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Power Engineering Students Working Outside of Alberta

In accordance with the Alberta Power Engineers Regulation (AR85/2003), a candidate applying for a Power Engineer's Certificate of Competency certification must provide verification of acceptable experience as part of the certification requirements.

For example, a 3rd Class candidate must meet the experience requirements in Sections 18(1)(b) and 18(7) of the Regulation. In that case, an Alberta power engineering student working to achieve a Third Class Certificate of Competency must hold a valid Alberta Fourth Class certificate to gain acceptable experience for the Third Class certification. A student working in another Canadian jurisdiction outside of Alberta to gain operating experience for certification in Alberta, must either: (i) obtain a Fourth Class certificate or licence from the jurisdiction where they work by transferring their Alberta certificate to that jurisdiction; OR (ii) confirm with that jurisdiction that they would accept an Alberta Fourth Class certificate for qualifying work experience in their jurisdiction. The student must also obtain that jurisdiction's written confirmation of his/her operating experience at the end of the work term.

Background

In Alberta, the Power Engineers Regulation (AR 85/2003) establishes supervision requirements for the operation of different types of power plants, heating plants or thermal liquid heating systems. Jurisdictions outside Alberta have similar plant operation supervision requirements with power engineers certified by the respective jurisdiction.

In recent years the number of Power Engineering candidates has increased significantly and some candidates may look to obtain their operating experience outside of Alberta. When proper procedure is not followed, a candidate may be disappointed to discover that the operating experience that they have earned outside of Alberta will not be accepted toward their Certification.

<original signed by>

K. T. Lau, Ph.D., P.Eng.
Administrator, Province of Alberta Pressure Equipment Safety
Chief Inspector, ABSA the pressure equipment safety authority
Equipment safety authority