Standards Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 4, 2010

8:00 a.m.

Batterymarch Park

Quincy, MA

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Page 3 1 THE CHAIR: Good morning. I'll call 2 this session of the Standards Council to order. Thank you everyone for being here this morning. I'm 3 going around the table to ask all Council members 4 5 and staff to introduce yourself. Then I'll do the outside and ask everyone else to introduce yourself. 6 7 I want to remind everyone this session is being recorded by the steno typist today. So if you are 8 9 making remarks during the session please remember to 10 preface your remarks with name and affiliation so it's attributed correctly in the record. 11 I am Jim Pauley, chairman of the 12 13 Standards Council. 14 MS. CRONIN: Amy Cronin, secretary to the Standards Council. 15 16 MS. FULLER: Linda Fuller, recording secretary to the Council. 17 MR. BELL: Richard Bell, member of 18 Council. 19 20 MR. HARRINGTON: J.C. Harrington, 21 member of Council. 22 MR. SYNDER: Michael Synder, member of 23 Council.

1 MR. McDANIEL: Danny McDaniel, member 2 of Council. 3 MR. HUGGINS: Roland Huggins, member of Council. 4 5 6 MR. JARDIN: Joseph Jardin, member of 7 Council. 8 MR. MILKE: James Milke, member of 9 Council. 10 MR. CARPENTER: James Carpenter, member of Council. 11 MR. LEBER: Fred Leber, member of 12 13 Council. MR. GERDES: Ralph Gerdes, Council 14 15 member. MR. CLARY: Shane M. Clary, member of 16 Council. 17 18 MR. FARR: Ronald Farr, member the 19 Council. 20 MS. BRODOFF: Maureen Brodoff, NFPA staff and legal counsel to the Standards Council. 21 MS. BEACH: Denise Beach NFPA staff. 22 23 MR. LAMONT: Fred Lamont, NFPA staff.

1 MR. DuBAY: Christian DuBay, NFPA 2 staff. 3 MR. URAL: Erdem Ural, Loss Prevention 4 and Science Technologies. 5 MR. GOMEZ: Manuel Gomez, U.S. Chemical 6 Safety Board. 7 MR. MORTIMER: Frank Mortimer, EMC Insurance, chair of NFPA 58. 8 9 MR. CHASTAIN: Brian Chastain, Georgia Pacific. 10 11 MR. CHOLIN: John Cholin, J M Cholin Consultants. 12 13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. This morning our first hearing is Hearing Item No. 14. It's 14 Agenda Item 10-8-6-b-1. This is dealing with NFPA 15 16 58. And the appeal is uphold the floor action that accepted comment 58-49 and then ultimately failed 17 committee ballot. 18 So fundamentally how we'll approach 19 20 these hearings, I'll ask the appellants to present first their views on the appeal, and I'll give about 21 10 minutes to do that. Then I'll ask for any 22 23 statements, anyone opposing the appeal or any

Page 6 1 committee statements. Then I'll take questions from the Council on that particular topic. Then we'll 2 give about 5 minutes for both sides to give any 3 closing remarks. 4 5 So who is speaking in favor of the appeal? 6 7 MR. GOMEZ: That would be me. THE CHAIR: Take a seat at the end of 8 9 the table. Is anyone else speaking in favor of the 10 appeal? 11 Speaking in opposition to the appeal? 12 The chairman. Anyone else. Thank you. 13 Mr. Gomez, you have the floor. If I had known 14 MR. GOMEZ: Thank you. or thought about it I would have tried to bring in 8 15 or 10 other people to sit around the table. 16 Good morning. I am the director of 17 recommendations for the U.S. Chemical Safety Board. 18 I think all of you know, but just for record we are 19 20 an independent federal agency model to the National Transportation Safety Board. We conduct 21 investigations of chemical incidents. We also do 22 23 studies of chemical safety issues, if you will, and

as a result of those we issue recommendations. 1 Т 2 thank you for the opportunity to come here and to present this appeal as all of you know from the 3 4 record we have had ongoing discussions with you 5 about the issues that I'm going to talk briefly So I am very glad that you have given us 6 about. 7 this opportunity.

I am here to make a case for a change 8 9 for the better in NFPA 58 the gas code. In early 10 2007, and I am not going to give very many details although the report is available. I have a copy 11 here with me. The CSB investigated a very serious 12 propane gas release and explosion that resulted in 13 the deaths of four people, two firefighters, and two 14 propane technicians, and also injured seriously five 15 other people and leveled the store at which this 16 17 incident occurred. As our report indicates there have been, this is not only an unusual occurrence, 18 not the particular circumstances of this one 19 20 incident, but incidents involving propane gas so it is a substantial risk of concern. 21

A very important risk factor veryimportant contributing factor to that incident was

the lack of knowledge on the lack and training of a 1 young propane technician who had only been on the 2 job for about, for only a few weeks. Based on the 3 investigation of that incident, we issued a number 4 5 of recommendations to multiple parties. One of them was to the NFPA to change 58, particular language of 6 7 58, the gas code. And the way we think would be for the better in the sense that it would make the 8 9 language clear, less vague, and more enforceable. 10 And you'll see why I'm using those words although you probably know better than I. And by replacing 11 it with clear criteria, not specifically 12 13 prescriptive language but clear criteria for training and for the kind of knowledge that propane 14 technicians should have before performing the kind 15 of work that they do. We think that doing that 16 would make the standard better and stronger and more 17 effective for the users and also for the enforcers 18 Standard code forgive me I will use 19 of that code. 20 the words because of my own background probably alternatively. 21

Our recommendation in very brief termscalls for training requirements for propane

1 technicians that would include fairly, what we think are fairly modern criteria for that kind of training 2 with clear circular issues like hazard recognition, 3 hazard identification, specific competencies, 4 5 supervise on-the-job training, and testing for the knowledge that they receive. And our report, not 6 7 the recommendation but the report, also provides a benchmark against which such language can by tested 8 9 so to speak, and that is the nationally recognized 10 certified employee training program of the Propane Education and Research Council. 11

12 Now I say that it provides a benchmark 13 we discuss it in the report and so on, but the recommendation does not call for that particular 14 training to be adopted in some obligatory way. 15 Ιt does provide a way for users and enforcers of the 16 standard to have a clearer sense of what this more 17 general training criteria would be like to be 18 So that they are clear and enforceable. 19 sufficient. 20 The current code language in the findings of the investigation, and by the way I 21 should probably have said at the beginning that I am 22 23 trying to convey to you here, I am staff for the

1 Chemical Safety Board. All the decisions of the 2 Chemical Safety Board, forgive me for the tangent but I need to make it clear. All the decisions of 3 4 the Chemical Safety Board what is now a full 5 compliment of five individuals who are appointed by 6 the president. We as staff prepare material for 7 them, prepare evaluations, so on, bit ultimately the decisions are theirs. However, what I am saying 8 9 today I think very faithfully reflects because we've had a lot of discussion about this, what the board 10 feels what the board's intent and so on with the 11 recommendation and with the appeals that we've had 12 13 underway. But ultimately the decisions are theirs. But in any case, the current code 14 language, the NFPA code language in contrast to our 15 recommendation, calls for and I quote proper 16 The word proper is what is used. The training. 17 conclusion of the board, of the report, is that the 18 use of this word is poor, for a number of reasons. 19 20 First, because it is vague to the users and to the enforcers, to the authorities that 21

22 enforce the code. In fact, I would argue that it is 23 relatively unenforceable as a shell because it is so

vague, proper. And most importantly, perhaps for
the discussion here for the Standards Council it is
at orders with the NFPA's own manual of style for
clear and precise requirements.

5 I have it here with me, but if you look at Section 222 of that manual, and especially the 6 7 table that goes with it, which is 223, forgive me for being so bureaucratic, I think you will agree 8 9 that proper is considered in this language to be 10 vaque and unenforceable, in the context of the 11 language of the code. In fact, proper is one of the words in this table that is listed as possible 12 13 unenforceable and vague terms. And you know, and I quote from that style manual, the NFPA style manual, 14 which says that if is such a term is used, quote, it 15 shall not be used within the bodies of codes of 16 standards if in the context it is vague and 17 unenforceable. 18

19 So I want to close because I won't take 20 very long. I'll be happy to take questions. I'm 21 also very anxious to hear from the chair of the 22 committee and so on. We've had a very good working 23 relationship with the NFPA so we're making an appeal, but that shouldn't detract from that
relationship.

I will close by reiterating and 3 emphasizing some key points. First the 4 5 recommendation that we made is completely consistent with the technical content and message and intent of 6 7 the code. We're not challenging the technical consent in any meaningful way. We think that we are 8 9 making a proposal that would enhance and clarify 10 that technical consent. Put another way, I think that we are not at odds with the need of training 11 12 propane technicians. Adequate training. The word 13 is proper. We're trying to make that word, more meaningful to users and enforcers. We believe that 14 we probably agree very much that propane technicians 15 need to have awareness of the hazards of what 16 emergency measures are to be taken in the case of 17 emergency arising, that they should supervised 18 on-the-job training, that they should have training 19 20 that tests for the competence and skills that they develop and so on. Those are fairly standard 21 criteria for modern training, on-the-job training 22 23 for hazardous jobs. We think what we're saying is

consistent with the technical content. Does not
challenge it.

As I said, I think that our proposal 3 4 would make the standard clear to apply by both users 5 and authorities enforcing it, and as I emphasize consistent with the NFPA's own manual of style which 6 7 rules out terms that might be vague and unenforceable, in the context. And of course, it 8 9 goes without saying that we think that making this 10 change to the code would enhance safety for propane 11 installation type work for the work that propane technicians undertake which happens thousands of 12 13 times around the country, and for which of us all around the table know, there are often untoward 14 incidents some serious such as the one we 15 16 investigated.

17 So in summary I am here to certainly 18 answer any questions that you may have. I hope I 19 can try to answer them. But to urge you to 20 incorporate our recommendation into the actual body 21 of the requirements of the gas code so that it can 22 by an enforceable part of the enforceable shall 23 language. And with that I thank you. Those are my

1 comments.

THE CHAIR: 2 Thank you Mr. Gomez. Thank Mr. Mortimer if you would like to come up to 3 you. 4 the table and provide your comments, please. 5 MR. GOMEZ: Should I stay? 6 THE CHAIR: Sure. You can say. 7 MR. MORTIMER: Thank you, Chairman Pauley. I appreciate the opportunity to address the 8 9 Standards Council and the motion before you that is 10 presented by the CSB. I believe the Chemical Safety Board and the NFPA Technical Committee want very 11 similar things. We want the work force in the 12 13 propane industry that is trained and competent. And in determining if I should come before you, the NFPA 14 58 Technical Committee held a teleconference meeting 15 at my request, 21 technical committee members were 16 in attendance. I knew the concerns, the motion 17 presented for the insurance industry which is what I 18 19 represent on the committee. But I wanted to come 20 before you, I didn't want to come before you with only that perspective or only that focus. If the 21 22 technical committee felt the same way, I agreed I 23 would come.

1 They were unanimous in wanting me to 2 come before you to express our mutual concern that the Chemical Safety board wording is much broader 3 4 than what should be placed into the code. The 5 current wording focuses on the training the persons whose primary work duties fall into this code. 6 That. 7 does exactly what Manuel has been talking about. Ιt addresses the technician that works with propane 8 9 everyday. The comment wording is being presented to 10 you states all persons whose work activities with liquid petroleum that falls within the scope of the 11 standard is much broader wording. This would 12 13 include the casual worker at a Convenient Store or a Walmart that would ring up a 1 pound camping 14 cylinder or a breakfast chef that would be making an 15 omelette with a portable heating unit. With the CSB 16 wording all of these would need to have testing and 17 performance evaluation all for which must be 18 By adjusting the Chemical Safety Board 19 written. 20 wording for who is required to have the testing and evaluation, those primary work duties fall within 21 the scope of this code, I believe the Chemical 22 23 Safety Board and the technical committee would be in

The NFPA 58 Technical Committee on the 1 agreement. conference call again voted unanimously to agree to 2 work with the CSB and put together a TIA that would 3 4 satisfy both the Chemical Safety Board and the 5 technical committees concerning this. Again, I believe we both want the same things. We want 6 persons to work with propane to be well trained for 7 their job duties, and with the current CSB wording 8 9 this would not be accomplished. It would not 10 accomplish the goal of the Chemical Safety Board nor accomplish the goal of the NFPA Technical Committee. 11 12 If you have questions regarding these 13 particulars on the wording I would be happy to address those. Thank you. 14 Thank you, Mr. Mortimer. 15 THE CHAIR: Ι open it to questions from the Council. Mr. Clary. 16 Sam Clary, member of 17 MR. CLARY: Council. It's your position and the position of the 18 committees that I, I have a propane tank in my 19 backyard for my barbecue, that your feeling is this 20 proposed wording from the Chemical Safety Board 21 22 requires that even I would have to go through this 23 training.

1 The Chemical Safety MR. MORTIMER: No. Board does address those that at work but it says 2 all the job duties that fall under the scope of the 3 Not the casual worker that would come in 4 code. 5 contact with propane not as part of their regular 6 work duties but if they're working and they come in 7 contact with propane they would need testing and evaluation. 8 9 MR. CLARY: Mr. Gomez, have you had a

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10 chance to look at this proposed TIA that the 11 committee is working on.

12 MR. MORTIMER: We're waiting to hear 13 from you whether or not there will be a TIA. We have a unanimous agreement by the technical 14 committee to agree to work with the Chemical Safety 15 Board, Manuel, Jeffrey, Rachel, all of those who 16 have been involved with this in the past. This was 17 originally at the comment stage presented by Rachel 18 19 and Jeffrey, and then at the report on proposals, it 20 was addressed by John, forgive me his last name. And in each case the committee attempted to address 21 I believe at the comment stage we 22 the concerns. 23 placed the information in the annex that dealt with

the certified employee training program and 1 attempted to clarify that this or other similar 2 programs would be a good way to get the testing and 3 4 verification. When John addressed in the report on 5 proposals the concerns, he focused primarily on the fact that there was the incident in West Virginia, 6 7 the little general, and he wanted to be sure that the wording was a little different. We aqain 8 9 addressed some of the wording in the code. 10 So what is being presented as a revised NFPA 58 code to the Standards Council included many 11 adjustments that we had hoped would appease both 12 parties. Evidently we did not hear from them enough 13 to be able to address all of their concerns. 14 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. If I may, although I can't 16 MR. GOMEZ: comment on the TIA which doesn't exist yet, I think 17 I can speak for the board that it is not the 18 intention of our recommendation to encompass or to 19 20 require training to have a standard code that requires training of the casual barbecue user of a 21 propane tank, of a breakfast chef, and so on. 22 And I 23 think in that sense we do have a common ground.

We're talking about people who do propane work for a
living.

I used to work propane technicians that 3 4 would not encompass the person. There are, you 5 know, I think that finding the right formula to define that so it doesn't complex it. For example, 6 7 small operations where people actually fill tanks in small convenient stores and they actual do that. 8 9 They don't just take your tank and put it in the 10 cage and give you a new one that this outfit provide 11 them. Although they deserve some basic training but 12 that is a different population.

MR. CLARY: Primary duties would notfall under it.

15 MR. GOMEZ: Right. That is not a 16 population that is connecting and disconnecting 17 tanks and doing the kinds of things that appear to 18 pose most of the hazards. So I agree.

MR. CLARY: So your concern is the truck driver driving the large propane tank truck on the freeways going to the filling station to fill up the tank that is in the back, correct.

