TO: Technical Committee on Commissioning Fire Protection Systems

FROM: Linda Fuller

DATE: August 11, 2011

SUBJECT: Proposed New Document NFPA 4, *Standard for Integrated Testing of Fire Protection Systems*

I am transmitting to you herewith the following action of the Standards Council (August 8-11, 2011):

At the February/March 2011 meeting, the Council reviewed the request of the Technical Committee (TC) on Commissioning Fire Protection Systems to develop a new document, NFPA 4, *Standard for Integrated Testing of Fire Protection Systems*. At that time, the Council voted to solicit public comments on the need for the project, information on resources on the subject matter, those interested in participating if established, and other organizations actively involved with the subject. The Council received 20 public comments.

After review of all the information before it, the Council has voted to approve the development of NFPA 4, *Standard for Integrated Testing of Fire Protection Systems*. The Council believes that a single Technical Committee ought to be responsible for developing both NFPA 3, *Recommended Practice on Commissioning and Integrated Testing of Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems*, and the new NFPA 4. The new NFPA 4, however, calls for a review of the committee structure of the current TC and a fresh consideration of the interests and balance appropriate to a technical committee responsible for both NFPA 3 and NFPA 4. In particular, the new NFPA 4 will need a technical committee makeup that maximizes the ability to provide the coordination among the many documents and responsible committees that will be necessary to make this complex effort a success. Accordingly, the Council intends to reconstitute the TC under a new name and updated committee scope, and it will do so after conducting a full review of the structure and membership of the TC to ensure the expertise and the representation of the membership is appropriate to the expanded tasks before the Committee. The Council is requesting staff to provide it with recommendations concerning the name and scope of the reconstituted TC and to issue a call for members for the TC. All current members of the TC on Commissioning Fire Protection Systems members who are interested are encouraged to submit a committee application so that they can be considered for membership on the newly constituted committee. Anyone wishing to be considered for committee membership should send their application to NFPA no later than September 1, 2011. The Council will review all candidates for the new TC at the October 2011 Council meeting. So as to provide guidance as to the scope of the new NFPA 4 integrated testing document that the Council will be assigning to the new committee to develop, the Council is providing the following draft document scope as follows:

- The standard shall provide the minimum requirements for integrated testing of fire protection and life safety systems. These requirements include protocol for testing procedures, responsibilities for various parties, methods and documentation for verifying the operational readiness and sequence of integrated systems. The standard is designed to ensure that interconnected active and passive fire protection and life safety systems operate as intended.
- The standard shall not require integrated testing but shall provide minimum requirements for integrating testing where such testing is required by another code, standard, or design document or by an Authority Having Jurisdiction.
- The standard shall not provide testing requirements, including test procedures or test frequencies, for individual systems.

c: M. Brodoff, A. Cronin, C. Dubay, R. Bielen, M. Klaus, D. Baio, C. Cronin, J. Goyette, E. Carroll
Standards Council
Interested Committees: FCC-AAA, CMF-AAA, PFE-AAA, FOM-AAA, GFE-AAA, AUT, SPI-AAA, WAS-AAA, DRY-AAA, FIM-AAA, WAT-AAA, INM-AAA, FLC, LAB-AAA, NFG-AAA, LPG-AAA, EXL-AAA, NEC, SIG, FDW-AAA, AIC-AAA, SMO-AAA, VEN-AAA, HEA, SAF, EPS-AAA, FKT-AAA, AIS-AAA, ROA-AAA, WAM-AAA GFE-AAA, AEG-AAA, BLD

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