

**Ministry of Government and
Consumer Services**

**Ministère des Services
gouvernementaux et des
Services aux consommateurs**



Office of the Minister

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July 24, 2020

Dear Stakeholder:

I am writing to provide you with an update to my ministry's work to fulfill the Auditor General of Ontario's recommendation to assess the agricultural exemption for boilers and pressure vessels in Ontario.

With your help, we have reached an important milestone that will enhance public safety and fulfill the Auditor General's recommendation.

As of July 1, 2021, all boilers, pressure vessels or piping used exclusively for agricultural purposes must comply with the Boilers and Pressure Vessels regulation. There will be no changes to the exemptions under the Operating Engineers regulation or the Elevating Devices regulation – these exemptions will remain in place.

Recognizing that this change will impact the workload and resources of the agricultural community, I have appended the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) guidelines, which first brings high-risk equipment into compliance and then lower-risk equipment at staggered timeframes over the next five years.

I will continue to monitor the rollout of these changes and thank you again for your engagement and feedback on this important issue. TSSA will be reaching out to you regarding next steps.

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Please accept my warm regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Honourable Lisa Thompson
Minister of Government and Consumer Services

c: Karen Hughes, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services
The Honorable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Greg Meredith, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Robert J. Falconi, Chair, Technical Standards and Safety Authority

TSSA Guidelines for Registration and Initial Inspection

Owners of pressure equipment in use for agricultural purposes, shall provide the following information in writing, to TSSA by March 1, 2021.

- a. owner's name and contact information including telephone number and email address,
- b. address of location of pressure equipment, if multiple sites, identify each site separately with the pressure equipment at each location,
- c. name of insurer,
- d. number of steam boilers¹ operating above 15psi,
- e. number of steam boilers operating at or below 15psi and water boilers,
- f. number of refrigeration systems using ammonia as refrigerant,
- g. number of refrigeration systems using refrigerant other than ammonia,
- h. list other type of pressure equipment, and
- i. where available, equipment manufacturer's name and year of manufacture.

TSSA will be conducting an initial inspection at each site as soon as practical with priority given to equipment with higher potential risk to determine:

- a. pressure equipment that is within the scope of O.Reg.220/01, and
- b. any immediate hazards with any pressure equipment such that may require immediate shut down or immediate replacement of safety devices by the owner, and
- c. if any corrective actions other than any immediate hazards noted in a above that need to be completed by the owner. In the event that corrective actions are identified, the inspector will issue orders and will allow a time to resolve those orders in accordance with the maximum timeline specified in Table 1. Inspection order issues for any corrective actions that are high risk will be issued a shorter required completion time.

A Certification of Inspection (COI) will be issued provided there are no unresolved corrective actions.

Owners will be required to pay any application and inspection fees to TSSA.

¹ "Boiler" means a fired vessel in which gas or vapour may be generated or a gas, vapour or liquid may be put under pressure by heating. (O.Reg.220/01 s.1(1))

Table 1 Implementation Matrix for Boilers and Pressure Vessels

Equipment Type (listed in order of risk)	Maximum Completion Time to Resolve Inspectors Orders
Steam boilers operating above 15psi	18 months
Steam boilers operating at or below 15psi and water boilers	36 months
Refrigeration equipment using ammonia, carbon dioxide or other refrigerant other than Group A1 refrigerants ²	36 months
Refrigeration equipment using Group A1 refrigerant ²	60 months
Other pressure equipment	60 months

For more information, please contact:

Technical Standards and Safety Authority

345 Carlingview Drive,
Toronto, ON M9W 6N9

Phone: 1-877-682-TSSA (8772)

Email: customerservices@tssa.org

² Group A1 refrigerants are listed in CSA B52 Mechanical Refrigeration Code, Table 1.