23 MR. GOMEZ: That's right, and people

who routinely do installations of appliances and 1 2 devices that use propane and so on, but again, rather than for me to try to make that definition 3 4 here, I think that discussions could achieve that, 5 and clearly separate the wheat from the shaft so to And I think in that we do, we can find 6 speak. 7 It's protecting both those who do that agreement. kind of work on a routine basis and they connect and 8 9 disconnect and carry large amounts of gas and so on 10 they're not barbecuing and not frying eggs, but they are supplying the material that goes into it. 11 12 I think the other important aspect is 13 there was a modification which was welcomed by the CSB, but it was in the form of an annex. 14 And the annex, it's a good thing because it provides 15 quidance to users enforcing authorities but an annex 16 is not a shall. It's not a requirement. So that's 17 an important issue as well. To raise the level of 18 the training for that population to if you will a 19 20 modern standard. But I'm hearing common ground. 21 MR. CLARY: Thank you. Mr. Chairman I 22 have no more questions. 23 Mr. Harrington. THE CHAIR:

1 MR. HARRINGTON: J. C. Harrington, 2 Council member. Question for Mr. Mortimer and following on the point that Mr. Gomez just brought 3 up about the annex, is it the view of the committee 4 5 that the training requirements are already dealt 6 with in the comprehensive manner that Mr. Gomez is 7 trying to achieve and also dealt with in the body of the document or is it more so addressed in the annex 8 9 as he indicated.

10 MR. MORTIMER: Let me preface that the committee recognizes that the NFPA 58 has had 11 12 training requirements for over 50 years. We have 13 attempted to address the concerns of the CSB in our putting some of this into the annex, we also forgive 14 me but get our fingers slapped occasionally if we 15 put too much into the code that requires them to do 16 this and focus on a particular type of training. 17

18 So we were trying to be cautious. We 19 looked at some of the other codes to see some of the 20 wording they had. One of those was NFPA 54. We 21 tried to be sure that we were addressing those whose 22 work duties fall within the code or primary work 23 duties. So yes, we felt we had addressed the

concerns of both cases, the reporting comments and 1 2 the report on proposals. But obviously not. Ms. Brodoff. 3 THE CHAIR: I notice in the 4 MS. BRODOFF: 5 balloting, this is Maureen Brodoff, the ballot was pretty close, but you lost a couple of votes. 6 It 7 looks like because of the removal from your proposal of a requirement of training at least every 3 years 8 9 some kind of interval requirement and also a 10 requirement that the training be documented, was that something delivered that you removed, you 11 wanted to remove from the standard, Mr. Gomez, or is 12 13 that something you all, you may be able to a address 14 in terms of a TIA. 15 MR. GOMEZ: You know I think we try to make our recommendation, especially this type of 16 recommendation, not be so specific, that we set 17 ourselves up as the people who should decide whether 18 it should be every 3 years or 4 and so on. 19 That is 20 why we tried to, I referred to there is a benchmark. We tried to outline both in the report and in the 21

23 criteria that we think are part of modern training

recommendation language itself of the general

22

1 for hazardous jobs.

2 My personal opinion in answer to your question is that probably one of those criteria 3 should be initial training and then refresher 4 5 training. I would add that I believe that recommendation speaks of documentation as well, but 6 7 I think again that is a common criterion these day for training that you do training and that you in 8 9 some way both confirm that there is some learning in 10 the training and also keep a record that you did it, and that, you know, that's just a good thing to do 11 12 in any safety system or safety program. So I don't 13 remember the details of withdrawing it and so on. But meeting some basic criteria for 14 good training is what we're looking for. And I 15 think the exact content is ultimately something that 16 the experts on this committee can look at existing 17 models and so on. I mentioned one and come up with 18 things. This way users and enforcers can understand 19

20 what proper training is.

21 MS. BRODOFF: I just want to suggest as 22 you go back to this committee should the Council not 23 issue the language itself, that you may be able to pick up a few votes by reintroducing those two concepts into the TIA because it seems like some people according to the ballots I read on the committee were actually concerned that the language was reducing the training because it was eliminating any requirement of regular training.

7 MR. GOMEZ: We certainly didn't want to8 do that. I hear you.

9 MS. BRODOFF: Should you go back that 10 may be a way to bridge the gap by increasing the 11 level of objectives that you're looking for.

THE CHAIR: Jim Pauley, chair of the 12 13 Council. Mr. Mortimer, I want to follow up on that point and see if you had any comments on the 14 committee's perspective on that issue of did some 15 language come out on the interval and what sort of 16 happened from the committee's perspective? 17 There are some votes that do indicate it looks like things 18 were lessened. I sort of felt that was probably the 19 intent of it. 20

21 MR. MORTIMER: I appreciated the votes 22 in the favor of the way I went. I believe they were 23 in error and I believe Miss Cronin is just dying to

Page 25 tell you that the sections that were voted on 1 separately from this one will include the testing 2 and documentation into the next edition. 3 4 THE CHAIR: Can you clarify. 5 MS. CRONIN: I was just going to say it looks like the concerns of training and 6 7 documentation were resolved. So it was some misunderstanding and it is covered in the document, 8 9 is that correct. 10 MR. MORTIMER: That is correct. 11 MS. BRODOFF: I'm just curious, where It doesn't look like it's in the ballot. 12 is it? 13 MR. LEMOS: Ted Lemos, NFPA staff. What happened, the reason we have this confusion is 14 confusion, nothing was deleted. There were two 15 proposals in the ROP affecting this subject. One of 16 the proposals split the paragraph into a main 17 paragraph and subsidiary paragraph. When we 18 balloted this appeal, the only paragraph in question 19 20 was sent to the committee. So it gave the 21 appearance that something wasn't there. When we became aware of this, we as staff sent information 22 23 to the committee saying that we received several

Page 26 This has been deleted, in fact not explained 1 votes. to the committee and we did get several votes 2 reversed but not all. So because of two separate 3 4 actions there is no deletion of other requirements. 5 MS. BRODOFF: Is that in the record, 6 the communications you had? 7 MR. LEMOS: In the committee file, yes. MS. BRODOFF: In this agenda material. 8 9 MR. LEMOS: I don't know. 10 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Additional questions? Jim Pauley chair of the Council. I just 11 wanted to go back and revisit, it sounds like in 12 13 listening to both of you there are some opportunities to probably bridge this gap. I 14 appreciate the fact that the committee chair is 15 16 indicating that the committee and the CSB are really after the same thing. It's a matter to getting to 17 the right language to ensure that it's covered. 18 Should the Council not uphold the appeal and this 19 moves forward, it would appear that we're going to 20 go back to previous edition text, and I just want 21 any comments from both of you. Putting the TIA 22 23 possibility aside for a moment, is that the right

place to go. Is going back to the ROP text a better 1 situation than going all the way back to previous 2 edition out of this. This is one of our cases where 3 4 what tends to happens on items pass on the floor 5 don't pass ballot that normal default action goes all the way back to previous edition. I'm trying to 6 7 if the interim spot at the ROP is more suitable than going all the way back. I realize it doesn't 8 9 accomplish where the CSB wanted to go, but I'm 10 trying to see if we're moving in the right direction 11 either or both of you, please.

12 MR. MORTIMER: For my own sake going 13 back to the NFPA 2004 edition wording is probably better than adopting the failed wording and there 14 are a number of problems with the current proposal 15 before you wording. To mention a couple, they 16 discuss the all persons, they discuss the liquid 17 petroleum which throughout the code we've never 18 referred to it or defined liquid petroleum. 19 It's 20 always liquified. It refers to the code as a standard in a couple of spots. So those things 21 aside, would we be better off with the 2004 wording, 22 23 much as I hate to lose all that we've accomplished

with the adjustments from comments and the ROP, it
would be better than adopting what you have before
you today.

THE CHAIR: 4 Let me rephrase my 5 question again. Perhaps I wasn't clear. I am looking specifically the comment that in question 6 7 58-49 was on proposal 58-46. Proposal 58-46 the committee actually accepted in principle and is 8 where they added some annex word. Because of the 9 10 actions that have occurred from the floor and the failed committee ballot, it would appear that this 11 will all go back to previous edition text. So my 12 13 comment was is the proposal stage where the committee was, that wording that the committee put 14 into the annex, is that something that would make 15 sense to retain at that time versus going all the 16 way back to the previous edition. I'm trying to see 17 if the interim work that the committee did is a 18 better point than going all the way back. 19 Not 20 talking about the failed comments or any of those things. 21

22 MR. MORTIMER: I will focus more on 23 your annex text question. The committee at our

teleconference that was held I believe July 16th 1 The date escapes me. We asked the technical 2 mavbe. committee members that were in attendance on that 3 4 teleconference that exact thing. And would we want 5 to retain the annex attached to A 4.4 and unanimously the members want to retain the annex 6 7 text. So those editions would at least go forward. THE CHAIR: Mr. Gomez same question to 8 9 If the annex text would stay in, fully you. 10 recognizing that it's ultimately not where you would like to be, but is it a better situation from your 11 12 perspective than going all the way back. 13 MR. GOMEZ: Let me preface by saying I'm a little old government worker and some of the 14 ROPs and at which stage and so on escapes me now. 15 That doesn't mean I'm uninformed. 16 But I just want to place it in context. All of the details of your 17 discussion I would have to back. 18 19 But to get right to the chase. No, I 20 believe that the board welcomed the annex. The annex was a good thing and we would wish to see it 21

23 favor of the concepts in that annex, if you will,

22

retained, but as you said, we are here to argue in

with some of the things that we have discussed incorporated into the body so that they are shalls and they're enforceable. I myself made the mistake of calling it a standard as opposed to a code. Again that is a mistake coming from being a little old government worker who doesn't use this terminology all the time.

So we would not like to see it go back 8 9 to being stripped of the annex. I think that the 10 board would think that that would be a worst intermediate outcome. What I hear is that it is 11 possible to retain it with the annex and to engage 12 13 in discussions that might permit the resolution of some of these, I'm calling them scope issues to whom 14 this is applicable and perhaps some aspects, if you 15 will, what the list of criteria for an effective 16 17 training program are. I think those are the two issues that I heard. And I believe that would be, 18 again I can't speak for the board, but I believe 19 20 that I'm faithfully reflecting that the board would be open to that, and we would hope we could engage 21 22 in that conversation as soon as possible. And I 23 think we can iron it out, from what I've heard

today, I think we can iron it out. But no we don't
want the annex dropped.

THE CHAIR: Very good. Mr. Bell. 3 MR. BELL: Kerry Bell, member of panel. 4 5 Question for Mr. Mortimer. I think I understand you've indicated there appears to be the opportunity 6 7 to create some common ground on a TIA. Is it also your sense there is strong support within the 8 9 efforts from emergency agency standpoint considering 10 where the text would land. 11 MR. MORTIMER: From a point blank question proposed by Secretary Linoff, yes, there 12 13 is. He had concern for the same problem. Miss Cronin. 14 THE CHAIR: MS. CRONIN: Amy Cronin, secretary to 15 the Standards Council. You do envision if you were 16 to do a TIA that that language would be in the body 17 and therefore mandatory. 18 19 MR. MORTIMER: Yes. And hopefully do it before issuance of the 2011 edition. 20 Additional questions? 21 THE CHAIR: Gentlemen, any closing remarks? Mr. Gomez, I'll 22

23 allow you to go first.

1 MR. GOMEZ: I reiterate I thank you 2 It's been a productive discussion. very much. Т think the committee, and the chair have taken our 3 recommendations very seriously all along even though 4 5 we have differed at times, and I also reiterate that the CSB has been pleased to work with the NFPA. 6 You 7 are a very important organization and we're in the same business of preventing bad things from 8 9 happening. And I think I can speak for our board in 10 saying that we want to continue to see that relationship strengthen and deepen for the 11 improvement of safety for in our case for workers in 12 13 the chemical industry. So I thank you very much for your time. 14 Thank you. Mr. Mortimer. 15 THE CHAIR: 16 MR. MORTIMER: I appreciate the opportunity as well. I do think we have a common 17 goal both the CSB and the technical committee, and 18 while it would be regrettable to go back to the 2004 19 20 it would be a better choice for wording than the proposal before you today. I really think we can 21 work a TIA in advance. I know that's not something 22 23 presenting for you today, but I appreciate the

opportunity to at least address the concerns of the
committee and the verbiage that is before you.

With that we'll bring this 3 THE CHAIR: 4 hearing to a close. Gentlemen, we thank both of you for the time and effort. We greatly appreciate the 5 6 full participation in the process and certainly we 7 appreciate everybody rolling in the same direction of this issue and the way both of you have 8 9 approached this. The Council does appreciate that 10 cooperation.

11 I will advise you that response of the Council, decision of Council will be issued by 12 13 written decision by Miss Cronin the secretary to the No member of the Council or member of NFPA Council. 14 is permitted to permitted to convey any results of 15 that decision. That written decision will be the 16 only means of communication and well provide that, 17 and with that, we'll bring this particular hearing 18 to a close. And move directly into our next 19 20 hearing. So thank you.

Agenda item 10-8-13-a-2 this is on NFPA 654. Also involves Agenda Item 10-13-a-3 and a-7. All of these have to do with the floor action which

was to return in NFPA 654 to committee. Both in 1 action that did pass on the floor ultimately failed 2 committee ballot and so we have discussions T 3 believe on both sides of this issue. So the default 4 5 action of this would be to return. So from the 6 appeals perspective who do I have speaking in favor 7 which would be to return the documents. Please, if you will. Anyone else speaking in favor? Do I have 8 9 someone speaking opposed to the appeal. 10 If anyone came into the room since we went on the record that hasn't introduced 11 themselves. 12 13 MS. CURTIS: Martha Curtis, NFPA staff. THE CHAIR: 14 We are going to follow the same procedure that you just witnessed before. Give 15 about 10 minutes to be able to present the appeal, 16 give about 10 minutes on the opposing side to 17 describe that. Then we'll go to questions from the 18 19 Council. Remember to state your name for the record 20 before beginning your remarks.

21 MR. URAL: My name is Erdem Ural. I am 22 with Loss Prevention Science and Technologies. I am 23 here at the request of committee chair Walt Frank

who could not come to the meeting. He has sent you 1 a letter saying as a self-employed consultant I have 2 found that cost of participating both in terms of 3 4 out of pocket expense and lost revenue opportunities 5 it make it prohibitive. But the real reason why he 6 is not here, as Mr. Chairman has pointed out, we 7 have been, we understand that this is a default action, reject the committee opinion, and therefor 8 9 this is some kind of futile exercise. We are going 10 to present our case. But we were told not to be 11 hopeful.

12 We have seen through this process that 13 there has been some flaws in the association meeting process, and this is the case where the hard work of 14 the committee has been hijacked by a single company 15 and its affiliates and consultants. We have also 16 seen that the appeal process is, we have seen the 17 flaws in the appeal process, namely, most people 18 didn't know that during the, for the appeal all you 19 20 have to say was you intend to appeal and then you had until the day of the Standards Council meeting 21 that you submit your paperwork. I think all these 22 23 issues has to be addressed and the procedures for

the appeal process have to be documented in writing
so everybody has a fair change.

The committee has done wonderful work 3 4 and come up with the next edition. It went through 5 the ROP process. During the ROP process most issues 6 that are being debated today have been accepted by 7 the committee by overwhelming majority. The votes were, it's in your records but the votes were 27 to 8 9 1 or 26 to 2. I think I remember 26 to 3 so the 10 overwhelming majority favored the changes. Same thing with the ROC. Some additional modifications 11 have been made and those were welcomed by the 12 13 overwhelming majority of the committee.

The new document, so you will find 14 writings in the file, in your file. 15 Then association meeting decided to return the document 16 to the committee, and the committee chair says the 17 NITMAMs, the discussion and comments made by the 18 NITMAMs were wholly unsubstantiated technically 19 20 considered or just plain false. And the association meeting, I'm sure you know better than me, the 21 members, the people present at the association 22 23 meeting are just people who pay their dues so they
don't have any expertise in the subject. 1 The committee members you have selected all of us, so I 2 imagine you have selected people who are 3 knowledgeable in this field. 4 5 So the association meeting's decision has been balloted in the committee, again, the 6 7 overwhelming majority of the committee said no, we don't want the document back. Yet, the default 8 9 action here is to send it back to the committee. Your decision. 10 Now what are the issues. 11 Walt Frank has written documents and a lot of the people during 12 13 the amendment motion has written comments. I'11 just highlight in the interest of the time I just 14 highlight a few things hopefully you'll ask 15 questions and then we will get to explain more. 16 The current edition is dated 2006. And there are very 17 well-known problems with this document, with this 18 current edition, and well known to the TC members as 19 20 well as the combustible dust expert. This is the premier documents for combustible dust hazard 21 22 reduction. So by returning this document to the 23 committee, you will be allowing these flaws in this

document as well as unreasonably dangerous
 conditions in this document to be enforced and in
 effect for two more years, so that's a big
 responsibility.

