

Boiler and Pressure Vessel Bureau  
January Quarterly Performance Review  
6<sup>th</sup> floor CR, Old Revenue Building  
January 27, 2015 at 10:00 AM

Attendees: Art Britt, Phil Hooper, Cliff Dautrich, Don Kinney and Jack Brinson

Absent: Adrienne McLean

Scribe: Charity Locklear

**Cliff Dautrich reviewed Boiler's YTD (Year-To-Date) Performance Report and charts. (Note: All charts and minutes are posted on the Intranet site under Performance Review Charts and Minutes.)**

**Standards**

Boiler has met all standards for performance year 2014-2015 to date.

**Except:**

**1.5 Conduct training for inspection staff. Include in-service and new construction related curriculum.**

This standard will be met in May of 2015.

**3.1 Conduct bureau S&H committee meetings**

This standard will be met in March 2015.

**3.2 Site inspections are conducted of Bureau controlled spaces in accordance with the S&H Policies using appropriate reporting forms.**

This standard will be met in March 2015.

**Staff**

The Boiler & Pressure Vessel bureau has 14 inspectors and 2 supervisors. 2 senior inspectors along with the previous Bureau Chief, Jack Given have retired. Typically Boiler doesn't have much turnover.

Jeremy Smith passed the State Board exam and the InService exam. Boiler has applied for and is waiting for Jeremy's National Board Commission. Jeremy has completed his training on various types of objects. He has gone on inspections with his supervisor, Dean Strickland and field inspectors. Once Jeremy receives his National Board Commission, he will be working on his own in the Wilmington area. Jeremy will need to get 80 hours of shop training with an inspector and 16 hours with a supervisor and also pass the "N" endorsement test to take over GEH shop inspections.

Currently, only Cliff has a "NS" (Nuclear Supervisor) endorsement in the Boiler Bureau. Ray Payne and Don Kidd are going to "NS" school in the middle of February, 2015.

New inspectors must to receive their National Board Commission before inspecting objects for the State. There is a check list of different objects for new hires to inspect with a supervisor. Cliff would like to only hire new inspectors close to National Board testing dates. If not, the new inspector will be getting paid and not working in full capacity.

Technically the state inspectors don't have to have a National Board Commission to inspect in the State of North Carolina, but they have to be qualified and the National Board School and Commission examination are the best way to qualify them; therefore NCDOL requires their State inspectors to earn a National Board Commission before inspecting objects for the State and all Special (Insurance) inspectors are required under the statute to have a National Board Commission.

Oscar Coley, the newest inspector, prefers to be called Junior. He will be traveling to the National Board in Columbus, Ohio to take the InService class starting on February 2, 2015 for 2 weeks. While he is there he will take the InService Commission test.

Art – Do we have any inspectors that don't pass the test and receive their National Board Commission?

Cliff - We have had some inspector's that have taken the test 2 to 3 times before they pass it. Some people are poor test takers even though they are competent in the work they do. Human Resources changed the probation period from 9 months to 2 years. Art – You can terminate during the probationary period if the inspector is not meeting job requirements. Phil – If we have sent them for testing twice, be sure to let the inspector's know during the hiring process that the 3<sup>rd</sup> testing cost will be at the inspector's own expense. Phil - Are the job requirements and test taking outlined in the job posting? Cliff – Yes, it does state the certification requirements in the job posting.

Do we hire people that already have these commissions/endorsements? Cliff - No not usually, because we can't offer them the amount of money the private sector offers.

Art – How often does the National Board offer testing during the year? Cliff – They offer testing at least 3 times per year at Jurisdictional offices, but the test can be taken at any time at sites that proctor the exam for the National Board such as H&R Block.

### **Shops**

Shops do the actual building of pressure vessels and boilers. Repairs and alterations are also done at these shops. To become a shop inspector you have to have your "A or N" endorsement.

Sometimes businesses do hire the Boiler bureau to do their 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspections.

### **Abatelements**

Art - Are abatements physically observed? Cliff – We like to go out to see the actual repair. We don't encourage otherwise. If it was a minor repair, the company would have to ask and maybe it would be ok with a photo, but serious repairs absolutely not.

