3-COLUMN DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

General Overview

There are important policy changes to discuss to ensure ASET is a fully independent regulator under the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act*. This requires several legislative amendments, as well as negotiated agreements and non-legislated solutions with APEGA.

Row#	Current (see note #2)	Proposed	Rationale	APEGA Support / Comments	
	Scope of practice for engineering and geoscience technologists				
1	New	There are no legally enshrined certification	Most professions in Alberta have a legislated scope of	Scope of Practice	
		requirements to be an engineering or geoscience technologist. ASET's proposed registration of engineering and geoscience technologists is as follows:	practice. Most scopes of practice, and specifically the scopes of practice for other regulated technologists, do not include sign off authority.	No. APEGA does not support a scope of practice for engineering and geoscience technologists beyond the current PTech designation and scope of practice.	
		An engineering technologist and geoscience technologist will undertake work that is the routine application of industry recognized codes, standards, procedures and practices using established engineering or geoscience	Every health and non-health profession whose duties and responsibilities impact the public has their practice set in legislation. Every technologist has a clearly defined scope of practice	APEGA could support, subject to reviewing consultation with directly affected stakeholders, including a definition for the 'occupation of engineering and geoscience technology' (similar to other provinces).	
		principles and methods of	set in legislation, with the	Rationale:	
		problem solving.	and geosci	exception of engineering and geoscience technologists. The	This is a public safety issue and is not in the public interest.
			importance and utility of engineering technologists has grown considerably over the past fifty years.	Engineering and geoscience technologists already have a route to independent and accountable practice through the current	

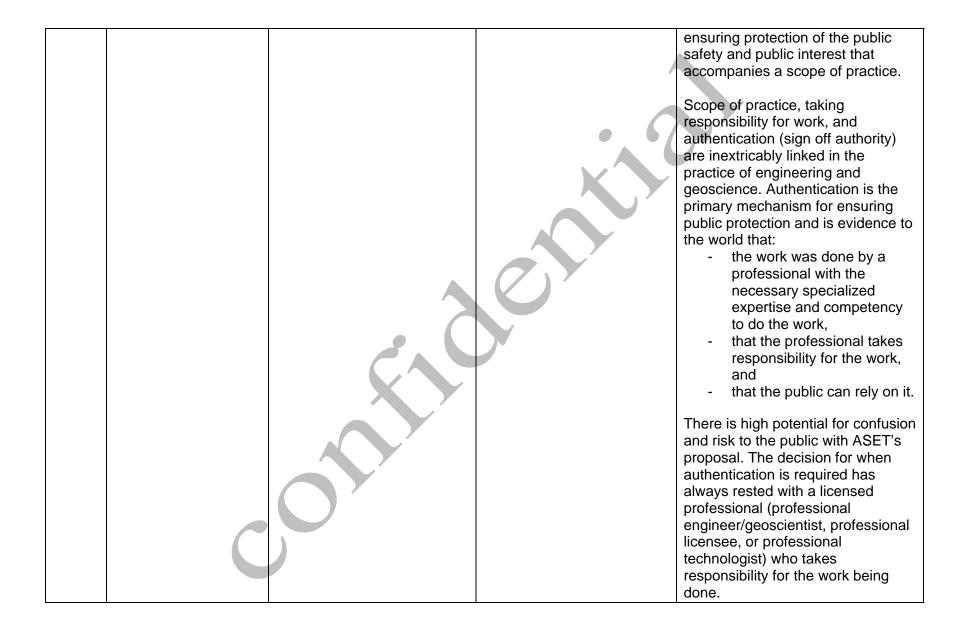
Most jurisdictions have moved toward assigning specific tasks to specific professions in codes, standards and regulations. Engineering and geoscience technologist graduates from post secondary programs require additional certification as the global trend toward more regulation, certification and standards grow for various forms of infrastructure.