5 There are also serious practical problems in implementing the methodology in this. 6 7 Because this talks about what constitutes, what doesn't constitute dust explosion hazard, and people 8 9 interpret in different ways. And if you like we can 10 get into that. And I have examples of how the government, even the different employees for OSHA 11 that is supposed to be enforcing the gist of this 12 13 document approached the subject differently. So that's a big responsibility to let this go on for 14 another 2 years. 15

In my substantiation for the return of 16 the document ballot, I pointed out that the lack of 17 clarity in the 2006 edition can't necessarily expose 18 employees to recognize hazard that can potentially 19 20 cause death or serious physical harm. So that's the part C in my ballot. Mr. Cholin is my colleague. 21 22 He will be talking after me. He has given one 23 example which was chilling. He is saying that we

are using this document for this particular paper 1 2 handling situation. You could have 1300 buckets of combustible dust laying in the plant. That is what 3 this document allows. And given that the paper 4 5 industry is inherently more dust producing but this document allows them to operate more dirty than they 6 7 have to. So this document is 1300 buckets of dust laying around the workers. This document will 8 9 reduce that to 64 buckets.

4th item, there has been a discussion 10 through the accumulation criterion based on layer 11 thickness or layer mass. Again, this document also 12 13 talks about the thickness and then the area and that's the volume of the combustible dust. In fact 14 I just talked to an OSHA inspector. That's exactly 15 what she said. She took the layer density, I mean 16 the layer thickness and then the layer area and 17 multiplied the two and came up with a maximum 18 allowable combustible dust volume. That's what this 19 document does. All these issues all these 20 complaints are unfounded. 2006 edition is 21 contradictory. There are serious contradictions in 22 23 this document, and again the details if you are

interested in making the right decisions are in my 1 write up. And there has been a discussion well 2 there is no lost history to make these plans safer. 3 4 Georgia Pacific had an explosion in a cardboard 5 facility and then they ruled it out to explosion of something. We are talking about 1.32 inches of dust 6 7 after an explosion after a fire after all the fire stream hoses, after the sprinkler operations. 8 How 9 are you going to see and find 1.32 of a dust 10 explosion. I participated in these as a litigation 11 support, and people come. Some say it was gas explosion. Some say it was a dust explosion, but 12 you can see the dust explosion unless you had huge 13 amounts of dust. That doesn't mean that it wasn't a 14 dust explosion in that Georgia Pacific facility. 15 16 THE CHAIR: You can begin to wrap up. Okay. The new formulas are 17 MR. URAL: There has been talk about the OSHA hard to enforce. 18 19 inspectors are not educated, they can't do these 20 kind of calculations. As you pointed out they already do that kind of calculations. And we have 21 OSHA representation in our committee but they are on 22 23 the rule making side not on the enforcement side. Ι

got an email from an enforcement side of OSHA says our compliance officers are very intelligent with CIH, CSP and PEs. As a matter of fact one of our compliance officers has a Ph.D. from MIT with 30 years experience in a refinery and several have master degrees. The formula is very simple. Even a 4 th grader could have been taught.

So what are we talking about? 8 Were 9 there any irregularities at the TC meeting. Yes. 10 Mr. Chastain claims that the committee liaison has made error in scheduling the phone conversations. 11 Ι kind of doubt it. I urge you to check that out. 12 13 And as I pointed out, Georgia Pacific orchestrated the hijacking of this document, in my view, my 14 personal view, and so that you should also check 15 that. 16

About 30 more seconds. 17 THE CHAIR: 18 MR. URAL: The new edition has other improvements such an air material separators 19 incident investigation, use of separation, use of 20 segregation, explosion protection, explosion 21 22 isolation, pneumatic conveying systems, 23 housekeeping, vacuum cleaners, intermediate bulk

containers, training and procedures, contractors 1 So a lot of the stuff will not see 2 subcontractors. the day of light if you decide to return this 3 4 document for two more years. Thank you. 5 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Gentlemen 6 speaking in opposition to the appeal come to the 7 table. Both may come to the table at the same time however you'd like to do it, please. Either of you 8 9 whichever would prefer to go first. Remember to 10 preface your remarks by your name please. 11 MR. CHASTAIN: My name is Brice 12 Chastain. I appreciate the opportunity to speak 13 before the Standards Council today. I am representing Stan Lansey of the American Forest and 14 Paper Association, the AF and PA employs about 15 350,000 employees. Georgia Pacific is a member of 16 that organization and have been for 20 years. 17 I am on 654 and the 664 committee, and 18 I will say and talk a little bit about the equations 19 20 and issues we have with the equations. But I am on 21 the 664 committee. These equations were proposed for that committee and they were voted down. 22 And I 23 am not a member of 484 committee on metals, but I

understand the same thing happened there. I could
 be wrong but that's my understanding.

3 MR. URAL: You're wrong. 4 MR. CHASTAIN: Getting to the issues that Georgia Pacific has. We have been pretty much 5 representing AF and PA in this effort. There are 6 7 two simple equations and two complex equations. Ι call them simple and complex. Just a generic 8 9 terminology for these equations. Two simple 10 equations are simple algebra. You multiply .02 times the floor area or you multiply. 004 times the 11 floor area times the building height and you get a 12 13 mass allowance. It doesn't take into any consideration what kind of dust you're dealing with, 14 the net heat of combustion, the energy of that dust, 15 the type of dust. You can be dealing with the K S T 16 dust of 300 or K S T dust of 29. You get the same 17 value for mass. We don't think that's correct. 18 You're penalizing people with -- users with less 19 20 energetic dust as opposed to people who have or uses 21 that have highly energetic dust. So the mass allowance is saying no matter which equation you 22 23 use, whether the fire protection equation or the

building protection equation. We don't think that's
 right.

On the complex equations, I call them 3 complex equations. It's been a lot made of these 4 5 equations being difficult. It's algebra. A 6th grader has learned over and over to everyone a 6 6 7 grader can do these equations. And I agree with that. We're not talking about the algebra. We're 8 9 talking about the content that goes into the 10 equations. These content that goes into the 11 equation are complex concepts for most industry and a lot of industry doesn't have the infrastructure to 12 13 deal with it. They would have to hire consultants to come in and provide them information of how to go 14 about defining a dust hazard area. The complex 15 equations have an entrainment fraction which is a 16 value that was selected, that .25 value which is 17 like 25 percent of your dust will go into the area 18 during a deflagration, that value was established 19 20 for by the committee for entrainment fraction. There is really no methodology for determining 21 22 entrainment fraction. Erdem has a project that we 23 also help find to develop a methodology on

entrainment fraction through the research foundation 1 of NFPA. And I think that has a ways to go based on 2 all the input I have seen so far. I think an 3 4 accepted methodology entrainment, may be 2, 3, 5 4 years away. And so right now, we're putting an entrainment fraction in an equation where there is 6 7 no stand methodology that exists to substantiate that's the correct value. And so people are going 8 9 to look at this and say how do I know if my 10 entrainment fraction is 25 percent or a hundred percent or 40 percent or whatever. So there is a 11 12 big question mark around the entrainment fraction in the complex equations. 13

Then there is design load factor which 14 comes from NFPA 68. And NFPA 68 is not the easiest 15 documents for most users to understand. It takes 16 some work, some engineering background to understand 17 how to apply the concepts in NFPA 68. That is my 18 perspective as a user. So you have the design low 19 20 factor in the equation as well that people have to deal with. The big problem I call them complex 21 equations is the entrainment fraction. 22

23

Now looking at the practicality of

using these equations, the user has to use the 1 equations and either determine a very conservative 2 value from simpler equations or use the more complex 3 4 equations with the question mark around the 5 entrainment fracture to get another which is technically a little bit lower than the mass bay 6 7 simple equations. And once I determine that mass, they have to determine if they're exceeding that 8 9 mass, how would you do that. You'd have to use dust 10 ignition proof vacuum cleaners that go in the facility, vacuum up the dust, weigh the dust, see if 11 the weight of your dust compares to the mass of the 12 13 dust that you've calculated. It costs Georgia Pacific \$10,000 an hour to shut down a paper 14 machine. We have vacuum contractors come in 15 regularly, while we're addressing combustible 16 issues, it takes sometimes 6 to 8 hours to vacuum 17 all the dust out of a building. Or more depending 18 on the size of the building. Some of these paper 19 20 machine buildings are 400 feet long, 60 feet in 21 height. It's going to take hours to vacuum out, 22 every time you change a paper package with different 23 constituency in the paper more than likely you have

to reestablish what your mass has changed or not.
So for variable processes you have to go back and
vacuum and weigh, vacuum and weigh to establish
whether you're over or under your mass allowance.

5 Also from a regulatory perspective you have regulators go in a building, fire marshal, 6 7 OSHA, go in and say okay we need to weigh your dust or we are going to stop your process to weigh your 8 9 dust. I don't think that's a practical way to go. 10 You can't estimate dust but I think that's the way we got into these equations. So it's these issues 11 12 with estimating hills and valleys on surfaces where you're trying to measure thickness of dust. Georgia 13 Pacific has already taken over 200 density 14 measurements in 12 paper mills across the country of 15 the last year. We haven't had issues with measuring 16 cell bulk density and establishing what our 17 allowance criteria is. Very simple, very 18 straightforward. You go in, you look, for instance 19 20 a 2-pound per cubic foot density dust allows you an inch, an inch and a quarter of paper dust or more, 21 if you go down to one pound per cubic foot you can 22 23 allow 3 or 4 inches. We think that we should put a

cap on these low dust like no more than 1 inch of 1 dust and that's what we've done at Georgia Pacific. 2 We established the 1 inch criteria, and we can go in 3 4 and look at a paper machine building and if we're 5 over 5 percent of the area, over one inch of dust or 10 percent of area and half inch of dust it's time 6 to clean up. 7 That's the type of processes we have been putting into place to address the requirements 8 9 of the present edition of 654.

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10 We think the present edition of 654 is workable, it's practical, easier for the users to 11 understand and utilize and establish whether we have 12 13 an issue or not with dust. It's going to be easier for the regulators and it's easy for the regulator 14 to come in eyeball the situation and say you know, 15 it appears you have a dust issue in this area 16 because it looks like 30 percent of this building is 17 covered with an inch of dust. And so the 18 practicality of the present standard is there. 19 The 20 impracticality of these new equations is not there and the conservatism of the equation is not 21 justified. There is no lost history to say we need 22 23 to be more conservative with these new equations.

They haven't been demonstrated in the industry that 1 they're better than the present method. There is no 2 loss history if a company complied with the 3 4 provisions in 654 of the present edition, there is 5 no loss history they ever had an explosion. Why are we going to go with the more complex equations that 6 7 haven't been fully validated from this entrainment fraction, and make it more difficult for users to 8 9 use and regulators to enforce.

10 That's AF and PA position, and Georgia Pacific's on it. And again I think there is some 11 more issues that John Cholin has on the equations, 12 13 and I'll let him talk about those. And again, there has been some allegations that we've hijacked this 14 We haven't highjacked anything. 15 document. We represent users on this committee. That's what we 16 were asked to do. If people on the committee 17 disagreed with what the users are thinking and 18 saying, well, we should be able to compromise and 19 20 work it out through the committee not make allegations. 21

And so I think that the committeeshould, I think the Standards Council should go by

the floor vote that happened in Las Vegas. The overwhelming majority of members voted there their hands raised to return this document back to committee for the reasons I just described and the reasons John Cholin will describe. Thank you very much.

Thank you. Mr. Cholin. 7 THE CHAIR: MR. CHOLIN: Good morning. John Cholin 8 from JM Cholin Consultants. I'm representing only 9 10 myself. I have written a certain amount regarding these issues, and I don't have a whole lot to say 11 12 other than what I've already put into the written 13 record. I have a balance statement that I appended to my committee ballot on the return to document of 14 the document, and I believe that statement probably 15 articulates my position as well as I might. 16

17 I think this entire issues hinges upon 18 the edits to Section 6.1 which abandon a simple all 19 be it relatively simplistic depth measurement 20 methodology for assessing risk and puts in place a 21 couple of relations that on the surface are just 22 simple algebraic relations but at least the detail 23 relation hinge upon the numerical value for an

entrainment factor, aida sub D. I take issue with 1 the fact that an aerodynamic entrainment is the only 2 method by which dust is disbursed during a dust 3 4 deflagration event. I have interviewed dozens, many 5 dozens of witnesses and victims, and routinely I'm told, I heard a boom, I felt the building shake and 6 7 the lights went out. Or the lights went dim. And then a fire ball comes rolling through the room. 8

9 These people are not lying. They are 10 telling me exactly what they perceived. But when I 11 look at the printout from the PLCs, I see that the 12 energy to the lights did not go out until the fire 13 department pulled the fuses on the pole. It is the dust shaken from the building structure that is 14 between the lights and the victims and witnesses. 15 And they're describing the fact that they are seeing 16 a reduced light transmittance due to the dust. 17 So that there is a mechanical or acoustic impulse that 18 is also disbursing dust. So if we use just an 19 20 entrainment factor from the pressure front we're not counting the dust that was shaken from the building 21 during the initial event. If we characterize aida 22 23 sub D as a dispersion factor to encompass both

mechanic and aerodynamic entrainment then the test
 methodology being worked on isn't going to give us a
 number.

4 I ran through my records just a few events that I've reconstructed. Malden Mills 6 to 5 7 inches of dust none was observed after the event 6 7 but there was an operating sprinkler system so we don't know for sure. Rochester Shoe Tree 2 inches 8 9 of dust, zero was remaining after the event so that 10 is a hundred percent entrainment factor. West Pharmaceuticals 3 or 4 inches of dust no data on how 11 much remained. Interfine, 4 to 8 inches of dust 12 from seen photographs taken before the event, zero 13 I was there. after the event. I measured it. 14 Gaylord Michigan, particle board plant, 2 to 15 3 inches of dust before the event, half an inch 16 I measured it. About 80 percent. 17 after the event. Albany Organ particle board plant 4 to 6 inches of 18 dust, half inch after the event about 90 percent 19 20 dispersion. Yon Foundry 4 to 6 inches of dust witness statements half to 1 inch of dust seen 21 documentation photographs that is about 75 percent 22 23 dispersion. Deltic Lumber, 4 to 6 inches of dust 0

to 1 inch after, close to 90 percent. 1 Haves Lamerge, 2 to 3 inches, not documented how much 2 Imperial Sugar Refinery 6 to 12 inches at 3 remained. best, less than 1 inch, I measured it. 4 5 So this notion that 25 percent entrainment factor is appropriate is just wrong. 6 7 The reality is that in all the investigations I have done had the facility complied with the 2006 edition 8 9 the incident would not have occurred. I've yet to 10 find any report of any incident where there was propagating deflagration through a building where 11 the building was in compliance with NFPA 654. 12 13 I have got one client who I will call 0808, my project number. They've had three 14 deflagrations in two of their facilities, all 15 recorded on videotape. Their facility complied with 16 the limitations established by the current edition 17 of 654 and in none of those buildings was there a 18 propagating deflagration through the interior space. 19 We have a few bits of data, the data currently 20 suggests that the limitations established by the 21 current edition are sufficient and I've got data to 22 23 suggest that the methodology in the proposed

document is based upon an erroneous value for this
 entrainment factor.

3 Consequently in good conscious while I 4 would love to see the document go forward because 5 there is a lot of good work in that document, I 6 think we have to preserve that good work and have 7 committee go back to work and fix the problems in 8 the document. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I'm going to 10 open it up to questions from members of the Council. 11 Mr. Gerdes.

