

Board of Boiler Rules Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2025
Department of Labor & Industries, Hybrid Meeting

Board Members:

Stephanie Gross, Interim Chair -Owner/Users
Keith Black, Boiler Operators
Michael Kipper, Manufacturers
John Pittman, Professional Engineers
Jon Choitz, Insurance Companies
Michael Carlson, Secretary

Other Attendees:

Alicia Curry, State of Washington
Meagan Edwards, State of Washington**
Don Sage, State of Washington*
Andrew Worline, State of Washington
Jason Stedman, State of Washington
John Van Sant, State of Washington**
Matthew Erlich, State of Washington**
Brian Hornback, State of Washington**
Benjamin Blohowiak, State of Washington**
Steve Frazier, City of Seattle
Troy Green, Lanxess

* Attended Study Session only

** Attended Board Meeting only

The Board of Boiler Rules meeting began at 10:02 a.m. Discussion summaries are incorporated in the meeting minutes.

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of Agenda

Stephanie Gross called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. John Pittman motions to approve. Keith Black seconds the motion.

Stephanie Gross calls for a vote to approve the agenda.

All board members vote “aye.”

Agenda is approved.

Agenda Item 2 – Review and approve minutes from August 20, 2025, Board of Boiler Rules meeting

Stephanie Gross has indicated that the meeting minutes from August 20, 2025, Board of Boiler Rules meeting had been reviewed previously in the study session the day prior.

She calls a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

Keith Black motions to approve the meeting minutes. Jon Choitz seconds the motion.

Stephanie Gross calls for a vote to approve the minutes. All board members vote “aye.”

Meeting minutes from August 20, 2025, Board of Boiler Rules meeting are approved.

Agenda Item 3 – Review of proposed draft Language

Stephanie Gross discusses this review of proposed language changes from CR-101 as a review before CR-102 is submitted formally in the February 2026 meeting.

Stephanie calls for a motion to approve the draft changes.

Keith Black motions to approve the review of the draft changes. Mike Kipper seconds the motion.

Mike Carlson leads a discussion of the amended draft language.

Alicia Curry suggests that the changes and additions resulting from the previous discussion in the study session is reviewed for those not in attendance.

Alicia begins with discussing a change/amendment that was added since the discussion in August.

WAC 296-104-010

- The addition of numbers to all the definitions which make the rules easier to reference.
- Addition of the words “shall mean” to the definition of boiler for consistency.
- Added language to boiler classifications for clarity. “Hot water Boiler”, etc. were the examples of the additions. Alicia also clarified no additional changes to the actual definitions beyond these clarifying words.
- The definition of “Corrosion” was moved out of the subsections for “types of Boilers and pressure vessels for the sake of clarification as “Corrosion” is not a type of Boiler or Pressure Vessel.
- The word “Hot” was removed from “water heater” throughout the chapter. This changed the alphabetical order or where “water heater” was in the definitions. The term was relocated amongst the definitions with minor edits to existing language.
- Alicia continues to discuss that the board agreed to change “indirect water heater” to “water heater indirect,” which resulted in a change/relocation in the alphabetical order.
- The term “Installer” was moved into the definitions section. The definition of “low pressure boiler” was approved in August and has no additional changes.
- Definitions of “jacketed steam kettle” were relocated to align with the definitions and for clarification.
- “Power Boiler” was moved to align with the new definition of “Boiler.”
- Adding clarifying language to statues 080 and 090, referencing that “water heater” also means “hot water heater.”
- The phrase “for purposes of this chapter” was added for clarification.
- The language “the requirements and limits described above shall apply” was clarified to state “under subsection 70”, which is the water heater definition, “shall apply.”
- “Inspection internal” language remains unchanged from the August meeting.
- Re-iterating that the word “hot” was removed from “water heaters” throughout the chapter.

- A correction will be made to move “water heaters” down in the alphabetical list.

WAC 296-104-100

- Alicia Curry then discussed the departments (Labor and Industries) previous request that the board approve removing “organic vapor boiler” from the section. The department is now withdrawing its request and asking to keep organic vapor boils in the rule to maintain inspection requirements for any future boilers of this type.
- Changes were made to subsection C for clarification, specifically regarding water side requirements: “None Required.” The definition of “boiler” may already include organic vapor boilers, but this will be re-examined.