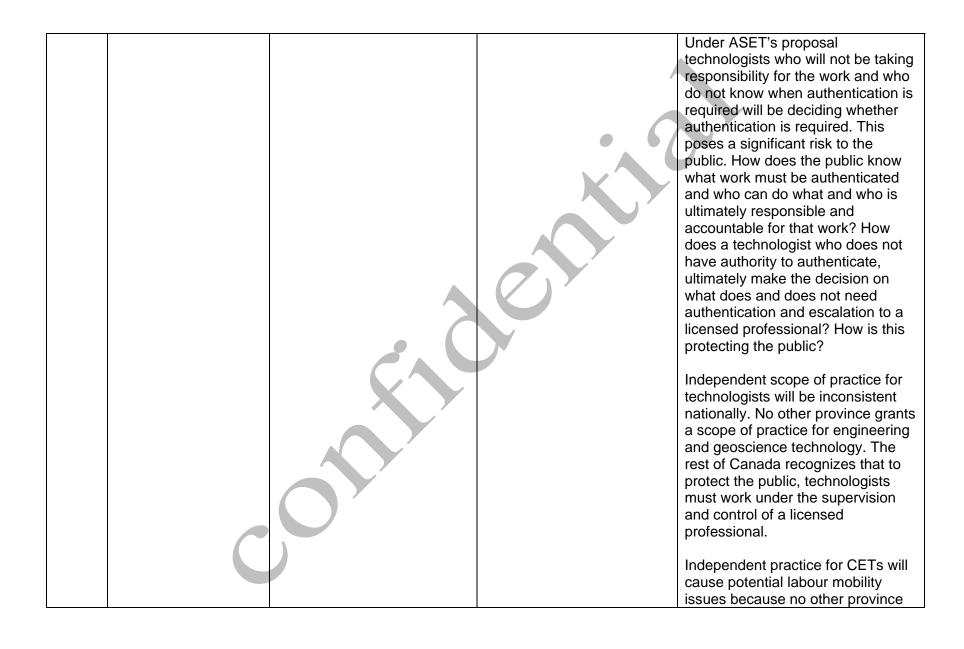
pathway to the P.Tech. designation that has been collaboratively developed and jointly regulated with APEGA. The P.Tech. program authorizes accountable practice for more engineering technologists than found in any other province in Canada.

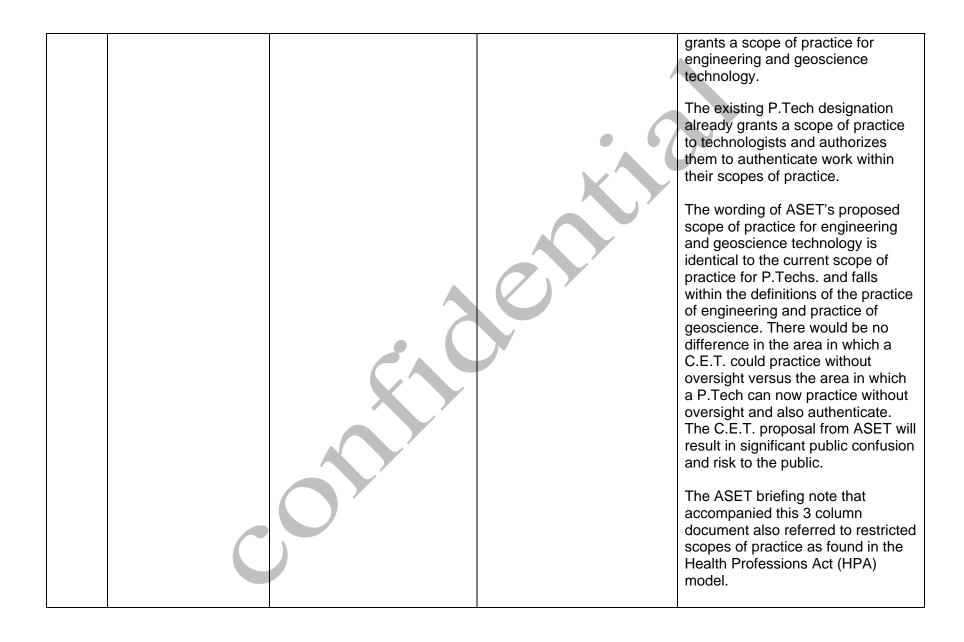
ASET's proposal would give technologists independent practice without oversight, and no responsibility or accountability for public safety.

There are no current gaps in public protection with CETs working under the supervision of a licensed professional. ASET has not identified any public harm issues associated with the fact that technologists do not have an independent scope of practice that put Albertans at risk, nor how that would be solved by changes ASET is proposing.

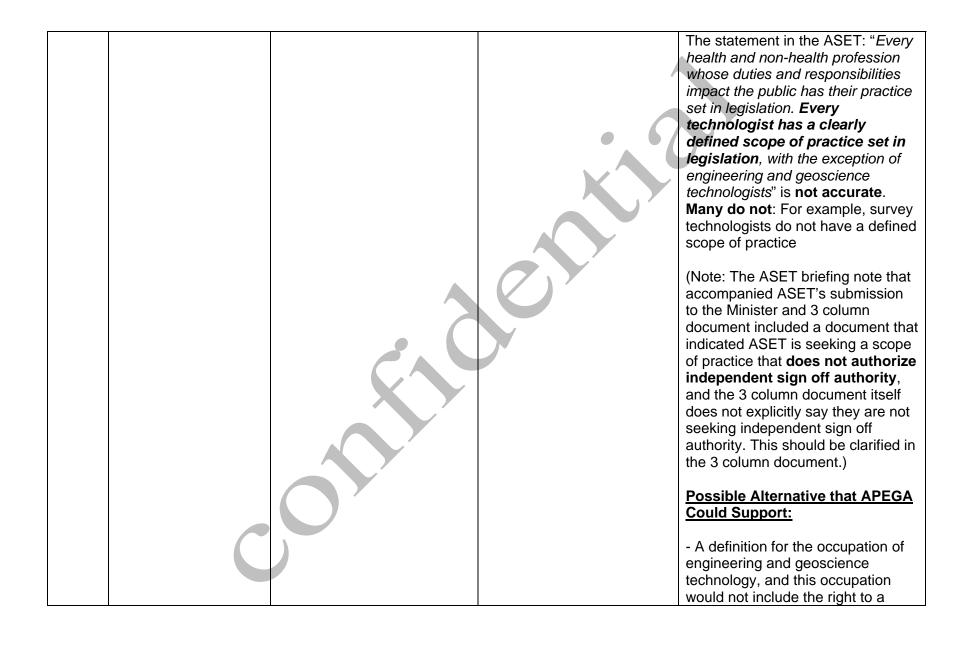
APEGA recognizes the valuable contribution technologists make to engineering and geoscience teams. However, a scope of practice is not simply a reward or recognition for meeting certain qualifications; there needs to be corresponding accountability and responsibility for



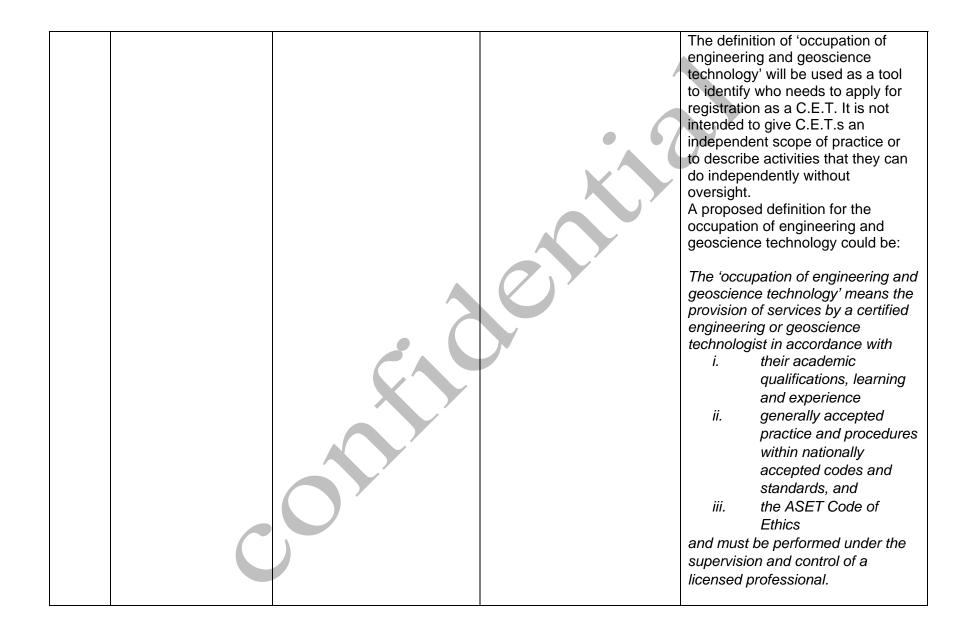


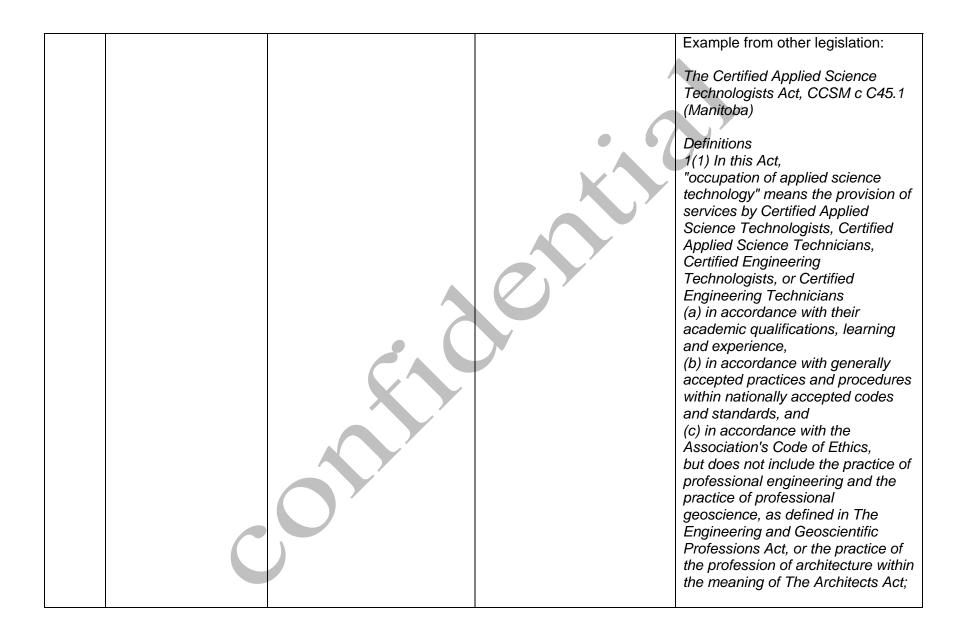


APEGA does not support an HPA restricted activities model for engineering and geoscience for two reasons: - engineering and geoscience are fundamentally different than health professions because of the need to authenticate work (sign off); and - the health professions work on one thing: the human body. But engineering and geoscience cover a broad and diversified range and size of practice disciplines from the design of huge earthen dams and 60 storey skyscrapers, to schools and hospitals, to developing wifi communication systems, to computer microchips, to future nanotechnology. Trying to describe specific restricted activities within such a diverse range of practice areas would be a complex and extremely time-consuming exercise, and not in the public interest for reasons previously cited.



scope of practice with or without oversight. -Technologists working within the definition of the occupation of engineering and geoscience technology who are not working under the supervision and control of a licensed professional would be required to register with ASET. -These individuals would then be subject to ASET's code of ethics, continuing professional development, and discipline action. -These individuals would be required to work under the supervision and control of a licensed professional. Rationale: No province or territory gives technologists a scope of practice like ASET is seeking. Some provinces have a definition of 'occupation of applied science technology' through legislation, as well as protected title for engineering and geoscience technologists.





The existing exemption in the *EGP Act* (Part 1 – Scope of Practice – 2(4(b)) – page 8), for people being supervised under the control of a professional engineer, professional licensee or professional technologists would remain.

The new titles for the category for engineering technologists would be Registered Engineering Technologist (RET).

The new category for geoscience technologists would be Registered Geoscience Technologists (RGT).

Exemption 2(4)(b)

Yes, APEGA agrees existing EGP Act exemption 2(4)(b) would remain for people being supervised by and under the control of a professional engineer, professional geoscientist, professional licensee or professional technologist. (licensed professionals) The same applies for existing exemption 5(2)(b) for geoscience.

New Titles: Registered Engineering/ Geoscience Technologist

No. APEGA does not support the new titles RET and RGT.
APEGA does support retaining the existing Certified
Engineering Technologist
(C.E.T.) designation; and would support the creation of a new Certified Geoscience
Technologist (C.G.T.) designation.

