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Welcome to Gasline, which is produced by Gas New Zealand.

Gasline is published regularly as part of the industry's efforts to encourage the direct use of natural gas and LPG into households and small businesses.

Using natural gas and LPG as a direct energy source offers numerous cost, environmental and energy efficiency benefits. Gas New Zealand hopes to educate consumers and policy makers about the many advantages of making wider use of this strategic energy asset.

Nanette Moreau appointed to act as EGCC commissioner

Nanette Moreau's 14-years as deputy commissioner stands her in good stead to take over the helm of the board of the Electricity and Gas Complaints Commissioner Scheme.

Ms Moreau succeeds Judi Jones, who has been appointed to the role of Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman, Australia, and took up the position last month.

Chair of the EGCC Board, Hon Heather Roy noted Ms Moreau's extensive experience in alternative dispute resolution, change management and the law and welcomed her to the new role in the organisation.

"The EGCC Board is pleased to appoint Nanette Moreau, former deputy commissioner, to act as commissioner of the EGCC Scheme," says Ms Roy.

"Ms Moreau is highly committed to the organisation and we look forward to working with her as commissioner.

"The Scheme is currently being reviewed, as the Scheme document dictates, and Nanette was the obvious choice to guide the EGCC through this process."

Ms Moreau has held the position of Electricity and Gas Complaints Deputy Commissioner since 2002, and has worked with outgoing commissioner, Judi Jones, to establish a best in class industry Scheme.

"I look to continue the good work of the Scheme. I look forward to working with the Board, all stakeholders, and to maintaining our ongoing role as a best practice dispute resolution Scheme, and a Best Workplace," says Ms Moreau.

Ms Moreau has a wealth of experience gained from holding chief executive and senior management roles in the private and public sectors in Canada and New Zealand.

Before coming to the EGCC in 2002 Ms Moreau was a consultant on the commercial litigation team with Harkness Henry, Phillips Fox and a senior consultant with Ernst and Young, focussed on the transition of local government.

Prior to coming to New Zealand Nanette was the founding executive director of the Alberta Arbitration and Mediation Society, and the director of Planning with the Government of Alberta.



EGCC Commissioner Nanette Moreau

Industry experts working together on contaminants concern

Gas industry experts are pooling their knowledge to find a solution to the issue of contaminants in LPG appliances.

A Contaminants Subcommittee has been formed comprising of various industry stakeholders.

The eight representatives are LPG suppliers, LPG hose suppliers, appliance suppliers, and Master Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers New Zealand members.

LPGA executive director Peter Gilbert says the executive wanted to ensure all parts of the industry were involved in the conversation and the investigations.

The LPGA executive were made aware of the issue in February last year, and paid for testing of any samples that could be provided from affected appliances, which stop working with the contaminants present.

All assessments to date show phthalates to be the contaminant affecting appliances.

The group has already held its first meeting and will continue to meet when necessary for as long as required.

"We will work through until we come through with an answer," says Peter.

Plan ahead for the upcoming Queenstown forum

Gas industry members now have a date and location to mark in their diaries for this year's NZ Gas Industry Forum.

Queenstown will be the picturesque location for the forum held from Wednesday 2 to Friday 4 November at the Millennium Hotel.

Details on the programme and pricing are still being finalised by the Forum Committee.

Until that announcement, LPG Association executive director Peter Gilbert says be sure to save the date in preparation for what promises to be another "informative and value-for-money event". Those planning to attend may also wish to consider booking flights and accommodation early, Peter says.

Accommodation will be able to be booked online from mid-March, but in the interim, bookings can be made via reservations free-phone number 0508 707707 and noting your Gas Industry Forum attendance to get the forum room rate of \$205/night including GST.

Peter says the shape of the Forum is likely to remain similar to that of previous successful years.

"For those who have attended previous Forums, we thank you for your ongoing support of this significant industry event, and we look forward to seeing you at this year's Forum."

Peter says he is also looking forward to another year of exciting presenters sharing their expertise in their specialised fields.

The Forum Committee is calling for expressions of interest from anybody interested in presenting.

Information required initially from interested presenters are contact details and a brief description of the topic you would be addressing.

Responses can be sent to Peter at peter@lpga.org.nz or give him a call on (04) 914 1765.

Peter says to keep an eye out for further email notifications or check the LPG Association's website for status updates.

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Experience of Standards Approval Board help shape new system

Despite its very recent establishment last month, the new New Zealand Standards Approval Board comprises more than 130-years' experience between members across multiple sectors.

The board's establishment follows the Standards and Accreditation Act 2015 coming into effect as of March 1, which saw Standards New Zealand become part of Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

As a result, the former Standards Council was disestablished with the new approval board founded as an independent statutory entity.

Chaired by Vaughan Renner, the Wellingtonian is more than capable thanks to his role in the then Standards Council from 2005 until February 2016.

In addition to gaining significant experience with standard and standardization during that time, he has more than 20 years of executive and management experience in both the New Zealand and Australian automotive sector.

Appointed by Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Paul Goldsmith, the board is responsible for approving the membership of standards development committees and standards that are developed by those committees.

So it's business as usual for Vaughan and the board's five other members, who recently attended an induction meeting to familiarise members with procedures.

He is joined by LPGA executive director Peter Gilbert who has more than 40 years' experience in the natural gas and LPG industries.

His resume also includes roles as chair of the Standards New Zealand Gas Sector Board, chair of the NZ Gas Community Group, and a member of various Australian and New Zealand standards committees.

Bolstering the board's experience is former Standards Council member John Boshier with over 20 years' managerial and CEO experience in the energy and engineering sectors in New Zealand and Australia.

Other members include chief executive of non-government standards agency GS1 New Zealand Peter Stevens who provides 17 years' experience in standards development and global standardisation, Aviation New Zealand's chief executive officer Samantha Sharif, and chief executive officer for the Medical Technology Association of New Zealand Faye Sumner.



The Standards Approval Board

Important changes with new MHF Regulations

The start of April introduced the new Major Hazard Facility Regulations.

According to WorkSafe, Major hazard facilities are workplaces that have significant inherent hazards due to the storage and use of large quantities of specified hazardous substances.

Although failure to control risks associated with those large quantities of hazardous materials does not happen often, when it does the consequences can be significant.

The regulations split facilities into two categories, upper and lower tier. The main difference in the regulatory requirements of the two categories is that Upper Tier MHFs must submit a safety case to WorkSafe. This has to be accepted to allow continued operation as an MHF.

A safety case is a document summarising and describing process safety related systems and controls in enough detail to demonstrate their adequacy.

For example, this may mean demonstrating the adequacy of the selection, implementing a functioning process safety systems and controls at the facility.

A Lower Tier MHF is not required to prepare a safety case but is required to have additional process safety related duties that are proportionate to potential major incident hazards at the facility.

This includes the necessity to prepare a major accident prevention policy (MAPP), setting out the policy and principles by which the MHF operator prevents and limits the consequence of a potential major incident.

By July 4, 2016, operators of all existing facilities are required to notify WorkSafe of the quantities of specified hazardous substances.

Between December 4, 2016 and April 4, 2018, an operator of an existing upper tier major hazard facility must give WorkSafe a completed safety case within the indicated time period.



We are always looking for stories from both the natural gas and LPG worlds, as well as the wider gas community.

If you have any story ideas for Gasline please email Daniel