MR. GERDES: Ralph Gerdes, Council 12 13 member. This issue of hijacking the document has been brought up and we've got a memo I believe from 14 Mr. Chastain talking about committee members having 15 a relationship with Georgia Pacific. During the 16 committee discussions did any of these people 17 identify their relationships with Georgia Pacific. 18 19 MR. URAL: No. 20 THE CHAIR: And for the record your 21 name. 22 Erdem Ural. Speaking for MR. URAL: 23 the committee chair, during the meeting it was not

disclosed, I mean during the committee meetings it 1 was not disclosed and Mr. Chastain made the mistake, 2 he also I quess listed me as a Georgia Pacific 3 4 consultant. And in reality I am not. I have never 5 been a Georgia Pacific consultant. I worked on the Georgia Pacific case but I represented the victims 6 7 not Georgia Pacific. It's true Mr. Chastain asked me to provide them a quote for my services, but 8 9 since I was doing this NFPA research foundation 10 project, I steered Mr. Chastain to response to that project I explained to him that accepting money from 11 Georgia Pacific would be a conflict of interest for 12 13 that purpose.

The issues is in the committee meeting 14 you have a valid point and should have been 15 disclosed during the meeting. More important issue 16 is it should have been discussed at the association 17 meeting because at the association meeting 18 Mr. Chastain was sitting in one place and Mr. Cholin 19 20 was sitting in another place and then Mr. Lancey, I believe, Mr. Francis was sitting next to 21 Mr. Chastain so it seemed like there was more 22 23 parties. But if you look at the comments and the

appeals the writings of Mr. Chastain, Mr. Cholin and 1 Mr. Francis are identical verbatim on several 2 occasions, so they have certainly been working 3 4 together and the appropriate thing to do would have 5 been at the association meeting, because you have a 6 bunch of people who don't any of us, to say my name 7 is John Cholin I'm a representative. My name is Francis, I am a member AFPA, and Georgia Pacific 8 9 president James P. Hannon is our vice-president of 10 the American Forest and Paper Association. So I 11 believe that was a mistake my colleagues made. 12 MR. CHASTAIN: Could I make a response? 13 THE CHAIR: Please. 14 MR. CHASTAIN: The only reason I indicated who was working for Georgia Pacific in any 15 capacity is because of the allegations were made and 16 really I have not come here to talk about 17 allegations and to get into mud and that kind of 18 19 thing. I think that's inappropriate, and I don't 20 think the NFPA 654 committee should operate that way 21 and I'm above that. So I am not going to get into that but I had to respond to these allegations. 22 Our 23 legal department required me to because of the

allegations made, and I wanted to make sure everyone 1 2 understood there is people that are listed there that voted to keep the document and take it forward 3 4 and there is people on that list that voted to send 5 it back to committee. That's all I want to say. MR. GERDES: I just want you to be 6 7 aware we have a concern about process and due process and things, and I haven't scored how these 8 9 people voted. 10 MR. CHASTAIN: There was a mix. 11 THE CHAIR: Mr. Gerdes, if you want, 12 Mr. Cholin wants to respond to your question. 13 MR. GERDES: Please go ahead. MR. CHOLIN: John Cholin, to respond to 14 that issue. It is my understanding that working on 15 committees and I have been doing this for a little 16 over 30 years, that if I have been retained by a 17 particular interest to express their view on the 18 committee, then I have the obligation to disclose 19 20 that to the committee chair. If I am serving on the 21 committee and giving the committee the benefit of my experience based upon the totality of the projects 22 23 that I happen to have worked on over the past

30 years, then it's not incumbent upon me to 1 disclose all of the projects or all of the clients 2 that I've worked for. 3 4 MR. GERDES: You read the regs but 5 there may be a higher standard out there. I just want the information on the record. 6 7 THE CHAIR: Ms. Brodoff. MS. BRODOFF: Legal Council, I just 8 9 want to clarify that for an individual to ask someone to disclose their interest is not 10 11 inappropriate within our system. Everyone has a duty to disclose information that might help others 12 13 understand where they're coming from. There is no criticism in that. 14 As far as Mr. Cholin's remark, it is 15 true that the guide for conduct requires people who 16 are hired as consultants for an interest to disclose 17 that interest if it's different than the one they 18 are put on the committee for and to recuse 19 20 themselves from voting on that matter. That does not relieve consultants from disclosing other 21 interests so that the committee knows where the 22 23 consultant is coming from on a given issue. So for

example if you were not hired, Mr. Cholin, to 1 represent Georgia Pacific on the committee and were 2 voting in your own professional judgment that's 3 4 fine. But if you had Georgia Pacific as a client 5 paying you for the other matters in a significant portion, I would think that ought to be disclosed 6 7 just to give the committee members an idea of where you are coming from. 8

9 With that I'd just like you to discuss 10 a little bit what your relationship is to Georgia 11 Pacific, apart from, I assume that when you said 12 you're speaking on your behalf that you are not, you 13 haven't been hired to represent Georgia Pacific.

MR. CHOLIN: For the record that's correct. Georgia Pacific is one of 32 clients that I currently have open.

MS. BRODOFF: So Georgia Pacific iscurrently open.

MR. CHOLIN: I have repeat business
from about 75 percent of my clients are repeat
business. So consequently I have done work for
Georgia Pacific over the past. I have worked for
Michigan OSHA against Georgia Pacific. I have

worked for Georgia Pacific, I have worked for their 1 competitors. Warehauser, for example. I've worked 2 for federal OSHA, worked for state OSHAs. I have 32 3 open I think it's 32 open projects right now. 4 5 MS. BRODOFF: That's fine. T don't imply any criticism whatever, but I do think it's 6 7 important that participants know that people should discuss their interests just so that the committee 8 9 members and the Council whoever is listening to them 10 have some idea where they're coming from so they can 11 evaluate that information in that light, and I thank 12 you for your response. 13 THE CHAIR: Mr. Gerdes, does that --14 MR. GERDES: Yes. THE CHAIR: Further member from the 15 Council? 16 MR. HUGGINS: Roland Huggins, Council 17 member. This is directed to Mr. Cholin. In general 18 since you identified some seemingly significant 19 20 issues on entrainment and so forth, in your opinion how far back if this returns, do you think it needs 21

22 to go regarding proposals versus comments in order 23 to fix your issues, your concerns? Do you think it

needs to go back to a point where we're starting at the proposal stage since so much work has already been done versus starting in the middle like at the comment stage? Did that make sense? I'm trying to get a feel of how much it might take to fix the problem.

7 MR. CHOLIN: There was discussion of that particular issue at the recent meeting of the 8 9 committee when we were working on NFPA 655, it was 10 tacked onto the agenda at the end and if memory serves me correctly, the committee voted to go back 11 12 to the point where we were considering proposals. 13 So that it gives the public the opportunity to submit additional comments on the document to go 14 just back to the comment phase and have an ROC 15 meeting without soliciting fresh comments would 16 potentially put us right back here again in the year 17 of 2013. 18

19 So I see Denise in the back of the room 20 so she can correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe 21 that we voted to go back to the point where we're 22 going to have to solicit comments on the ROP and 23 then process those comments so that we can expedite

the move forward. Because there is genuine 1 improvement in the document. I don't want to 2 mislead the Council here. The document has been 3 4 improved immensely in a number of different areas. 5 But unfortunately the hazard assessment portion which was critical to get straight, serves as 6 7 essentially a Keystone for the rest of the document and until Section 6.1 can get fixed, the references 8 9 and the rest of the document, if you just went back 10 to the earlier edition, language wouldn't make any 11 So that's why the motion to return. sense. 12 Questions, Mr. Harrington. THE CHAIR: 13 MR. HARRINGTON: J.C. Harrington, member of Council, question for Mr. Ural. Regarding 14 the Chapter 6 and the entrainment issues we're 15 talking about, how divided is the committee or how 16 unanimous is the committee's view on that subject 17 based on your most recent vote. 18 I don't think the committee 19 MR. URAL: 20 is divided. Let me address this in a couple of different ways. The entrainment fraction I 21

22 understand Mr. Chastain and Mr. Cholin brought it up23 as a big item which is really not true because the

value of 25 percent was backed from the methodology 1 that was given in the 2006 addition. So the 2 25 percent came. They said everybody like this 3 4 methodology because it's just thermodynamics. So 5 nobody disagreed with the form of the equations and nobody disagreed with the equations need to be 6 7 included. Then they said well why don't we take for this factor, they said why don't we, until we got 8 9 more data just go to the same level of conservatism. 10 So that's what the committee did. And it was give 11 and take. It was a consensus process. There has been other comments. 12

13 The other thing I wanted to add is the committee recognizes, committee doesn't have much 14 hope on the decisions you are about to make here, so 15 that's why the committee recognized that it should 16 be some TIAs to fix the dangerous conditions that 17 exist in here. So there is a TIA subcommittee 18 working on this and Mr. Cholin is also serving on 19 20 that task group. And then the task group has several meetings and in fact it was Mr. Cholin who 21 wanted to include the new equations in the TIA, and 22 23 then the task group people said it would just be to

the face of the NFPA administration to try to get
 these equations. We don't want to sneak anything
 in.

4 So I think we are in agreement and I 5 think the 25 percent just comes from this. And Mr. Cholin makes a deal about the mechanical 6 7 shaking. First of all it's not in the 2006 edition so I don't know why it is an issue here. And he is 8 an electrical engineer. I have a Ph.D. in aerospace 9 10 engineering with emphasis on combustion. The science tells us in most cases that is not an issue. 11 12 It's true that people after a thump they hear the 13 dust comes down, but that is because of the aerodynamics because the primary explosion comes to 14 blow on the dust and comes and I doubt that anybody 15 can say dust came down it was because of the 16 mechanical disturbance versus aerodynamic 17

18 disturbance.

MR. HARRINGTON: Mr. Cholin is on that committee, I want to ask him then the same question from his perspective if he feels the committee is fairly divided on that subject.

23 MR. CHOLIN: I certainly find that I'm

in the minority on the committee, but I believe that 1 there are sufficient numbers of individuals on the 2 committee where this is an issue what needs to be 3 4 resolved. And keep in mind that in the current 5 edition under annex D they assume 50 percent of the dust is being entrained. So that we take the 6 7 computational method that was proposed and we go from a 50 percent entrainment and then we back 8 9 calculate backward and all of a sudden come up with 10 a 25 percent entrainment. So that there is a disconnect between what is in annex D currently and 11 12 what is in the proposed document. And I believe 13 that the only way to get to these technical issues resolved is to send the document back and get the 14 committee to perhaps cool off a little bit and then 15 to get to the bottom of the technical issues. 16 17 MR. HARRINGTON: Thank you. THE CHAIR: Mr. Snyder. Did you have a 18 question? 19 20 MR. SNYDER: Mike Snyder, member of 21 Council. And Mr. Cholin in your abstention on comment 654.17 you talk about a series of 22

23 teleconferences that occurred after the ROC meeting

in what appears to be calculation methods. For the
 record can you walk through your concerns of how
 those teleconferences transpired.

The first teleconference 4 MR. CHOLIN: 5 was scheduled during the week of the society fire protection engineering professional development 6 Matter of public record and it was a matter 7 week. of public record for a year prior that I spent that 8 9 entire week teaching so I could not participate in 10 that meeting because I can't come home.

11 The second teleconference occurred, I did not get notice of it until the morning of the 12 13 teleconference. I don't know how that happened but that's what happened. Unfortunately last fall I was 14 suffering some health issues, I have this thing in 15 my brain called could an hemangioma that messes me 16 up from time to time, and I was in no position to 17 participate in the teleconference. I got no other 18 notices of teleconferences. I don't know whether a 19 20 third one took place or not. The rumor was one did. The fact of the matter is sometimes as we age we 21 have to deal with health issues and I was struggling 22 23 last fall to maintain a consulting practice and to

get myself back. 1 2 MR. SNYDER: In your statement then you are alleging that significant changes were made to 3 the calculation in 6-1 during those teleconferences 4 5 that followed the ROC meeting? 6 MR. CHOLIN: Yes. Some changes were 7 made. MR. URAL: Was it to the equations or 8 9 terminology? 10 THE CHAIR: Please. Questions are being directed to Council member where they want the 11 12 question to go. 13 MR. URAL: Sorry. 14 THE CHAIR: Mr. Snyder. MR. SNYDER: Were there changes made to 15 the calculation methods that were prescribed in 6-1 16 to the equations that you referred to earlier. 17 18 MR. CHOLIN: Yes. There were some The changes didn't fix the 19 changes made. 20 fundamental problem which is the equations rely upon a numerical value for the entrainment factor, and 21 22 there is no test method by which I can determine 23 what the entrainment factor ought to be. And there

is substantial data out there indicating that the 25 1 percent number is not the most wonderful number. 2 And I just don't think that's a good way to write 3 standards that are going to be used as the 4 5 nationally recognized standard of care for life safety in facilities where personnel are at 6 7 substantial potential risk. MR. SNYDER: From the technical 8 9 committee's perspective, do you recall then a different series of events that occurred. 10 MR. URAL: I'll defer to our NFPA 11 staff. 12 He has been a very good person and very good to the committee, very capable person. I mean I'm 13 new to the NFPA process. I love serving on the 14 technical committees and I put the technical in 15 quotes. This is really a new process for me. This 16 part I don't enjoy that much. But the technical 17 staff scheduled the meetings. So the 18 teleconference, we scheduled the meetings. Usually 19 20 we ask around and then try to accommodate the majority of people. And I have a different 21 recollection than Mr. Cholin. I don't think the 22 23 equations changed in the teleconferences. I think

his main beef was to use this terminology flash fire 1 versus deflagration. I thought that was the change 2 that he and Mr. Chastain was referring to. 3 So 4 perhaps we can defer to the NFPA staff whether they 5 were in compliance. I don't know if there are any NFPA rules and regulations about the teleconferences 6 7 but the thing was the document had to be processed. The ROC documented to be completed and we had a 8 9 three-day meeting in Baltimore and we couldn't 10 finish all things and that the meeting, it was discussed that we are going to be having a series of 11 teleconferences and that's what the committee did. 12 13 THE CHAIR: Mr. Synder, does that get you the information. 14 15 MR. SYNDER: Gives me a better 16 understanding, yes. THE CHAIR: If you want to respond. 17 MR. CHASTAIN: What I recall we had the 18 Baltimore meeting. We talked about 1 kilogram per 19 20 square meter as kind of a default mass value. But 21 what happened from that meeting with the several subsequent teleconferences before November that 22 23 changed to the simple equations that I described the

.02 times the floor area .004 times the floor area 1 and then the height. I also recall in the more 2 complex equations there was a C op value that 3 4 changed to the CW value and I sent some emails to 5 Sam Rogers who was really the what I call the brains behind the equations and asked him questions about 6 7 that. He tried to explain those to me. And then there was a question, the high values were 8 9 established and some questions about that. I was 10 out of the country for one of the meetings. I did ask the chair to schedule a meeting in the morning 11 versus afternoon so I could attend another 12 13 teleconference because I guess we had four or five teleconferences between September meeting and the 14 November finale, and I missed two of those, and 15 significant changes happened, I feel significant 16 changes happened during that time period and it went 17 right down to the wire from my perspective with the 18 equations being finalized. And that's my 19 recollection of the events. 20

21 MR. URAL: The C op versus C W that's 22 just editorial change probably. It doesn't have any 23 bearing on this. But the point is not everybody can

make all the committee meetings. That's why we have 1 2 the process the ROC and you get the ballot, you vote on the ballot, and then there is the circulation of 3 4 the votes, and then now you go talk to your fellow 5 committee members, and if there is a mistake made 6 you can ask them to change the words. So all these 7 processes, he says he was out of the country. Because it was a teleconference it was an easier way 8 9 of participating on it. He could call, I don't 10 remember, one time he called from his boat. 11 The point is the process was accessible 12 to all, and I like that part of the NFPA process 13 because you do the recirculation of the ballot and then everybody looks at what others said and then 14

15 why are they changing their mind. And then you can also call people and solicit, the right to influence their vote. So that is really a wonderful process. So all these were available to Mr. Cholin and Mr. Chastain.

