. However, further investigation is required and there may be a need to continue to require a gasfitter.

A photo example was circulated as information. An explanation was provided of other jurisdictions and the different certification, approval or licensing processes used.

A Working Group will be established consisting of Gerald Kitchen, Bob Bush and the Administrator. Other members will be solicited with experience in inspecting these devices.

E.5.05.10 Nomination of Keith Carter for a term until Jan 31, 2014

Bob Bush / Russell Wintersgill moved to recommend to the Coordinating Committee the reappointment of Keith Carter to the Gas Technical Council for a term until January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2011; CARRIED

F. Standing Agenda Items

a) Action Items

All action items were completed or addressed under the applicable agenda items.

b) Report from Chair – Technical Coordinating Committee Update

A brief update was provided from the last meeting.

G. Standing Agenda Items

a) Conditional Grant Agreements

A report on the Conditional Grant Agreements was circulated as information (Handout #20). The Chief Gas Administrator reported on feedback received from industry and representative organizations regarding risk-based inspections and the inconsistencies between Quality Management Plans throughout Alberta.

H. Next Meeting

The following 2011 meeting schedule was established:

- Thursday, March 17, 2011 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton
- Thursday, June 23, 2011 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton
- Thursday, October 20, 2011 – 9:00 a.m. in Edmonton

Bradley Gaida / Russell Wintersgill moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.
-- ACTION ITEMS --

E.1.01.09   Side Wall Vent Termination

It was suggested that standard criteria or perimeters be developed by the Working Group relative to the submission of incidents (e.g. distance from property line, direction of the vent, etc.).  [Kitchen]

E.1.05.09   Mechanically Vented Appliances - Depressurization

Being no further action, this item will be removed from the agenda.  [Paches]

E.6.01.10   How to Address Part 10 Structures Relative to Alberta’s Policy Decision on out of Province Travel

Being no further action, this item will be removed from the agenda.  [Paches]

E.3.02.10   Matrix Alterations

This item will be removed from the agenda.  [Paches]

E.5.02.10   Gas SCO & A Class Gas Ticket

The redrafted policy will be forwarded to the council for review at the next meeting.  [Atkinson]

E.2.04.10   Gas Training Validation

Gas Group A course material will be available on the SCC for review and feedback. The review committee members are: Darrel Hilman, Gerald Kitchen and Glenn Andersen.  [McDonagh]

E.1.05.10   ABC 9.32.3.13 – Outdoor Intake & Exhaust Openings

It was suggested that the two disciplines work together to attempt to resolve the conflict between to the two codes.  [Manning / Salvian]

E.3.05.10   Fibreglass Propane Cylinders

- this item will be removed from the agenda.  [Paches]
-- MOTIONS --

B. Adoption of Agenda

Bradley Gaida / Russell Wintersgill moved to adopt the agenda, as circulated; CARRIED

C. Adoption of Minutes

Mel Hess / Bob Bush moved to adopt the minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED

E.4.01.10 STANDATA review

Verne Quiring / Bradley Gaida moved to accept the Chief Gas Administrator's recommendations to either expire or adopt and release the STANDATAs as listed above; CARRIED

Gerald Kitchen / Keith Carter moved to adopt and release STANDATA VAR-GAS-05-05 [Rev3] – Variance for Alberta Oil and Gas Industry for Gas-fired Equipment Used for Process Applications in Petroleum Refineries, Petrochemical Plans and Upstream Oil and Gas Sites; CARRIED

E.2.04.10 Gas Training Validation

Gerald Kitchen / Verne Quiring moved to approve the course material for Course 100093, Gas, Group A, Code Update Training pending incorporation of the Chair's recommendations; CARRIED

Russell Wintersgill / Gerald Kitchen moved that in order to maintain certification, Group A Safety Codes Officers in the Gas Discipline be required to successfully complete this code update training by no later than January 31, 2012 and that in order to verify learning completion of a mandatory examination be required; CARRIED

E.5.05.10 Nomination of Keith Carter for a term until Jan 31, 2014

Bob Bush / Russell Wintersgill moved to recommend to the Coordinating Committee the reappointment of Keith Carter to the Gas Technical Council for a term until January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2011; CARRIED

H. Next Meeting

Bradley Gaida / Russell Wintersgill moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED