

Information Bulletin No. IB17-011

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Interpretation PESR Section 23

Use of 2017 Edition of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section I

Introduction

This Information Bulletin provides guidance on the use of the 2017 Edition of ASME Section I, which has not yet been adopted under the *Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation* (PESR).

The 2015 Edition of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code is adopted for use in Alberta by Section 6(d) of the *Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation* which states:

“ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code - 2015, published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, except that Section VIII Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels, Division 2 - Alternative Rules, Part 5 Design by Analysis Requirements cannot be used to override the requirements stated in other parts of ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code - 2015, Section VIII, Division 2, unless such use meets the terms and conditions set out in a variance issued to the owner of the pressure vessel by the Administrator.”

The 2017 Edition of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section I includes new Part PA, ‘*Alternative Rules for Boiler Construction*’, that allows for the use of Section VIII, Division 2 components in a Section I boiler. Similarly, Code Case 2559-1 allows components designed and constructed to ASME Section VIII, Division 2, to be installed in a Section I boiler.

Neither Code Case 2559-1, nor the 2017 Edition of Section I, have been declared in force under the PESR. Section 23 of the PESR defines the approach for the use of alternative design codes and standards and it states:

“The Administrator may accept designs of boilers that are not designed in accordance with the codes and standards declared in force by this Regulation submitted for registration under section 40 of the Act if, in the opinion of the Administrator, they are of an equivalent standard of safety as those codes and bodies of rules declared in force by this Regulation and they meet the requirements for registration.”

Interpretation

Boilers designed to the 2017 Edition of ASME Section I may be accepted for registration provided the design does not use Part PA. Boiler designs using Part PA may only be accepted in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in a site-specific variance issued to the boiler owner. Similarly, Code Case 2559-1 may only be used in accordance with a site-specific variance.

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Mike Poehlmann, P.L. (Eng.)
Administrator, Province of Alberta Pressure Equipment Safety
Chief Inspector, ABSA the pressure equipment safety authority