20 THE CHAIR: I am going to sort of end 21 that line of questioning on the teleconference. I 22 think we have enough info about that. Mr. Milke. 23 MR. MILKE: Jim Milke, member of

Council. Mr. URAL, you've made a fairly serious allegation in the proceedings, actions of the committee were somehow hijacked, and I would like to get a rather specific description of when that happened? Was it at the committee meetings, ROP stage, ROC stage, teleconferences, when did sort of thing happen?

I was referring to the 8 MR. URAL: 9 association meeting and I spoke to that. It was an 10 appearance that, the ROP, ROC they were a majority of the committee felt certain way and they voted 11 that way. So there was no problem with those. At 12 13 the association meeting it was on the west coast and not many committee members were able to go. 14 So I was there and Mr. Frank was there and Mr. Chastain 15 16 was there Mr. Cholin was there. Mr. Lancey --Francis was there. And so everybody all those 17 people spoke so that gave the impression that it was 18 maybe a committee was like hopelessly locked, but it 19 20 wasn't true. The committee vote was a certain way. And then we also had these people from the 21 22 utilities. They use coal. They came for the NEC 23 meeting and I don't know if they came and spoke here
yesterday, but they had before the meeting, we had 1 intelligence that they were coming there to vote 2 down this edition of the NFPA. So they were 3 4 instructed. The thing of it was, the industry uses coal and coal dust is excluded from this document so 5 they didn't have any, they weren't going to be 6 7 affected by this document. So that's what I meant, and I understand that you are going to vote the way 8 9 you are going to vote. But some of my comments are 10 hoping to fix the process for the future because you come to the association meeting and whoever is there 11 and then the association meeting just as I said just 12 13 members paying their dues, not necessarily have any knowledge on the subject. And then so that process 14 or is a different bias on the outcome. And then you 15 come to the Standards Council meeting and as we know 16 there is a default for the Standards Council 17

18 meeting.

19 So I'm hoping that we'll be able to fix 20 those as we go to the future because NFPA is the 21 greatest organization and these are two flaws that I 22 have detected.

23

THE CHAIR: Mr. Milke, anything

1 further.

2 MR. MILKE: No. THE CHAIR: Any further questions from 3 members of Council? 4 Gentlemen we covered a lot of ground. 5 I'll give you just a brief couple of minutes if 6 7 there are any closing remarks of any items that you haven't already covered. We certainly have the 8 9 written material and like I said, you covered a lot 10 of ground with the question. So Mr. URAL, I'll let you go first. Any closing remarks that you might 11 have. 12 13 MR. URAL: Just a few I'll bring to the attention of your Standards Council, work that was 14 done by Factory Mutual. I worked in Factory Mutual 15 for 16 years. This was done on July of 1983 16 FMRCJIOF1R2RK, thus explosion propagation and 17 simulated grain conveyor galleries. In that work 18 Factory Mutual scientists found that you can have 19 20 explosion -- well, according to this edition of NFPA for that particular dust they had maximum allowable 21 layer thickness was .05, 1/20th of an inch for the 22 23 bulk correction. The FM scientists were able to

1 find out a test was .008 so it's more than, less than 1,000ths of an inch could propagate an 2 explosion. And in a small scale gathering large 3 scale gathering it was 100ths of an inch that could 4 5 propagate an explosion. They haven't tested any less. So the chances are even smaller could be. 6 We 7 have people saying they use one inch thickness and they relied on this. They are assuming a risk 8 9 obviously.

10 But the issue is 1 point that was made 11 a new equations, from simple equation does not differentiate between energetic dust and not 12 13 energetic dust. Neither does this. This doesn't differentiate. In fact we have written a paper for 14 marginally explosible dust and presented and it has 15 been reviewed widely in the technical society and 16 got the paper award. The new methodology do 17 differentiate between more hazardous dust and less 18 hazardous dust. It has been said dynamic load 19 20 factor is unknown. Dynamic load factor is going to be between, we have proof that it's somewhere 21 22 between 1 and 1 and a half. And the standard says 23 by default use one and a half, and if you do a

little bit of analysis you can show one is more
 reasonable value. And entrainment fraction we
 discussed that quite a bit but entrainment fraction
 goes from 0 to a hundred percent obviously and the
 committee picked 25 percent just to match this.

6 Mr. Chastain says vacuuming is hard, 7 but they have to clean these dust all they have to do is weigh or they have to measure thickness and 8 9 then use that thickness to go to using the bulk 10 density and you go to mass, and then he also points out there are hills and valleys and they are 11 difficult to measure the thickness. Again same 12 13 problem here you're trying to measure the 1 third second of an inch dust layer and you try to do that 14 in the corner you see like a lot thickest dust 15 there, so you have to sort of average. I will stop. 16 Thank you. 17

18

THE CHAIR: Thank you.

MR. CHASTAIN: Representing AF and PA and Georgia Pacific. One thing that we have not talked about in one of the complex equation, there is a .05 multiplication factor. What that basically means is that we sacrifice 5 percent of the people

in that area using the debt value. This is an 1 equation developed by Erdem, debt factor was 2 developed by Erdem accepted by the committee. 3 Ι 4 don't know if it's NFPA's position to accept 5 5 percent out of a hundred loss of people based on 6 using that number. Maybe that's something that we 7 overlooked discussing, but I think that's an important value to think about. Also as far as the 8 9 hills and valleys and the difficulties in measuring 10 those hills and valleys, we haven't had that issue but over 200 cell book density measures we made 11 12 across our Georgia Pacific mills over the past 13 2 years. I also like to make a comment on if there is so many issues that existed with problems with 14 the current edition of 2006, why are they now just 15 being brought up? We have been using this document 16 now for over, almost 3 years now trying to address 17 dust issues in our industry, and we felt that this 18 was the proper way to go about using this document. 19 20 Now we're finding out that there is all kinds of problems with this document. Why weren't TIAs done 21 or whatever mechanism NFPA has for addressing these 22 23 problems with this document when they were realized.

Why talk about them now to promote putting in these 1 new equations that haven't been fully validated yet. 2 And also finally I'd like to ask that the Standards 3 4 Council honor the floor vote of the membership at 5 the Las Vegas convention which was overwhelming in favor of returning this document back to committee 6 7 to work out these issues that were described on the floor of the convention that all the members heard 8 9 and voted on. 10 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 11 MR. CHASTAIN: Thank you very much. 12 Mr. Cholin. THE CHAIR: 13 MR. CHOLIN: The only thing I would like to ask the Council to review is the 14 substantiation on my committee ballot. I would like 15 to mention earlier that expresses my position. 16 These are some pretty detailed technical issues that 17 need to be revolved, and I think the only way to 18 resolve it is have the committee get back to work 19 20 and to fix the document. Thank you. 21 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I am going to bring this particular hearing at a close. 22 I do 23 while on the record, though, Mr. Cholin, there is a

series of additional appeals that we have on NFPA 1 654 that a couple of floor actions passed but not 2 balloted to the committee because of the return, and 3 4 a couple of items that weren't pursued on the floor 5 I just want to understand from your perspective do all of these items address what we just went through 6 7 in this issue about why the document should be I'm trying to get a good sense of how 8 returned? 9 we're proceeding whether we're proceeding in trying 10 to fix all of these things that were just raised or are these different sets of issues that if the 11 Council chose not to return the document these are 12 13 different sets of issues to be addressed.

14 MR. CHOLIN: At least one is a different issue, and that's the appeal to accept 15 comment I believe it's 33 which relates to return 16 air diversion. If the document is returned then the 17 technical committee will be dealing with those 18 issues I'm sure, and I'm confident that the 19 20 committee will fix the problems. If the document is 21 not returned, then these are outstanding issues. 22 I am going to, this is a THE CHAIR: 23 good opportunity to actually take a break. We'll

come back on these items. One thing I'll remind, 1 for these remaining hearings on 654 and it may be 2 that we can do this in somewhat of a consolidated 3 4 manner, recognize that in order for the Council to 5 proceed, we can proceed on the written documentation that has been submitted as well. We don't necessary 6 7 have to have a hearing in order to consider those issues that have been brought. However I don't want 8 9 to deprive anyone the opportunity to -- that issues 10 have been brought to the Council to be able to What I would like to understand is 11 discuss those. is perhaps if we reconvene that is there a way that 12 13 these can be, since we have written documentation on it individually if you're given the opportunity to 14 sort of describe that package of what would need to 15 go on if the Council would not return the document, 16 not giving into the technical detail necessary but 17 describe overall what the impact of that is would 18 certainly give the committee an opportunity to 19 20 respond to that. Would we be able to handle those in sort of a consolidated manner? 21 22 I think. MR. CHASTAIN:

23

THE CHAIR: I'll ask both of you if we

come back do you want an opportunity to be able to
 do that on the record or do you feel like written
 submissions are adequate. Mr. URAL.

4 MR. URAL: I'm representing the 5 committee chair here and he is on the record, says certain things that has been tabled during the 6 7 meeting was tabled at the request of Mr. Cholin. Therefore if you look at the last couple of 8 9 paragraphs of his latest letter to you it says Now 10 Mr. Cholin seeks to appeal the very action that he proposed from the floor as to CAM 6546 and 654 A. I 11 12 came to the technical meeting fully prepared to 13 speak against these motions. I was denied that Since I am unable to attend the opportunity. 14 Standards Council meeting I will again be denied the 15 opportunity to speak against the motions should the 16 Standards Council decide to consider them. 17 Ι protest most vigorously any further concentration of 18 these motions. 19

THE CHAIR: Given that in the written submissions I am gathering your perspective there is not really anything else to add from the committee perspective either the fact they weren't brought up on the floor and not debated is the position the
 committee chair is raising.

3 MR. URAL: I can talk about certain
4 issues. Especially this return air diversion issue.
5 It's conflicting other NFPA standard and it's
6 unreasonable, dangerous.

7 THE CHAIR: We don't have to do it now. 8 We just need to understand, Mr. Cholin do you need 9 an opportunity to sort of package this for the 10 Council or are the written submissions adequate from 11 your perspective?

12 MR. CHOLIN: I think my committee 13 ballot on the return of the document is sufficient. 14 It addresses that in one paragraph on my committee 15 ballot about 65433.

THE CHAIR: Given where we are and 16 we're in still on the record, I am in the interest 17 of trying to safe time, both participants and the 18 Council, given Mr. Cholin's statement and acceptable 19 20 to you, Mr. Cholin, I would like to give you 5-minutes to describe what you just described so we 21 have it on the record. That would go along with 22 23 Mr. Cholin's written statement that we have on the

Page 83 record. Then we'll sort of have a complete piece of 1 that, and I believe we can probably then proceed 2 without doing hearings on the remainder. 3 4 MR. URAL: We get to go home early. 5 THE CHAIR: You get to go home early. 6 We on the other hand have to stay for a while. 7 MR. URAL: Let me point out the issue. The return air duct, I serve on the NFPA 69 8 9 committee which is responsible for explosion isolation. 10 11 THE CHAIR: Mr. URAL, you're speaking for the two items that you raised were CAM 654-6 and 12 13 CAM 654-8 which were items that were not pursued on the floor because of the return motion on the 14 15 document. Is that correct. 16 MR. URAL: I am going to talk about the abort case and which CAM is that? 17 18 THE FLOOR: 6. 19 I will talk about that one. MR. URAL: 20 THE CHAIR: Fine. Simply as you can. 21 MR. URAL: Among all this paperwork I'm I may be permitted to proceed? 22 lost too. 23 THE CHAIR: Yes, please.

1 I serve on a number of dust MR. URAL: 2 committees like NFPA 654 and the wood dust and the agricultural dust or metal dust. I also serve on 3 NFPA 69 committee, but we have noticed after several 4 5 events that the isolation of explosion or what we 6 call deflagration management is becoming more and 7 more prevalent and people are recognizing the value In the wood industry I guess and maybe 8 of that. 9 paper industry because that's kind of material, they 10 tend to rely on abort gates to prevent the fire getting into the building. But the thing is that is 11 a good thing to prevent like the fire products to 12 13 get into the building but it doesn't do any good if there is a deflagration or explosion propagating 14 into the building. In fact, NFPA 654 annex material 15 says, in Section A 714, abort gates cannot be relied 16 upon to manage the deflagration. It gives you the 17 warning but gives you the warning in code books. 18

We have started noticing that people are using these and the vendors are selling these. If you ask them do these protect explosion from entering the building they say so sure, but they don't. As I pointed out I worked at Factory Mutual

1 for 16 years as a scientist. I also managed test 2 sites and did lots of experiments, and I can tell 3 the science and the data and the knowledge that we 4 have, these abort gates do not work for explosion 5 isolation.

So that is why we, the committee 6 7 recognized this and with vast majority in the voting process they voted to bring this caution into the 8 9 main body of the standard so that everybody knows and then false claims cannot be made. And I am not 10 saying that the abort cases are useless. 11 They certainly add value, but people tend to get false 12 13 sense of security using those. So that's why I don't, I'm against Mr. Cholin's appeal on this. 14

15 THE CHAIR: Thank you. And thank you 16 for being precise. Is there anything you want to 17 say on 654-8.

18 MR. URAL: I don't know what that is.19 What was it?

20 THE CHAIR: This is the definitions of 21 deflagration hazard and explosion hazard so that 22 requirements in Chapter 7 would have an explicit 23 definition.

MR. URAL: That one already taken care 1 I will stand on the record with that. 2 with the TIA. Is there anything else with 3 THE CHAIR: 4 respect to those other issues that you would like to 5 say on the record. MR. URAL: (Indicating). 6 7 THE CHAIR: Mr. Cholin anything? MR. CHOLIN: I just have to respond to 8 9 a little bit of what my friend Erdem, Mr. URAL has 10 mentioned. When it comes to protecting the occupants of a facility from the dust collector and 11 that's what we're talking about, there are two 12 13 hazards. The one hazard is that the dust collector catches fire and with the return air duct that fire 14 is now being ducted back into the building and the 15 occupants are being subjected to the carbon monoxide 16 and all the other sorts of bad things that are 17 involved in the smoke plus bits of burning material. 18 In most cases and I don't have hard data but this is 19 20 something that perhaps the fire protection and research foundation wants to pursue but in most 21 cases dust collector explosions are preceded by dust 22 23 collector fires. We light off a fire in the dust

collector, it's burning, and one of two consequents 1 occurs. Either it continues to burn or the bag 2 cleaning system operates creates a dust cloud and 3 4 then it goes boom. An abort gate operates in about 250 to 300 milliseconds. When you started fire, 5 usually less than a minute after the fire has 6 7 started oftentimes seconds after the fire has started, the abort gate transfers and diverts all 8 9 the smoke and everything out to the outside. If the 10 dust collector then subsequently explodes, the force 11 of the explosion and the combustion gases from the 12 deflagration that caused the explosion go out the 13 abort gate.

So when the technical committee changed 14 the requirements, and on page 3 of my committee 15 ballot I think I stated fairly clearly they decided 16 to put their return air diversion requirements in 17 with the requirement for air material separators. 18 That's a good idea, but then they lost the need to 19 20 have an abort gate. And if you don't have the abort gate, I don't care what kind of deflagration 21 suppression system you install, a deflagration 22 23 suppression system will not respond to a dust

collector fire, so you have got a fire of 10 to 20 1 maybe 30 megawatts pumping smoke into the building 2 and bits of burning material into the building. And 3 4 the deflagration isolation system just sits there 5 because it requires pressure to actuate. And I note in my committee ballot that Rochester Shoe Tree 6 7 burned down the place twice simply because they relied upon deflagration isolation, and the 8 9 isolation did not prevent the burning material from 10 going through the return airline back into the plant and setting the plant on fire. 11 12 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 13 MR. CHOLIN: Thank you. 14 THE CHAIR: Did you have a response, One minute. 15 Mr. URAL. 16 MR. URAL: You made me forget my 17 comment. 18 THE CHAIR: 30 seconds. MR. URAL: 19 The deflagration, we are not 20 talking deflagration suppression. We are talking 21 about deflagration isolation system. You can make it respond not only pressure you can make it respond 22 23 to flame, heat, you can make it respond to anything

you want. That is not true. And I also wanted as a
 point of information, the comment I made does not
 reflect what Walt Frank, my own comment from my
 experience and my work at Fen Wall as well as in
 NFPA 69 committee.