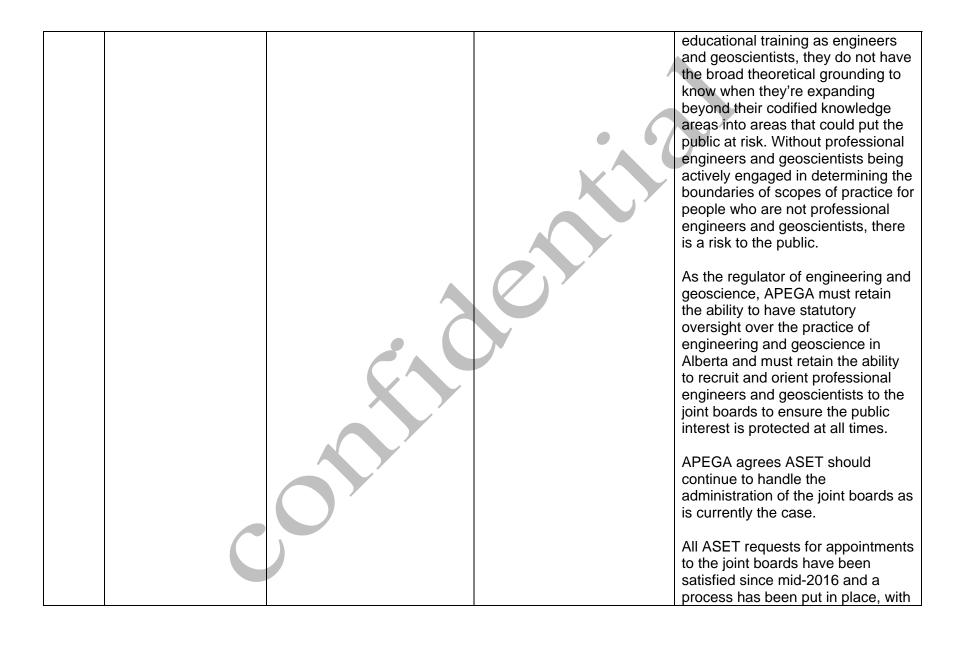
Rationale:

These new titles RET and RGT will cause further confusion.

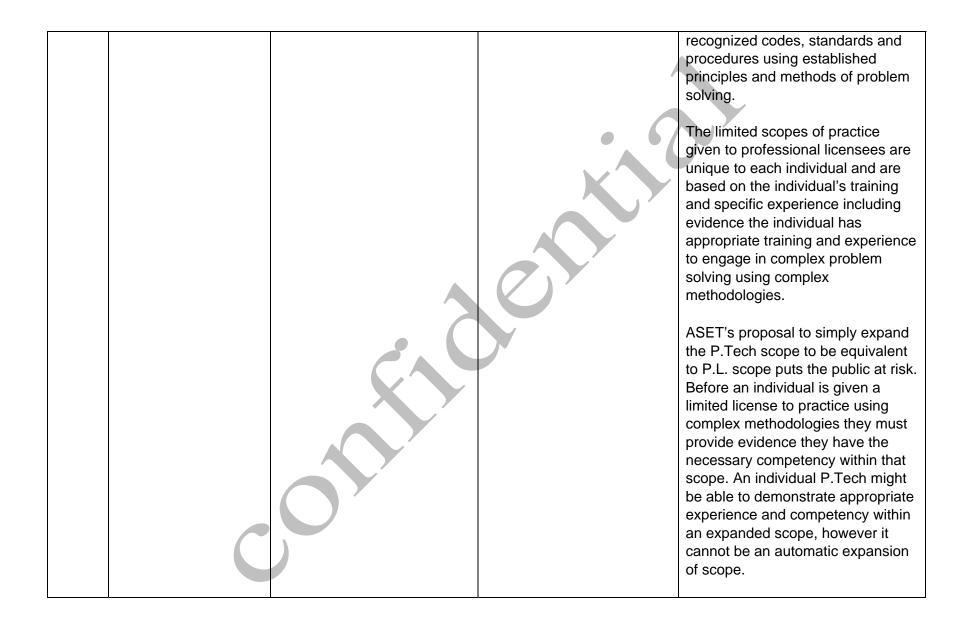
				The Registered Engineering Technologist (RET) designation is a designation that existed under prior legislation but was discontinued with EGP Act changes in 2007. However existing RETs were grandfathered and still exist. The qualifications for these RETs were different than the qualifications for C.E.T.s. Reintroducing this same designation will cause confusion and is not necessary. Keeping the existing C.E.T. designation and introducing a new C.G.T. designation will provide clarity by distinguishing engineering technologists from geoscience technologists, while retaining the current C.E.T. brand.
	Add definition of 'Regist	ered Professional'		
2	NEW Registered Professional means an individual who is authorized to engage in the practice of engineering/geoscienc e under the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act and	The proposal is to ensure professional technologist (engineering) professional technologist (geoscience) are recognized as being qualified to perform supervision where the current act current identifies 'Professional Member'.	There are currently over 800 professional technologists licenced in Alberta. Many of these professionals are in a position to provide references for professional technologist applicants. Consideration should be given to the role of professional technologists as supervisors of	No. APEGA does not support adding a definition for "Registered Professional" APEGA does support adding a definition for "Licensed Professional" as described in APEGA's Feb 1, 2017 proposal to the Minister at Line 41 (page 21/65).

