

VARIANCE

**No. VA20-007
(IB21-008)**

Subject Variance to Section 18(1) of the Power Engineers Regulation (AR 85/2003).
Qualifying to take a 3rd Class Power Engineer's Certificate of Competency examination.

The expiry date of Variance VA20-007 has been extended to May 1, 2022.
Information Bulletin IB20-014 is hereby withdrawn.

This Variance and IB21-008 has been Withdrawn-May 26, 2022

Date of Issue October 20, 2021

This Variance applies to Province wide variance applies to the students enrolled in a full time classroom based power engineering program acceptable to the Administrator in the province of Alberta.

Reason for variance Section 18(1) of the Power Engineers Regulation requires:

18(1) To qualify to take a 3rd Class Power Engineer's Certificate of Competency examination, a candidate must hold a 4th Class Power Engineer's Certificate of Competency.

Students in full time classroom based power engineering programs are required to complete the 4th class part of the program, pass the 4th class certification examinations, obtain the specified experience, and obtain 4th class certification prior to completing the 3rd class part of the program and writing the 3rd class certification examinations. The COVID-19 pandemic has required the providers of 4th and 3rd Class Power Engineer classroom programs in Alberta to suspend delivery of their programs. This has left many students unable to obtain or complete work placements or practicums that are normally part of their programs. Consequently, they do not qualify for a 4th Class Certificate and are ineligible to continue their studies in the power engineering program.

This Variance provides temporary opportunity for students who are enrolled in a 3rd class power engineering program to challenge 3rd class examinations as scheduled in the program even though they do not hold a valid 4th Class Certificate at the time of challenging the examination.

Details of variance This is a temporary variance to permit students in a 3rd class full time program to challenge 3rd class examinations even though they do not hold a valid 4th Class Certificate as required by Section 18(1) of the regulation. To qualify to challenge a 3rd Class examination paper, the student must:

1. Be enrolled in a 3rd Class Power Engineer day program acceptable to the Administrator.
2. Have passed the 4A and 4B examination papers.

The student is required to complete all operating experience requirements for

issuance of a 4th Class Certificate. The student will still be required to meet the operating experience requirements for 3rd Class Certification after they have been issued a 4th Class Certificate. A 3rd Class Certificate will not be issued until all certification requirements are fully satisfied. This Variance expires no later than May 1, 2022. The Variance may be withdrawn at an earlier date if restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic no longer limit the training organizations in delivery of their program in compliance with the approved program standard.

All other requirements of the Safety Codes Act and regulations apply.

Variance is specific and non-precedent setting

This Variance is specific and sets no precedent.

Authority under which the Variance is being issued

Section 38(1) of the Safety Codes Act, Chapter S-1

Advisement of Offence

Contravention of a condition of this Variance is an offence under the Safety Codes Act.

Approval of Administrator

<original signed by>

Mike Poehlmann, P.L. (Eng.)
Administrator
Pressure Equipment Safety
Province of Alberta

Accredited organization employing the Administrator

ABSA the pressure equipment safety authority
9410 – 20 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6N 0A4

Phone: 780-437-9100
Fax: 780-437-7787

Submission of a copy of Variance to the Safety Codes Council

A copy of this Variance will be submitted to:

Safety Codes Council
Unit 500, 10405 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5J 3N4

Explanation of variance

A Variance is written permission issued to build, install, process or otherwise act in a manner not consistent with the specific requirements of an applicable code, standard or regulation but which provides, in the opinion of the issuing Administrator, an equivalent level of safety to persons and property.