Thank you. Members of 6 THE CHAIR: 7 Council is there anything you need on these particular issues? Seeing none I am going to bring 8 9 this hearing to a close. Gentlemen I want to thank 10 all of you for your participation in being here today. The Council greatly appreciates the 11 information, it is vitally important for us to be 12 13 able to make the decisions that we have to make, and we do appreciate your participation in the entire 14 15 NFPA process.

With that we'll bring this hearing to 16 close. I will mention decisions on these issues will 17 be issued by Miss Cronin the secretary of the 18 Council as written decision. No member of the 19 20 Council nor member of NFPA staff is permitted to be able to convey what that decision is or the details 21 of that decision, written decision, will be the only 22 23 means of communication. Thank you again with that.

We'll bring this hearing to a close. We'll
 reconvene with our next series of hearings at 10:15.
 Off the record.

(Recess.)

4

5 THE CHAIR: Welcome back from break, everyone. I am going to bring this session of the 6 7 Council back to order. Currently going to go ahead into Hearing Number 20, a series of agenda items 8 9 that we have on some amendments or NFPA 13, 13 D, 10 and 13 R. I'm structuring this hearing just a little bit different in light of a presentation that we 11 have on some data. So let me do a quick summary of 12 13 where we're and lay out for you kind of how we are going to proceed with the hearing and then we'll 14 15 move on.

Essentially the Council has in front of 16 them six tentative interim amendments. 17 There is a summary passed out by staff that I think does a good 18 job for Council at bringing this together. A series 19 20 of these TIA, 994, 995, and 1,000 all deal with 13 B 21 13 R and 13 about banning any type of completely banning any antifreeze of being in the system. 22 The 23 series of TIAs 996, 997, 998 discuss 50/50 solution

1 of antifreeze as well.

2 And I am going to go around the room, have the Council introduce themselves again for this 3 4 particular item, have everyone around the side of 5 the room introduce themselves as well. And then what we're going to do is we're going to get a 6 7 presentation that came out of the National Fire Protection Research Foundation. After that 8 9 presentation I am going give Council members an 10 opportunity to ask questions about the presentation When that is completed I'll bring up the 11 itself. various appellants and involved parties on the TIAs 12 13 and have a more general discussion about the next steps with respect to all this. Is everybody clear, 14 is Council clear on how we are going to proceed? 15 Very well. With that introduction 16 being done, I'm Jim Pauley, chair of the Council. 17 MS. CRONIN: Amy Cronin, secretary to 18 the Council. 19 20 MS. FULLER: Linda Fuller, recording 21 secretary to the Council. 22 MR. BELL: Kerry Bell, member of 23 Council.

1 MR. HARRINGTON: J.C. Harrington, 2 member of Council. 3 MR. SYNDER: Michael Snyder, member of Council. 4 5 MR. McDANIEL: Danny McDaniel, member of Council. 6 7 MR. HUGGINS: Roland Huggins, member of 8 of Council 9 MR. JARDIN: Joseph Jardin, member of Council. 10 MR. MILKE: Jim Milke, member of 11 12 Council. 13 MR. CARPENTER: James Carpenter, member of Council. 14 15 MR. LEBER: Fred Leber, member of 16 Council. 17 MR. GERDES: Ralph Gerdes, Council 18 member. 19 MR. CLARY: Shane Clary, Council 20 member. 21 MR. FARR: Ronald Farr, member of Council. 22 23 MS. BRODOFF: Maureen Brodoff, NFPA

staff, legal counsel to the Standards Committee. 1 2 MR. BERRY: Denise Berry, NFPA staff. MS. CARLEY: Lorraine Carley NFPA 3 staff. 4 5 MR. DuBAY: Chris DuBay, NFPA staff. MR. PILETTE: Maurice Pilette, Chair 6 7 Residential Sprinklers. MR. PARANAMANA: Buddhi M, Paranamana 8 9 NFPA staff. MR. BEMIS: Richard Bemis NFPA staff. 10 MR. LAKE: Jim Lake, NFPA staff. Staff 11 liaison to the automatic sprinkler project. 12 13 MS. OLDMAN: Kathleen Oldman, Fire Protection Research Foundation. 14 MR. FLEMING: Russ Fleming, National 15 16 Fire Sprinkler Association. MR. LEVITT: Russ Levitt, Intelligent 17 Corporation representing Trinity Health. 18 19 MR. VICTOR: Terry Victor Simplex 20 Grinell representing Tyco. MR. ISMAN: Ken Isman, National Fire 21 Sprinkler Association. 22 23 MR CLOUSE: Matt Clouse, NFPA staff.

Page 94 1 MR. GOMEZ: Manuel Gomez, U.S. Chemical 2 Safety Board. 3 MR. GALONA: Guy Galona NFPA staff. MR. HAGUE: Dave Hague, Liberty Mutual 4 5 Property. MR. SAEHR: Tom Saehr, Liberty Mutual 6 7 Property. 8 MR. GEDES: Kyle Gedes, Code 9 Consulting. 10 MR. LEVIN: Jonathan Levin, NFPA staff. MR. CHASTAIN: Brice Chastain, Georgia 11 12 Pacific. 13 MR. CHOLIN: John Cholin, J.F. Cholin Consultants. 14 15 MR. DePew: Ryan DePew, NFPA staff. 16 MR. WOLLETTE: Ken Wollette, NFPA staff. 17 18 MR. WOLIN: Steven Wolin, Code 19 Consultant. 20 MR. McCULLOUGH: Bob McCullough, NEC, just an observer. 21 22 THE CHAIR: Thank you. We'll remind 23 everyone that this entire session is being recorded

by our stenotypist. If anyone speaks please preface 1 your remarks with your name and affiliation so we 2 make sure we attribute that correctly on the record. 3 4 I'm getting ready to turn this over to 5 Mr. Wolin who is going to do some presentation on Let me mention what we're about to hear is 6 items. 7 some recent testing that was completed with respect to antifreeze solutions in automatic sprinkler 8 9 systems. For the benefit of Council and everyone 10 recognize this testing actually occurred after the TIAs went through the committee. So what results we 11 have of the TIA and the material we have on it as 12 13 right now is without the committee's having the benefit of this research data that is about to be 14 presented. With that context of it in mind are 15 there any statements from Council members that we 16 need to have on the record? Mr. Bell. 17

MR. BELL: Kerry Bell, member of Council, and I would like for the record that I am a member of the technical committees on residential sprinkler systems, installation of sprinkler systems and also technical correlating committee, and I have been active in submitting comments on the TIA

I was endorser of TIAs 994 and 995. 1 ballots. And T have been intimately involved in developing 2 information and data relative to this issue and my 3 4 role and responsibilities of Underwriters 5 Laboratories. But I do want to note that I have no client interest in this. The UL admission is 6 7 testing for public safety, and I also want to note as Jim Pauley indicated there is new information and 8 9 data that has been developed the ballot had been 10 circulated. I just want to say that in reviewing this issue in totality and also looking at my 11 obligations under the guide and conduct participants 12 13 in the NFPA process that I concluded that I do not have any views that are or would appear to be fixed 14 concerning the issues. I'm fully able to give open 15 and fair consideration of this appeal and for the 16 record therefore, I have considered the matter, that 17 I believe that I can fully, fairly, and impartially 18 fulfill my role as Council member on this appeal. 19 20 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Huggins. 21 MR. HUGGINS: Roland Huggins, member of For the record, I am recusing myself on Council. 22

23 this agenda item. I will not participate as a

1 member of the Standards Council in the hearing 2 deliberations or voting on this matter. THE CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Gerdes. 3 4 MR. GERDES: Ralph Gerdes, Council 5 member. I would like to note for the record that I am a member of the technical committee on sprinkler 6 7 system installation criteria. As a TC member I participated in consideration and voting on issues 8 9 that appear to be related to this. I have therefore 10 reviewed my obligations under the guide for conduct of participants in the NFPA process, particularly 11 Section 3.5 D of the guide to consider whether there 12 13 is any reason for me to recuse myself from consideration of this appeal. I have concluded that 14 I do not have any views that are or would appear to 15 be fixed concerning the issues and I'm fully able to 16 give open and fair consideration to this appeal. 17 For the record therefore, I have considered the 18 19 matter and I believe that I can fully, fairly, and 20 impartially fulfill my role as a Council member on this. 21

THE CHAIR: Thank you. Any otherstatements from Council members? Thank you. Mr.

Wolin, I am going to turn it over to you for the 1 I would ask you keep in mind that the 2 presentation. stenotypist is trying to keep up with you at the 3 4 same time. So sort of remember that as you go 5 through your presentation. 6 MR. WOLIN: I have got a lot of 7 material that I am going try to cover if a relatively short period of time here. But I'm 8 9 trying to speak clearly so you can get it all. 10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to the Council for your time today. I am not sure, 11 and there was a brief introduction here on this 12 13 matter, but what I am going to talk about is a research project by the Fire Protection Research 14 Foundation to look into antifreeze solutions in home 15 16 fire sprinkler systems. And that is the topic of this presentation. There are certain types of 17 sprinkler systems that use antifreeze solution 18 typically propylene glycol or glycerine but there is 19 20 a couple of others permitted. And these have been allowed by NFPA 13 in one version or another for 21 22 well over 60 years now.

There has been a couple of recent fire

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incidents that have caused some concern with certain 1 antifreeze solutions in residential occupancies. 2 Code Consultants Inc. was hired by the Foundation 3 4 earlier this year to perform a literature search and 5 to develop a test plan to look into the use of 6 antifreeze solutions in home fire sprinkler system. 7 It's taken on two phases. First was the literature test plan. The second phase has been 8 9 testing that was conducted and actually just

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10 finished up on Monday at Underwriters Laboratories 11 to look into this issue further. A photograph of really prompted a lot of this, a fire and alleged 12 13 explosion back in August of 2009 in Truckee, California, and we'll look at this in a little bit 14 more detail later. As part of the first and second 15 phases of the project, CCI was involved as the 16 engineering contractor to the Foundation. 17 The second phase of the project Underwriters 18 Laboratories was hired for testing services as part 19 20 of that. As a Foundation project there was a project technical panel who reviewed the work and 21 will be putting together a report to submit to the 22 23 Council on the work as of now, and we have had

general review of that work by the technical panel.
Research in the second phase was sponsored by, in
addition to National Fire Protection Association but
the A F S A, N F S A and Tyco Viking Reliable. In
particular, Viking provided significant support and
logistical support in the testing to allow it
happen.

There was a phase 1 report that was I 8 9 believe attached to the TIAs that you have that 10 summarizes the literature view and the research plan that was developed for this earlier in May. So this 11 is not something that antifreeze and springer 12 13 systems is not something that got put in the code last year or 10 years ago or 20 years ago. Some new 14 thing t hat all of a sudden there is an issue. 15

This is the 1940 edition of National 16 Board of Fire Underwriters pamphlet Number 13. 17 Mr. Lake was kind enough to dig that out for us 18 which was the first indication that we saw of 19 20 antifreeze solutions in NFPA 13. 1953 we ended up with tables that kind of look a lot like what is in 21 22 the code now but there were some changes made back 23 in 2002 to update some of the data. But as early as

1953 even, you'll see that glycerine and propylene
 glycol antifreeze solutions were permitted in fire
 springer systems by NFPA 13.

When I talk about this I am going to mention a lot of times NFPA 13 but the requirements of 13, 13 R and 13 D are very similar. I think in what we're doing here you can consider it interchangeable from what I'm talking about.

9 The table from NFPA 13 on antifreeze 10 solutions that permitted for systems connected to potable water supplies, notice it permits glycerine 11 solutions of 50 percent, 60 percent and 70 percent, 12 13 and propylene glycol between 40 and 60 percent, currently. In terms of freeze protection which is 14 the point of putting antifreeze in the system, we 15 end up with for glycerine for instance 70 percent, 16 freeze protection of 25, at 60 percent negative 40, 17 at 50 percent negative 19, and at 40 percent all of 18 a sudden it's real close to zero. Propylene glycol 19 20 goes from a low freezing point at about 60 percent and negative 60, and if we get down to 40 percent 21 it's negative 6. Real important to remember as we 22 23 go through this because depending on this limitation it's really going to change the applicability of
 these types of systems.

One thing to keep in mind and something 3 that has become a little bit, I get a lot of 4 5 questions about it is glycerine has a dip in the freezing point. So that pure glycerine actually has 6 7 a freezing point that is well above zero. Pure water has a freezing point of 32 of course, and when 8 9 you mix the two of them, the minimum freezing point 10 occurs at about 60 percent. So the use of 70 percent glycerine doesn't make any sense from a 11 freezing protection standpoint. That even just 12 13 freeze protection considered, no antifreeze solution should be, glycerine should be above 60 percent. 14 For nonpotable water supplies you can also use 15 glycerine propylene glycol, but there is also 16 diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol. The research 17 focused on glycerine propylene glycol because those 18 are believed to be much more common. 19

There were some questions early on about the fire incident out in California on how the solutions glycerine propylene glycol mixed with water whether there might be pooling of the chemical

or pooling of that low in a system. So that, for 1 instance, the water and the glycerine propylene 2 glycol wouldn't be mixed and that amount of solution 3 that comes out of the sprinkler system might be some 4 5 higher concentration. This was part of the first part in the literature search. 6 That's very, very 7 unlikely and really not a possibility for a mix solution. Both glycerine and propylene glycol are 8 9 missible in water and fully missible in water 10 meaning if you mix a lot of glycerine and a little bit of water they mix evenly, stay mixed, that is 11 12 not going to change unless there is some major 13 chemical operation is done to it. And if you mix a little bit of solution with a lot of water same 14 thing happens, mixes every evenly and stays mixed. 15

These are the molecular hormones for 16 glycerine and propylene glycol. They are similar. 17 The only difference is one oxygen molecule and they 18 behave fairly similarly. When we look at some of 19 the fire test videos, you'll notice these are both 20 So when they burn they burn with kind of alcohols. 21 a clear blue flame like you would see for ethenol or 22 23 methanol.

1 This research is focused only on 2 residential sprinkler systems. Residential 3 sprinklers are somewhat different from normal 4 standard commercial sprinklers. They have a special 5 water distribution pattern and you'll see that spray 6 pattern from the sprinkler plays a significant role 7 in whether the solution can ignite or not.

There is special approval standards for 8 9 residential sprinklers, and primarily UL 16 26 and 10 FM 20 30. And they include tests that check the spray distribution in the sprinkler, also includes 11 fire tests in a room enclosure with a specific fuel 12 package that we'll talk about in a minute that 13 evaluate whether a given residential sprinkler can 14 control a fire condition and maintain tenable 15 conditions within the enclosure. 16

17 There is a couple of pieces that are 18 very important to this. One is the droplet size 19 distribution from the sprinkler system. And the 20 other is how different droplet size distributions of 21 chemicals burn. There is a difference between a 22 pool of liquid and taking that same liquid and 23 either -- and disbursing it or spraying it in the

droplets, and they burn differently and there might be a solution that is not easy to ignite when it pools, but when divided into small droplets becomes very easy to ignite.

5 There is a technique out there to look at the droplet distribution from sprinklers, but 6 7 this is really an area of ongoing research. So there has been some work done at NIF. Work done at 8 9 Underwriters Laboratories, and Andre Marshall, in 10 Maryland really has taken that on as a major emphasis in his research to look into droplet 11 distributions of sprinklers. But it's very 12 13 complicated. So it's really an ongoing area of research in looking at the droplet size distribution 14 of sprinklers and whether or not it creates 15 something that can burn. State of the art is not 16 17 quite there yet.