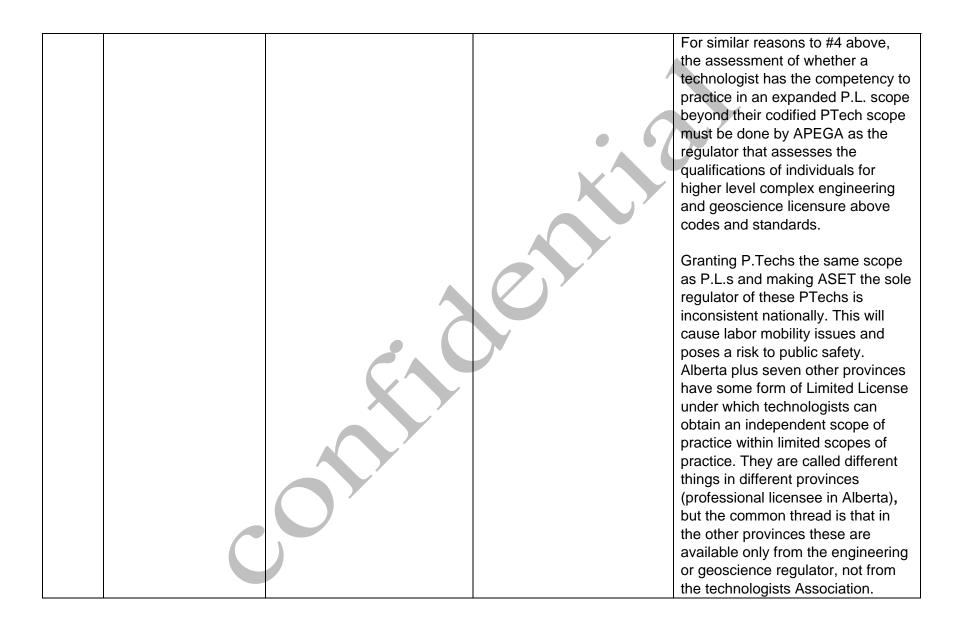
	its Regulations. The licences include: Professional Engineers Professional Geoscientists Professional Limited Licence (Eng.) Professional Limited Licence (Geo.) Professional Technologist (Eng.) Professional Technologist (Geo.)		engineering technologists. As professional technologists tend to hold senior roles in organizations, it is reasonable to assume that in some instances, they are supervising engineering technologists.	Rationale: The APEGA change recognizes that professional limited licensees and professional technologists can provide supervision and control within their authorized scopes of practice the same as professional engineers and professional geoscientists can provide supervision and control. The change clarifies the use of the term "licensed professional" throughout the Act. The term "licensed" indicates the individual is licensed to independently practice engineering or geoscience and this is different than an individual that might be registered and not licensed to independently practice and provide supervision and control.	
	Move the structure of A				
3	Repeal section 87.2(1)	The structure of ASET Council to be set in bylaws and not in the EGP Act.	Align with Professional Chartered Accountants.	Yes. APEGA supports this proposal.	
	Structure of Joint Boards and Committees				
4	Amend Division 2 Joint Boards and Committees	The administration of the professional technologist process should be the full	APEGA's assistance was needed to set up the initial application process.	No. APEGA does not support this proposal.	

