



## ORDINANCE NO. 28220

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the City's License Code; amending Section 6B.60.060  
2 of the Tacoma Municipal Code to provide an exemption for the operation of  
hot water boilers located at the Central Treatment Plant.

3 WHEREAS Substitute Ordinance No. 26951, passed on April 30, 2002,  
4 required all employers within the City of Tacoma with industrial types of boilers to  
5 possess boiler operator certification through the training program offered by Bates  
6 Technical College, subject to certain listed exemptions, and  
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8 WHEREAS the training for the types of boiler systems used at the Central  
9 Treatment Plant is included in the standard training that an operator undergoes to  
10 achieve wastewater operator certification, including testing in the certification exam,  
11 and  
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13 WHEREAS these types of boiler systems have been used safely and  
14 effectively for decades by certified wastewater operators, are a mainstay of the  
15 business, and have a history of performance and safety, and  
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17 WHEREAS the systems used primarily to heat secondary sludge for the dual  
18 digestion process at the Central Treatment Plant ("CTP") are low-pressure, hot  
19 water boilers, and  
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21 WHEREAS the CTP boiler systems are highly automated and monitored by  
22 the plant's control system, with automated alarms, as well as programmed  
23 shutdowns and isolation of boilers, in the event of failures, and  
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25 WHEREAS, among the exemptions currently set forth in the Tacoma  
26 Municipal Code ("TMC"), smaller boiler systems and those that are regularly  
inspected by Factory Mutual Global Insurance Company ("Factory Mutual"), which



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is the City's insurance company and which regularly inspects the CTP, are exempt from certification, and

WHEREAS the CTP boilers are operated by City personnel who have Washington State Department of Ecology Wastewater Treatment Plant certification, and who also receive training from the City on the safe operation of the boilers;

Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

That Section 6B.60.060 of the Tacoma Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."

Passed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy City Attorney



**Chapter 6B.60**

**Boilers – Engineers and Firemen Certificates**

Sections:

- 6B.60.010 Certificate required, renewal, and expiration.
- 6B.60.020 Scope and definitions.
- 6B.60.030 Classes of certificates.
- 6B.60.040 Plant capacity change.
- 6B.60.050 Reciprocity.
- 6B.60.060 Exemptions from certificate requirements.
- 6B.60.070 Operating rules and regulations.
- 6B.60.080 Mandatory attendance requirements for operating engineers and boiler firemen.
- 6B.60.090 Duties of certified operating engineers and boiler firemen.
- 6B.60.100 Unlawful interference with the certificate holder.
- 6B.60.110 Penalties.

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**6B.60.060 Exemptions from certificate requirements.**

The following installations shall not require a certified operator:

- A. Any boiler or steam engine subject to federal regulations;
- B. Heating boilers in Group R, Division 1 occupancies of less than six units; Group R, Division 3 occupancies; and Group M occupancies, as defined in the Building Code, as now or hereafter amended;
- C. Low-pressure hot water, low-pressure steam, and hot water supply boiler plants having inputs of less than 2,500,000 Btu per hour;
- D. Any boiler having an input of less than 100,000 Btu per hour and a maximum pressure of 100 psi or less;
- E. Potable water heaters;
- F. Any boiler not subject to reinspection by the Washington State Boiler Code; and  
G. Any wastewater treatment plant low-pressure hot water heating boiler maintained and operated as directed by a person with a Wastewater Operator Certificate Group II or above.

Boiler operator certificates shall not be required for any person in charge of, or operating, the following:

- A. Any boiler or steam engine subject to federal regulations;
- B. Any boiler not subject to reinspection by the Washington State Boiler Code;
- C. Low-pressure hot water, low-pressure steam, and hot water supply boiler plants having inputs of less than 2,500,000 Btu per hour;
- D. Any boiler having an input of less than 100,000 Btu per hour and a maximum pressure of 100 psi or less;
- E. Potable water heaters;
- F. Any boiler plant exceeding an aggregate of 500 million Btu per hour input, when the following are also in place:
  - 1. The facility has a boiler operator training program commensurate with the size of its operation;
  - 2. Degreed engineers supervise the maintenance and operation of the boiler plant; and
  - 3. An independent authorized inspector, such as a Factory Mutual Global Insurance Company, regularly inspects boiler plant maintenance and operation.

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