18 These are photographs that Doctor 19 Marshall was kind enough to provide us for the 20 droplet distribution from a specific sprinkler and 21 how it works. One thing in our research we look at 22 different orifice size sprinklers different K 23 factors. But a K factor doesn't tell you everything

1 about what droplet comes out of a sprinkler.

Another piece is how that deflector is designed, what operating pressure it is at, and if you look at different manufacturer's sprinklers and the same K factor you'll notice that these time slots, the design of this defector changes and that changes the distribution of the droplets.

The other thing you will notice in some 8 9 of these photographs, it's not a spray of all 10 droplets that are one size. It's not a spray of all hundred micron, 2,000 micron droplets. There is a 11 variety of size, concentrations that change 12 13 throughout the spray. And there is a good example. These are photographs taken of two different 14 manufacturers of sprinklers 5.6 K factor heads at 15 the same operating pressure, and if you look at the 16 spray pattern from this sprinkler versus this 17 sprinkler, significantly different. Both work, both 18 are listed, and both would control the fire system 19 20 in a home, fire situation at home, and there is nothing wrong with either one, just different. 21 22 So in terms of looking at this, there

was a thought in some fundamental research these are

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the kind of droplet size distribution we get from sprinklers. These are the droplets size distributions that ignite and put those two together and come up with an answer. Well, there is some information lacking on both sides, and just a little bit too complex at this point to put that together real well.

The other side is the flammability of 8 9 liquid. A lot of different properties and liquids, 10 most of them are about pools of liquids or for gases 11 and for vaporized liquid. Upper flammability limit lower flammability limit, the high end low end of 12 13 concentrations of liquid that can ignite, flash points a common measure, auto ignition boiling point 14 all these that are indicators of what a liquid is 15 going to do. None of them tell us specifically what 16 is going to happen with a cloud of droplets that 17 ignite. The flash point, for instance which is 18 probably the most common indicator of flammability 19 20 of a liquid has no real relationship with the 21 flammability of the mist or a vapor of that liquid. 22 They don't correlate directly.

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We looked at together and put together

a table of different properties that are available 1 on these. And you'll see that there are some 2 differences between each of the antifreeze pure 3 4 antifreeze chemicals that are permitted by NFPA 13. 5 The flash point varies from 210 to 390. You'll see that even though the flash point of glycerine is 6 7 very high, it can still be ignited at certain concentrations out of a sprinkler system. 8 Auto 9 ignition temperature, boiling point. There is data 10 but I don't think it give us a real conclusion. So I'll talk about what we did as a 11 result of that in a minute. In the meantime, we 12 13 looked at and Chris DuBay I think did a fairly extensive search trying to look at, well, this has 14 been in the code for 60 years plus. How many times 15 have we had an incident with something like this. 16 And Chris was able to find two fire incidents, two 17 fire reports allege that antifreeze solutions in 18

20 other condition. The more recent one was in 21 Truckee, California in August of last year. It was 22 in an apartment complex. Allegedly the occupant was 23 cooking onions in cooking oil. The oil ignited in

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sprinkler systems caused some kind of explosion or
1 the pan. The sprinkler in the kitchen activated.
2 And the best information that is out there I think
3 is that there was about 71 percent glycerine in that
4 system, and allegedly that glycerine ignited,
5 exploded, and there was at least one fatality in
6 that incident.

7 The other incident was in Monack, New Jersey, back in 2001. It was a restaurant seating 8 9 area protected by an outdoor seating area with a 10 canopy above it, protected by sidewall sprinklers contained propylene glycol water mix not exactly 11 clear what the concentration was but had that in 12 13 there. There was no initial fire from the report. There were heaters, gas fired heaters under that 14 canopy and the feeling that activated the sprinkler. 15 After the sprinkler was activated allegedly there 16 was a flash fire as the spray hit the heaters. 17

18 So these are photographs of the 19 incident in California last year. You'll see the 20 window that was damaged. This is the fire room. 21 The interesting part about it, so there is some 22 areas that show significant damage. The windows, 23 the door frame, the melting of the light fixture up

here, but for a fire scene that looks incredibly clean. The doorway that was allegedly blown out by the fire, photograph, that melted. A little bit of charring or deposits on the door but very, very clean. This is a photograph of the blast that was blown out from the incident.

7 More recently, and this was about 2 months ago, there was a fire in an apartment 8 9 complex in Harriman, Utah. The system contained 10 glycerine water antifreeze mixture. The fire allegedly started by a child playing with matches 11 who ignited a cushion in the living room. Sprinkler 12 13 system activated and allegedly there was an explosion that resulted. And that's the photograph 14 of the apartment complex. The fire started in the 15 living room, sprinkler activated in several 16 locations in the house. Photograph of the window. 17 That's the fire scene where the cushions were and 18 the lamp shade show some evidence of fire, but the 19 20 remainder of the space looks very clean and very 21 little damage. Photographs of the sprinkler. Drop down flap. That was K 4.9, I believe and the 22 23 Truckee incident was also a 4.9.

1 So we looked at prior research that had been done on antifreeze sprinkler systems to see if 2 there was information out there to provide guidance. 3 4 The major piece of research was done by SP the 5 Swedish Technical Research Institute. There also 6 has been some followup by Factory Mutual and UL 7 provided some test data for testing it did in manufactured housing some years back. 8 The SP 9 research looked at different antifreeze solutions 10 including propylene glycol and glycerine. They ran small scale tests with liquid fuel that ignited a 11 small wood crib, left the wood crib get to a steady 12 13 heat release rate and then had applicator nozzles that sprayed antifreeze solution on that crib at 14 15 about .78 cpm. And they measured the heat release rate over the course of that application. Notice 16 that they tested in terms of mass fraction at least 17 39 percent glycerine 57 glycerine so that's about 18 35 percent by volume, a little over 50 percent by 19 20 volume glycerine. And they found that there was some increase in the heat released, emergency 21 release from the fire condition when the antifreeze 22 23 was applied in that small quantity.

1 They concluded that the energy or the contribution of energy of the fire by the antifreeze 2 solution may need to be considered in sprinkler 3 4 systems in some applications. And that there were 5 some increase in the heat release rate when propylene glycol and glycerine antifreeze solutions 6 7 were applied. F M did further testing somewhat similar to the S P testing. On 35 percent and 8 9 50 percent propylene glycol solutions and found that 10 there was, for instance, the test with water alone they had a average heat release rate during the 11 steady burning period of the crib of 7.72 kilowatts 12 13 which tells you how small these tests were not a very big fire. And during the application of 14 50 percent propylene glycol that went up to a little 15 over 10. So they had an increase in the heat 16 release rate and applied the antifreeze. 17

They found that application of the 50 percent propylene glycol solution raised the fire's heat release rate above the heat release would be there if there was no application of water or antifreeze solution at all. So just a free burn condition that the application 50 percent propylene

glycol was worse than that for this configuration.
 They found 35 percent propylene glycol solution was
 neutral and that it was very similar to the delay in
 application of water during a dry pipe system.

5 UL I think had the most direct research on this topic prior to what happened this year. 6 7 They ran tests on manufactured houses for FEMA. Now these didn't use normal sprinklers either. 8 These 9 used a very small orifice sprinkler and the testing 10 was done to look at the ability to suppress fires with very small water supplies. 11

The result of the test, very quickly, 12 13 they found and they were trying to use small supply, a hundred gallon of water, 50 gallons of water and 14 then a hundred gallon of 50 percent glycerine 15 mixture, and they were not able to control the fire 16 condition using the 50 gallons of water, but the two 17 tests with the hundred gallons of water and the test 18 of 100 gallon 50 percent glycerine solution were 19 20 able to suppress the fire.

Based on the results of the literature served which was basically the project we just went through, we put together a research plan that

outlined a need for additional testing on antifreeze 1 solutions in residential systems at various 2 concentrations. The research plan really focused on 3 4 two parts. The first part was look for a potential 5 of flash fire from antifreeze sprays. That would be 6 a very large fire event. That probably couldn't 7 happen for any significant amount of time before it was a problem. 8

9 The second part of it was to look at, 10 let's say that we don't have a flash fire. It's not a hundred percent or a 500 percent increase in heat 11 release rate but say increases heat release rate by 12 10 percent or 20 percent. Will that stop a 13 residential sprinkler system from controlling a fire 14 and maintaining tenable conditions. Even if it's 15 not a big event, but small change, and small change 16 17 enough to cause a problem.

As part of or during the time we were doing the literature search and research plan in phase 1 of this project, UL conducted, this was on their own, not part of the Foundation, conducted some preliminary tests of the propylene glycol and glycerine solutions. The tests, some were conducted

in the open, some of them were conducted in a three-sided enclosure with the four side open to the big lab, and the ignition source was a 12-inch pan of cooking oil. Test room looked kind of like this.

5 The oil pan actually moved during the test to look 6 at the effect of location. Sprinkler located in the 7 center of the room, and the solutions of 50 percent 8 glycerine, 60 percent propylene glycol and 70 9 glycerine were tested.

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10 What they found is that the location of 11 that fire condition with respect to the sprinkler 12 played a major role in whether or not there could be 13 ignition of the spray. And the major results of this is that 70 percent glycerine solutions with the 14 cooking oil fire in close proximity to the sprinkler 15 caused ignition of the sprinkler spray that 16 basically engulfed the entire spray and flames and 17 eventually the room filled with flames and flames 18 extended out of the three sided enclosure at the 19 20 lab. That was with the 70 percent glycerine That fire continued and actually put 21 solution. other the initial fire. The initial fire in the 22 23 cooking oil pan was extinguished. The fire in the

antifreeze spray continued until the sprinkler was 1 shut off. There was a similar incident with a 2 60 percent propylene glycol solution although that 3 fire was a little bit different and continued for 4 5 about a minute, and then went out on its own, but both 60 percent and 70 percent, 60 percent propylene 6 7 glycol and 70 percent glycerine solutions were found to have very substantial ignitions under certain 8 9 conditions.

10 The 50 percent glycerine solution was 11 tested in the open with a pan of heptane, was tested in the enclosure with cooking oil pan and none of 12 the conditions did the 50 percent glycerine solution 13 exhibit that behavior. The research also provided 14 good information but not only is fire source was 15 very very important but also the type of sprinkler, 16 the operating pressure, and the type of 17 concentration of antifreeze solution played a role 18 in whether a substantial ignition can occur. 19 This 20 further highlighted a need for additional testing. And so the foundation put together a 21 group of sponsors and CCI developed a test plan to 22 23 look into antifreeze solutions and home fire

sprinkler systems. At that point a contract was 1 awarded CCI, contract to UL to carry out that 2 research. And just to point it out again, to be 3 4 very clear about this, the first part of the testing 5 refer to scope A was only a look at the potential 6 for this large scale ignition of spray that we saw, 7 70 percent solution UL prior had, and scope B was designed to look at if that didn't occur if we had a 8 9 solution where we know that wasn't going to happen could that solution still control a fir condition, 10 would there still be problems with that. 11

12 So the test plan put together looked at 13 different variables propylene glycol solutions ended up being 40, 45, 50, 60 percent. Glycerine solution 14 15 at 50, 55 percent. Range of heights, the sprinkler 16 from 8 feet up to 20 feet and the thought was that most residential applications probably are 8-foot 17 ceilings but there are some double height spaces in 18 19 houses that might get up to 19, 20 feet so we wanted 20 to see if that changed impact. We looked at antifreeze solutions in most cases that was in the 21 80, 90 degree range, that was the temperature 22 23 solution we had. We ran a test to look at what

happened if the antifreeze solution start at -- so there is sprinkler pipes in someone's attic that need protection in the winter. During the summer it's much hotter than the outside and maybe that solution is warm.

6 We considered the position of the fire 7 with respect to the sprinkler which turned out to be very important in UL test by using ignition source 8 9 that was very long. And here is a diagram of it. 10 We had an ignition source that extended from the locations of sprinkler out 8 feet so that we could 11 12 get several portions of the spray distribution in a 13 single test.

We also looked at 6 different sprinkler 14 models and we looked at the effect of the pressure 15 on whether ignition had occurred. So when the tests 16 were run the sprinkler spray was started at 17 approximately 10 psi and ramped up during the test 18 to 150 psi. And so we ended up getting a range of 19 20 data on sprinkler flow rates pressure at a single 21 test.

The first portion of the scope Atesting was to look at ignition sources. And the

thought here was not to have, was to consider 1 whether it was possible to ignite that spray. 2 So we wanted an ignition source that was very strong and 3 4 it wouldn't be put out when the sprinkler spay got 5 to say 40 or 50 50 psi, but if it was at a hundred, 120 psi the spray would ignite, and we never got 6 7 there with ignition source. So what we wanted was a strong continuous ignition source that had the 8 9 potential to ignite the spray if it was possible. 10 There were two different pans of heptane that were looked at. 6-inch wide, 12-inch wide to see what 11 the effect of that was. There was also a set up of 12 13 electric range coils that were considered a potential emission source, heat up to a very high 14 15 temperature and potentially vaporize the antifreeze solution causing ignition, and then a spray burner 16 set up was used because it provided a very, very 17 level and even heat release rate and it was designed 18 with four nozzles to spread out the flames over the 19 20 length of the discharge and then a metal grate above that to vaporize additional fluids. 21

These are photographs showing each of the ignition sources that were investigated, and

this is the first set of data out of the analysis. 1 And this graph, see a lot that look kind of like 2 this, show the increase in heat release rate in 3 kilowatts. And then over the baseline heat release 4 5 rate of ignition source versus the flow rate through the sprinkler. Flow rate takes into account the 6 7 difference of the flow rate and different density rate of antifreeze solution going through it. And 8 9 what this shows is that for the 60 percent propylene 10 glycol solution that from UL prior testing was going to have some concerns that we saw increases in heat 11 release rate and we had initial fire that let's say 12 was 60 percent, initial fire anywhere from 600 13 kilowatts to say 1.4 megawatts, that increase in 14 heat release rate to over 10 megawatts because of 15 the emission of the spray. 16

17 Several of the tests were terminated 18 early because the fires got very large and no need 19 to run them any further, but you will notice that 20 both of the heptane pans and the spray burner were 21 all able to cause ignition to the 60 propylene 22 glycol spray, electric coils didn't work out so 23 well, they were cooled off by the spray and didn't

cause ignition. And you'll notice that the spray
 burner had a somewhat greater increase in heat
 release rate than the other fire sources.

This is a video of test with 60 percent 4 5 propylene glycol solution, 6-inch wide by 8-foot long pan of heptane, and give everybody a feel for 6 7 when I talk about ignition of the spray, this is 60 percent propylene glycol, we knew from prior test 8 9 was a bad actor, and this visually shows you what 10 happened. This video has been edited a little bit it's about an 8-minute 10-minute test so I've cut 11 12 off pieces of it and pulled it together to see the 13 transition so we can get through this in a timely fashion. You can see the sprinkler which is located 14 right about here, just activated. And the pressure 15 of the flow through that sprinkler is being ramped 16 The 6-inch heptane pan with the initial fire. 17 up. This testing was conducted at UL large scale 18 calorimeter so we got heat release data throughout 19 20 the test.

This is a little bit later in the test, the pressure is being ramped up, and you'll see there was just a burst of flames that came out of

one side. There is flames that sprayed, ignite,
 flames break off. They continue through the spray
 of antifreeze solution.