### **Article 7b**

Art explained the history behind Article 7b. Basically, Article 7b stated that Boiler and Pressure Vessel had to establish a safety program for antique boilers. Boiler made safety guidelines and posted them on the internet and they keep the guidelines updated. Don Kinney – Some antique boiler owners want to use their own welders to make repairs on the antique boilers. Boiler has posted welding procedures that the owner of a historical boiler could use to qualify their own welder to: Section IX of the ASME Code. So far, none of the owners have used their own welders. Overall the antique boiler owners are very cooperative and are happy to receive the inspection. Art – When Commissioner Berry speaks about Antique boilers, she mentions what happened in Ohio where several people were killed by an antique

boiler explosion. Cliff – We want the antique boilers to be safe. Phil – Do we have routine inspections of antique boilers? Cliff – Yes. Phil – Are the inspections included in with the regular boiler inspections? Cliff – Yes. Art – The first time an antique boiler is inspected it takes 2 days to do the inspection. Cliff - After the first inspection, the inspections are on a 6 year graduated inspection. The antique boiler inspection fee is \$45.00 per boiler. Boiler does take a fee, travel and worktime loss for the initial inspection of an antique boiler because it takes 2 inspectors about 2 days to inspect one. Inspectors inspect approximately 45 antique boilers each year.

### **Endorsements**

Don Kidd has his A, B and N endorsements and is currently working at the GEH shop in Wilmington. Once the new guy, Jeremy Smith gets his N endorsement he will take over the GEH shop from Don Kidd.

### **Strategic Plan**

Cliff is currently working on fine tuning the reporting for the Strategic Plan.

### **Prospecting vs. New Location visits**

Cliff is going to re-define prospecting and new location visits.

### **Nuclear Power Plants**

HSB and CT Insurance companies inspect nuclear power plants and inspect pressure vessels at nuclear sites.

### **Hardcopy Inspections**

HSB doesn't use Jurisdiction on-line (Praeses). They have their own data system and still mail in hardcopy inspections to the Raleigh office. Boiler's administrative staff processes the information into the system and scans the copies into On-Base within 5 days. Phil – Can we make HSB convert over to Praeses? Cliff – No. Phil - Can we charge HSB for submitting hardcopies? Cliff – We don't have it written in the laws to charge a fee for not submitting inspections electronically. Art – Do other States use Praeses? Cliff – Yes. Since 2006 Praeses has given Boiler weekly downloads. Cliff is concerned about not having an emergency operating plan in case if Praeses is sold or if something happens to the data stored in Praeses database. Cliff has talked to Chris Lehenbauer last week about having a backup database in place for emergency purposes. Chris said it would take a while to develop and would be placed down on the priority list. Art – Talk to Tina Morris-Anderson about your concerns. Cliff – Tina is aware of the situation.

### **New Objects**

The number of new objects is trending kind of low. There isn't anything Boiler can do about that. Businesses control new object inspections.

### **Penalty Process**

Cliff is working with Jane Gilchrist on making changes to the current penalty process. They are looking at possibly dropping the 4<sup>th</sup> invoice notice. Invoicing through Praeses is great. Boiler has developed a penalty worksheet to drop off at businesses as a reminder to pay or be penalized. The Raleigh staff sends the inspectors penalty worksheets to deliver to companies with outstanding invoices when the inspector is scheduled to be in that business' area. This process has been helpful in receiving some outstanding invoice money and has been useful tracking businesses that have closed or have new ownership.

### **Shop Activity**

Shop activity and income was reviewed. Income is generated for performance of ASME and NB third party inspection activities. Shop visits are good for training inspectors and it makes inspectors more competent.

### **National Board**

The Boiler bureau is a State Approving agency and Boiler does audits and reviews for the National Board.

### **Budget**

Jack reviewed Boiler's budget. The budget is on track. Boiler is \$20,000 to the good. Boiler is about 80,000 to 90,000 lower in expenditures this year compared to last year. Through the Rules Budget is hopeful that Boiler's receivables will increase. Lowering expenditures makes a difference. Phil – As far as uncollected invoices, does the DOL place liens against companies? Cliff - Under the current Statute, Boiler is not allowed to collect on any debt over 3 years past due.

### **Processing Assistants**

The processing assistants print invoices, certificates, and violation notices. Praeses is great and they have very good customer service.

### **Changes to YTD Performance Chart**

Cliff made 2 changes to the chart during the meeting:

- 1.5 – Changed YTD Actual to 1.
- 3.11- Changed YTD Actual to 3.

### **Safety and Health Policy 9**

Safety and Health Policy 9 was reviewed with supervisors and staff to remind them to report incidents with employees including car accidents and workplace violence.

### **Insurance Companies**

HSB recently hired some new people. Phil – If an insurance company doesn't get to an inspection, does the State do the inspection? Cliff – We do inspect those objects after a reasonable amount of time.

### **2015 Upcoming Expenditures**

Cliff reviewed upcoming expenditures chart.

### **Incidents Investigated**

Cliff reviewed the YTD list of the 7 incidents Boiler has investigated and showed a picture of each of the sites.

Next Boiler Quarterly Performance Review meeting will be held on May 18, 2015 at 10:00 A.M., 6<sup>th</sup> floor CR, ORB.