WAC 294-104-700

- Alicia Curry speaks about Fee increases due to possible changes in Fiscal Growth factor rate. This is subject to change and is supposed to be adopted towards the end of November. The preliminary fiscal growth-factor rate is 6.43%.

WAC 296-104-450 – What are the requirements for the operation of boiler?

- The word “burner” was replaced with “energy,” which was discussed in the previous study session meeting.

Mike Kipper had a question regarding not being able to find “organic” in the definitions. There is no definition of “organic” in the boiler definition.

Mike Carlson reviewed the generic definition for boiler: “Which water or liquid is heated to generate steam or vapor.” Mike originally didn’t want to remove the term “organic vapor” because it was already in there.

Mike Kipper suggested to include “organic boilers” in the boiler definition or create a new definition, citing that if organic boiler is a subclass, it needs its own definition.

Mik Carlson took note and perform more research to make a more accurate definition at a later point.

Steve Frazier asked if there is anything that makes an organic vapor boiler special in that they need a different frequency?

Mike Carlson indicated that the difference with organic vapor boilers is that they would not need an internal inspection every year. Internal inspections are needed every two years.

It is determined that there needs to be a definition of Organic vapor boiler since it is called out separately in the inspection criteria.

Mike Carlson states that a definition will be added and will be discussed in the study session for the next board meeting in February. Confirmation was provided that the board can make changes and add the definition before the CR-102 is approved.

The board approves the draft language apart from adding the definition of organic vapor boiler.

Stephanie calls for a vote. All board members vote “aye.”

Alicia Curry discussed the timeline for CR-102 approval.

- Final CR-102 package to be presented to the board in February for approval.

- There will be a public hearing, likely around April 21st as a special meeting.
- Final CR-103 package will be ready for board approval on May 6th.
- The effective dates of the proposed changes will remain July 1st.

Agenda Item 4 – Election of Board Chair

Stephanie Gross reviews the need for an official chairperson of the Board of Boiler Rules as she has been the acting chairperson.

She calls for any nominations.

Mike Kipper nominates Stephanie Gross. Keith Black seconds the nomination.

Stephanie calls for a vote.

All board members vote “aye”.

Stephanie Gross is the official Chairperson.

Mike Carlson asks Stephanie if she accepts. She states, “Yes, I accept.”

Department notes

Mike Carlson presented quarterly boiler program inspection information to the board.

Inspections completed from August 1-October 31, 2025

The following information is regarding current workload and overdue inspections in the Boiler program. Data collected 11/18/2025. Currently, there are:

154(149) State Commissioned Inspectors

Inspections in the last quarter- August 1, 2025- October 31, 2025

409 Internal boiler inspections. (460)

2,239 External boiler inspections. (2,124)

12,831 Pressure vessel inspections. (13,311)

Total inspections =. **15,479** (15,895)

The Statewide overdue rate average is **8.1**(8.7%) with **9,446**(10,169) (60 days or more overdue) without a valid certificate.

4,869 new objects have been added in 2025 to date.

Current total of objects is **116,972** (116,714)

There were **800**(722) violations opened, **277**(236) were closed last quarter.

Currently there are **444**(417)-boiler violations, and **1,487**(1,386)-pressure vessel violations open which total **1,931**(1,803).

Two red tag violations opened last quarter.

- (1) PWR Boiler burner damaged.
- (2) Electric Boiler no Pressure relief valve.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Carlson.

Misc Discussion

Mike Carlson addresses that the board appointments are now 100% approved according to the governor's office and the board is up to date until August.

Mike Carlson also states that next year the boiler section will be 75 years old. There is likely to be some kind of celebration. Mike suggested meeting in person and there will be more details to come.

Stephanie Gross calls for any additional questions before the meeting is adjourned. No questions are asked.

Stephanie Gross calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Black seconded the motion.

Stephanie called for a vote.

All board members voted "Yea."

November 19, 2025, session of the Board of Boiler Rules meeting is adjourned.