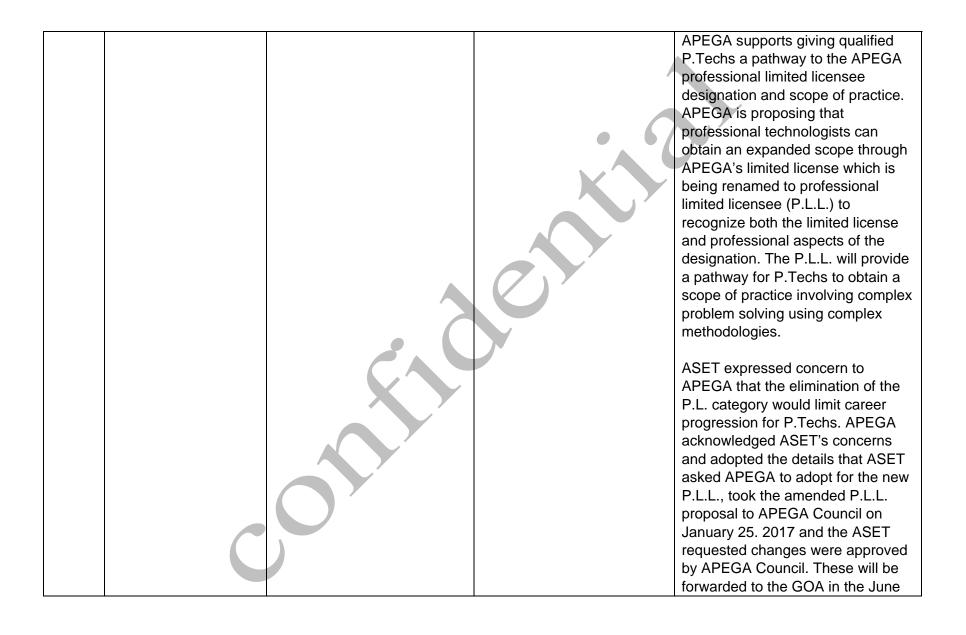
responsibility of ASET. The However, there have been **APEGA supports maintaining** membership of the boards significant delays from current Joint Boards and joint APEGA to fill vacancies and will remain split between regulation of P.Techs. engineers and technologists, establish the legally required but ASET will be fully joint boards. Establishing a Rationale: responsible for recruitment. non-legislative solution has training and orientation of the proven to be not a viable This is a public safety issue and not in the public interest. committee members. solution. Joint boards are essential. Joint regulation of professional technologists is required to protect the public. The scope of practice for PTechs involves the practice of engineering and geoscience. APEGA as the regulator of engineering and geoscience needs to be involved in the regulation of individuals engaged in the practice of engineering or geoscience. The combined effect of ASET's proposal with #5 below would be to give PTechs a scope of practice that could be as broad and deep as the scope of practice of a PEng or PGeo. and that ASET would be solely responsible for determining that scope. This raises concerns with potential public safety. Because technologists do not receive the same level and depth of



				ultimate recourse to JCC, to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of ongoing future appointments. Legislative change is not required.
	Scope for professional			
5	Amend Division 3 Professional Technologists	The scope of practice for professional technologists should be modernized to allow members to practice outside codes and standards, but within their scope of practice.	The proposed change would align professional technologists with professional licensees. There are over 800 professional technologists in Alberta and they have demonstrated competence and a focus on public safety.	No. APEGA does not support this proposal. APEGA supports maintaining the current P.Tech scope of practice. APEGA also supports giving P.Techs a pathway to the APEGA professional limited licensee designation and scope of practice. Rationale: This is a public safety issue and the ASET proposal is not in the public interest. The current scope of practice for professional licensees (P.L.) is different than the current scope of practice for P.Techs. The difference is that professional licensees can practice in scopes involving complex problem solving using complex methodologies, whereas P.Techs must practice within







		2017 submission for the EGP Act
		General Regulation.

Notes:

- 1 There should be a row for each policy issue. Please number each row as it makes it easier for reference purposes.
- 2 If the proposed change <u>does not</u> repeal and replace one or more existing statutes, then the "Current" column is not necessary. In the "Proposed" it is only necessary to summarize the new policy being proposed.
- 3 If the proposed change <u>does</u> repeal and replace one or more existing statutes, then a "Current" column is necessary. The document need only set out changes in policy from the statute(s) being repealed and replaced. Under "Current" summarize the existing policy that is being changed and under "Proposed" summarize the new policy being proposed.

