

Draft minutes

Canadian Flaring and Venting Regulators Forum

Meeting

Date: Thursday September 23, 2010

Time: 0830 PDT; 0930 MDT; 1030 CDT; 1130 EDT; 1300 NFLD – Approx. 1 hour.

Place: Teleconference

In Attendance:

Name	Group
Paul Molloy	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Brad Wagner	Saskatchewan Energy and Resources
Justin Relland	Saskatchewan Energy and Resources
Kevin Parsonage	BC Oil and Gas Commission
Todd Paget	Government of Northwest Territories
Fannie Lalonde	Environment Canada
Jonathan Williams	Environment Canada
James Vaughan	Energy Resources Conservation Board
Jim Spangelo	Energy Resources Conservation Board
Randy Dobko	Alberta Environment
Jennifer Abel	Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines
Jeff O'Keefe	CNLOPB
Christy Wickenheiser	National Energy Board
Zoe Pfeiffer	National Energy Board

New Action Items

	Who	Due
10-09-A: Send out to team the venting definition from ERCB	Jim/James	ASAP
10-09-B: Start dialogue on venting definition	Jim/James	ASAP
10-09-C: Dialogue on differences between venting and fugitive emissions	Jim/James	ASAP
10-09-D: Send out link to Oproma website for team to review	James	ASAP

1) Administration

-The meeting convened at approximately 0830 PT; 0930 MT; 1030 CT; 1130 ET and 1300 NT.

- A round of introductions was conducted.

Previous Action Items:

	Who	Due
10-06-A: Responses back to James on agreement for the CFVRF to become a sub-committee under the CAMPUT Energy Resources Committee.	All	Done

10-06-B: Relay response from the CFVRF as to becoming a sub-committee of the CAMPUT ERC	James	October 21
10-06-C: Is it possible to get Energy Resources Committee information on the CAMPUT website?	James	Will ask on Oct. 21
10-06-D: Send user name and password for the CFVRF link.	James	Done
10-04-E: Check with ERC to see if financial resources would be available for CFVRF website.	James	Done
10-06-F: Ask NACE for permission to post presentation on CFVRF website	James	Carry Over
10-06-G: Work on Fuel, Purge, Blanket etc. gas definitions	Paul, Jim S. Kevin	Ongoing
10-06-H: Chat with Dave Picard regarding Fuel, Purge, Blanket etc. gas definitions.	Mike L.	ASAP
10-06-I: Set up teleconference for October/November	James	Done

2) Feedback from CFVRF member jurisdictions on whether or not to join the CAMPUT Energy Resources Committee as a sub committee. A ‘yes’ answer indicates agreement to join:

-Environment Canada	Yes
-British Columbia Oil and Gas Commission	Yes
-Saskatchewan Energy and Resources	Yes
-Manitoba Science Technology Energy and Mines	Yes
-Newfoundland and Labrador Dep’t of Natural Resources	Yes
-Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board	Yes
-Energy Resources Conservation Board	Yes
-Alberta Environment	Yes
-National Energy Board	Yes

Discussion

- Need to now formalize the relationship between the CFVRF and The CAMPUT ERC.
- Perhaps a memorandum of understanding between the CFVRF and ERC. What will the roles and responsibilities of each be?
- Where will the CFVRF website reside? Will it continue to reside on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador’s website?
- Would it be a better fit to have the CFVRF website hosted by CAMPUT?
- Maybe a link from the CAMPUT website to the existing CFVRF website.

3) Discussion on Flare/Fuel/Purge/Instrumentation gas definitions led by Jim Spangelo, Paul Molloy and Kevin Parsonage

- No firm definitions as of yet.
- No definition of ‘flaring’ in ERCB Directive 060
- Schlumberger’s definition – ‘Vapour or gas burned through a pipe or burners’.

- In B.C. – All gas to flare = ‘flared’.
- In Alberta – All gas except acid gas or fuel = ‘flared’.
- Jim constructed a spreadsheet to get feedback from different jurisdictions as to how they report ‘flare’ now.
- Proposed flare definition – Anything directed to flare or incinerator would be considered flared.
- Randy: A definition of vented gas should be included. Differentiation between vented gas and fugitive emissions is difficult.
- Alberta: Flared + vented gas used to be combined from a reporting perspective, called ‘flared and wasted’.
- If it is reportable, it must be measurable.
- The team should focus on the ‘how to report’ now and the ‘how to measure’ later.
- Measurement becomes a discussion around accuracy.
- Reportable flaring: Public perception is that any flame at the top of a stack is flaring. In AB, if there is a flame, it’s not necessarily flaring.
- In BC, the biggest flare reductions came from purge gas, pilot gas and leaks into the flare system.
- The disadvantage of combusting the flare + fuel as flared in Alberta is that the requirement around flaring 0.5% of receipts would need to be eliminated.
- What do others think about a definition for venting?

Action Item: Send out venting definition from the ERCB.

- ERCB’s Venting definition: The intentional controlled release of uncombusted gas.

Action Item: Start Dialogue on venting definition and differentiate between venting and fugitive emissions.

4) Next Teleconference

- Latter part of January, 2011
- Possible agenda item: Do we need to investigate the need for CSA upstream flaring regulations?

5) Next face to face meeting

- Still tentative, but looks good to be hosted by Environment Canada in Ottawa in June 2011.

6) CFVRF Website

- Feedback so far is that it looks good.
- Oproma website

Action Item: Team please take a look at the Oproma website. Would it be a benefit to the CFVRF?

- <http://www.oproma.com/en/collaborate/opromasystem.aspx>