4 So if you recall at the beginning the 5 fire was about that tall or so, and now we have fire that is extending up above there. One of the issues 6 7 brought to us was well could we have an explosion from this. And really in our research we didn't 8 9 look specifically an explosion because whether this 10 is a flash fire explosion depends on whether confined with an enclosure or not. So what we 11 12 looked at in our research was potential for a large 13 flash fire. If we have a large flash fire then there certainly is a potential to have explosion if 14 it's confined. 15

And that's the sprinklers off and back 16 to the original fire position. So then we tested 17 50 percent propylene glycol and we started to see 18 some differences between the performance with each 19 20 of the ignition sources. You'll at the 6 inch heptane pan 50 percent propylene glycol solution not 21 22 much of an increase at all. Pretty steady. And if 23 we had a fire source, initial fire source that

reacted to water and actually went out, unlike the 1 heptane which tends to be very, very difficult to 2 extinguish, probably would have controlled that fire 3 4 condition. The 12 inch heptane pan had initial increase of heat release rate up to a certain 5 6 pressure, and then after that basically the solution 7 won the battle and the fire started to go out in a large portion of the pan. Spray burner continued 8 9 increasing in heat release rate over the full course 10 of the test until terminated. So that sprinkler burner not only maintained a steady heat release 11 rate, very produceable, but it was also capable of 12 13 igniting the spray to be ignited over a range of 14 pressures.

This is a video of the 12-inch wide 15 8-foot long heptane pan, 8-foot high sprinkler 16 located right here. That's the initial fire 17 condition. And you'll see again this is going to 18 skip through some pieces because I want to get this 19 done in a timely fashion, you have the initial fire 20 sprinkler activates, a little bit of spray coming 21 out of it now. Fire size is going to increase, 22 23 keeps increasing up to the point, and you'll see the

ignition and vapors coming out of the spray that 1 ignite back there. After a certain pressure, a 2 portion of the initial pan gets put out and the fire 3 4 is just really located on the end. So it's one of 5 those situations that shows the complexity of this. 6 That certain operating pressures, low pressure 7 performs just fine. At certain pressures we have a large increase in rate and higher pressures pretty 8 9 well put the fire out.

10 We ran tests with several models to see 11 what it is impact of the different sprinklers on the potential for ignition. You'll see that K3.1 12 13 sprinkler, K4.9 springers were able to cause very significant ignitions of large portions of sprinkler 14 spray. The sidewall sprinklers that were tested 15 were somewhat less and seemed to trail off with 16 pressure, and I think that was because of the 17 momentum of the pressure started to put out that 18 19 unusual fire at higher pressure, kind of what you 20 saw in the last video with the higher pressure of the heptane pan. K7.4 sprinkler those particular 21 tests went actually very well, showed very little 22 23 increase in the heat release rate.

We also looked at what the effect of 1 height, is it possible 8 feet, is the worse case or 2 the best case or what happens when we change the 3 4 height. Well, really depends on the solution. For 5 a real bad actor, one end of the spectrum, 60 percent propylene glycol, 8 feet, 20 feet doesn't 6 7 matter both of them ignite and fairly substantial increase rate. For 40 percent propylene glycol 8 9 solution it performs very well, 8 feet, 20 feet 10 again doesn't really matter because both of them have very little increase of heat release rate. 11 12 That middle ground 50 percent propylene glycol 13 solution is where we saw some difference. We had an 8 foot test where the heat really started to 14 increase very significantly. And a 20 foot test 15 where there was some increase, but major difference 16 between the performance at 8 feet and 20 feet, and 17 really the spay, the sprinkler spray that hit the 18 fire condition at 8 feet has a lot of momentum and 19 20 it's a very different spray from what hits the fire from the sprinkler at 20 feet. From 20 feet looks 21 like rain. It's really what it looks like. And 22 23 there is a wide variety of concentrations and

1 mixtures of antifreeze droplets in the room and a
2 lot of the moment gets dominated by the flow from
3 the fire itself and the hot gases arising from that
4 as opposed to a sprinkler 8 feet where all that
5 momentum from the sprinkler really takes over the
6 flow and just a very different condition.

7 We looked at the difference between a heated solution and unheated solution. I put this 8 9 on the same scale as those prior so we can put it in 10 perspective. There may be some difference between heated and unheated solutions over the temperature 11 12 range that we're really interested in but it's not 13 nearly as significant as the concentration of antifreeze or the sprinkler that is used or the 14 15 operating pressure.

This is really, I think a very 16 important slide for the TIAs that have been 17 submitted and the deliberations that are going to 18 This shows the different antifreeze 19 happen. 20 solution and concentrations that were tested under the same conditions. This is what the K 4.9 21 concealed sprinkler 8 feet above the floor and we 22 23 see a 55 percent glycerine solution which is the

yellow circles. A 50 percent propylene glycol 1 solution, the red squares that have major increases 2 in heat release rate. We had an initial fire that 3 was about a thousand, 1400 kilowatts, and we get 4 5 400 percent increase. So that's really something that's very bad. The 45 percent propylene glycol 6 7 solution is kind of middle of the road. There is an increase that is not nearly as bad as the 50 percent 8 9 propylene glycol, glycerine but still a fairly 10 substantial increase. And the 40 percent propylene glycol and 50 percent glycerine solutions kind of 11 hover around neutral. I think there is going to be 12 13 significant discussion about the 50 percent glycerine solution. That's really in terms of 14 freeze protection making something useful especially 15 for home fires sprinkler systems with plastic pipe 16 where propylene glycol is not appropriate needs to 17 be a glycerine solution. 18

19 So I have put in a couple of graphs 20 that show the worst case test with glycerine and 21 instead of being increased in heat release rate this 22 is the actual heat release rate measured during the 23 test where we have an initial fire source that is

about 1400 kilowatts or so, and that fire source is not one that can readily be put out by the sprinkler system. So it's going to stay there and keep burning when a lot of other fuel sources would be extinguished.

6 This very severe scenario, we have 7 increase in heat release rate of 150 percent or so 8 but there is not large portions of the spray 9 igniting. It's really just the water that hits that 10 significant ignition source that burns. This is a 11 test at 20 feet worst case for that, very similar a 12 couple of peaks, but about the same result.

13 This last video I'm going to show is a test with the heptane spray burner, sprinklers at 14 20 feet. A little hard to see but the sprinkler is 15 all way up here. This is a very significant initial 16 fire condition. The spray from the sprinkler just 17 started and this is a 50 percent glycerine solution. 18 So the test data we just looked at it. And what you 19 20 are going to see as the pressure flow rate of the 21 sprinkler increases there is going to be some change in the fire condition. There is a lot of velocity, 22 23 a lot of momentum coming out of the sprinkler at a

higher pressure so it's going to blow around the 1 There is going to be mist filling the room. 2 fire. The mist is going to be all through the room, 3 4 vapors, you see all this mist and vapor from that. 5 The initial fire is consumed in that vapor, pushed around by it. But what you don't see is major 6 7 extension of the flames. Away from there you don't see explosion in the room, the room didn't fall 8 9 It really had the fire enveloped in this apart. 10 mist. The fire burned like it was going to do anything and the mist stayed there. Didn't burn 11 didn't get involved. 12

Based on the results of scope A we had a fairly good feeling that 50 percent glycerine solution 40 percent propylene glycol solution were not real bad actors in all this, that if they were put on a residential fire condition that there wasn't a likelihood of having an explosion or big flash fire from it.

The next question we answered with the scope B testing, okay, let's say when we saw there was some increase in the heat release of that fire condition with the 50 percent glycerine solution, 1 for instance, is that a little bit increase heat releasing enough to make the system not effective 2 any more. And there has been some questions 3 4 throughout this on will real antifreeze sprinkler 5 systems not allow to have all antifreeze. Antifreeze sprinkler system by definition has 6 7 antifreeze for part of it and eventually there is water that backs it up. 8

9 So there has been a question there that 10 maybe there should be a time limit or something like 11 We ran a very conservative approach here. that. We 12 looked at the scope B testing a continuous supply of 13 antifreeze throughout the test. Looked at the two different solutions although the 40 percent seemed 14 to be a little bit better so we only ran one test 15 for that just to check it. Everything was looked at 16 in the standard. UL 1626 configuration with 8-foot 17 ceiling. We ran each of the sprinklers and each of 18 the sprinklers at three different flow rates. 19 150 20 psi real high pressure. 80 psi middle of the road. 21 And then the low pressure was basically a minimum 22 pressure, low flow required for 2 separate 23 sprinklers if activated or if only one activated

basically the square root of 2 times the minimum
 flow rate based on hydraulic calculation. So it was
 the practical real world minimum flow that you would
 get out of the system.

5 We looked at three different sprinklers K 3.1 4.9, and we had some fairly significant events 6 7 with those sprinklers in the scope A testing and we also looked at sidewall residential sprinkler. 8 The 9 majority of the tests were carried out with standard 10 UL 16.26 fuel pack which we'll talk about in a minute, but there was also a desire to look in 11 12 actual living room type configuration so we looked 13 at that for comparison. UL 16.26 test set up and the test set up for scope B looks like this. There 14 is 2 sprinklers located in the main part of the 15 There is a third sprinkler located just ceiling. 16 inside the doorway and that third sprinkler is used 17 to evaluate whether the fire is large enough to 18 activate sprinklers away from the initial condition. 19 20 So might it overwhelm the sprinkler system by activating too many sprinklers. 21

22 So one of the criteria in the test, 23 only activate two of the sprinklers in the room and

if three sprinklers are activated it's a failure. 1 Fire source is located in the corner. 2 There is wood paneling on the walls that can become involved in 3 4 the fire condition to look at fire spread. There is 5 a wood crib that is ignited by a pan of heptane below, and two simulated furniture ends, and the 6 7 furniture ends have a piece of foam that get involved in the fire ignited by the wood crib and 8 9 the heptane pan. It's basically shielded with the 10 configuration of the foam is on this end. So basically it's shielded from the sprinkler spray. 11 Α photograph of the test set up wood paneling on the 12 13 walls. Using the foam furniture ends and a wood crib and pan of heptane inside. Sprinkler located 14 closest one located in this panel here. You'll see 15 just barely thermal couples hanging down to measure 16 in the space and certain prescribed locations. 17 And this is a video of the 50 percent glycerine 18 solution, K 4.9 pendant sprinkler at the low flow 19 20 condition in that particular test.

This is just after ignition of the fuel package, the fire is growing in the corner the sprinkler is not activated just yet. This

particular test takes about 2 1/2 minutes for the 1 sprinkler to activate, and I skipped ahead to where 2 it's just activated, and we'll start to see a little 3 4 bit of decay in the fire condition and the test was 5 continued for a 10-minute period. And slowly but surely during that 10-minute period the fire itself 6 7 is extinguished. And this is 50 percent glycerine solution it's spraying out onto the fire at very low 8 9 flow rate. There is mist in the room, smoke in the 10 room, but fire gets extinguished and in a minute you 11 will see the temperatures.

So one of the criteria outlined in UL 12 13 1626 is the temperature 3 inches below the ceiling. Temperature limit 600 degrees Fahrenheit and you'll 14 see over all of the different tests run all the flow 15 rates all the sprinklers that they are all well way 16 below that limit. There wasn't a single test that 17 was run that came close to exceeding the 1626 18 And if you look between the tests with 19 criteria. 20 glycerine, the green bars, and the tests with propylene glycol the yellow bar, and the test with 21 water really not much of a difference. Maybe one 22 23 test one performed a little bit better maybe another

test another performed a little bit better, but 1 overall there is not much of a difference. 2 In terms of the maximum temperature 3 5 feet 3 inches above the floor enclosure another 4 5 one of the UL 1626 criteria. 6 200 degrees is a maximum. And got a 7 little bit over 125 in 1 case with both water and with the 50 percent glycerine so again, no 8 9 significant difference between glycerine and the 10 water and the UL 1626 scope B set up. There is a 2-minute sustained 11 temperature above the floor criteria. That one 130 12 13 degrees sustained for 2 minutes, stayed below 110 throughout all tests and that includes the criteria. 14 The two highest test one was glycerine the other one 15 16 was water. Temperature behind the ceiling material directly above the fire is another one of the 17 criteria, behind the ceiling surface in back of the 18 panelling. One thing I didn't point out yet is that 19 20 the K 3.1 sprinkler is listed for 14 by 14 spacing. The enclosure that we had was 16 feet by 32 feet. 21 So we were using that sprinkler a little bit passed 22 23 the limit of its listing to see if maybe it could be

pushed over the edge by the antifreeze solution. 1 Tt. didn't happen. We had one of the water tests where 2 it came close but the glycerine tests looked just 3 4 about as good in most cases. And two of the 5 glycerine tests that got a little bit higher, one of the water tests that got a little bit higher but 6 7 overall the results were very similar. A number of sprinklers activated 2 in the test 2 out of three 8 9 sprinklers, and 2 of the glycerine activated two 10 sprinklers, one of the water tests activated two All were within the criteria and vast 11 sprinklers. 12 majority of the tests were controlled by a single 13 sprinkler.

This table includes all the point data from the tests. For each of the tests you'll see that all of the data is well within the UL 1626 criteria. And it's got a couple of extra pieces on it. One is UL was kind enough to provide some data that they had from a prior test where they ran the UL 1626 test, kind of, but without sprinklers.

To provide a comparison between what happens with each of these solutions with water and what happens if we didn't have a sprinkler system at

And that test was a little bit different than 1 all. the enclosure we had. It was 12 by 24 instead of 16 2 by 16. But otherwise it was the same fuel package 3 4 wood panels on the water, similar arrangement. That 5 test flash over space less than 4 minutes, temperature over a thousand degrees. And for any of 6 7 our solutions that we tested the 40 propylene glycol, 50 percent glycerine and water the 8 9 temperatures at any point never exceeded 250 degrees 10 during the whole 10 minutes. When we take that out all of a sudden there is flash over a room more than 11 a thousand degree temperatures. This is the 12 13 comparison between the UL 1626 fuel package and the furniture fuel package. The furniture fuel package 14 we used consisted of a couch, stuffed chair, end 15 table, and a wastepaper basket that ignited. This 16 is consistent with some other research that UL 16.26 17 did, ended up being a pretty severe test. This is a 18 comparison K 4.9 sprinkler, low flow 50 percent 19 20 glycerine and the UL 16.26 fueled package was more severe than the furniture fire. 21

22 So we were asked to do a literature 23 search put together a research plan for antifreeze

solutions and home fire sprinkler systems. 1 These are solutions that have been used in systems for 2 about 70 years, more than 60, but we've had a couple 3 of recent fire incidents that caused some concerns 4 5 with these solutions. And as a result of that literature search and some initial testing that UL 6 7 did on their own, there seems to be certain solutions that have major cause for concern. 8

9 The second part of the project phase 2 10 research I just talked about, was run in two parts. The first was to look at well, do we have the 11 potential for a large scale ignition sprays, 12 13 something that causes a flash fire explosion. And that part of the research found that a 60 percent 14 propylene glycol solution, 50 percent propylene 15 glycol solution in certain conditions it's possible. 16 55 percent glycerine solutions for certain 17 configurations that didn't perform so well either. 18 But for all of the different tests that were run and 19 20 all the different configurations, both 40 percent propylene glycol and 50 percent glycerine solutions 21 performed well. There was some increase in heat 22 23 release rate but it wasn't enough to be considered a

large scale of ignition of spray and something to
 prevent the sprinkler from being effective with a
 normal fire source, with a typical residential fire.

4 Scope B testing to further investigate 5 the effectiveness of these antifreeze solutions. So we looked at 40 percent propylene glycol, 50 percent 6 7 glycerine and the ability to control the fire condition, maintain tenable conditions within the 8 9 The testing results show the 40 percent space. 10 propylene glycol, 50 percent glycerine solutions were very similar to water in their performance. 11 12 Every single one of the tests was within the 13 criteria laid out in the UL 16.26, and we had for instance the video that I showed significance amount 14 of mist, vapor, steam in the room of each of these 15 solutions, and not once did we see a flash fire 16 resulting. 17

So it's good, very good confidence that these particular solutions are appropriate for use in the sprinkler systems. The other side of it is there are certain solutions that definitely are not appropriate and should be taken out. As part of the deliberation that happens as part of this, we saw that there was a 50 percent glycerine solution that performed well, 55 percent glycerine solution that performed poorly, certain tests. And so there needs to be some consideration given for the appropriate safety factor on the value that is chosen for this.

In addition when we focused on 6 7 propylene glycol and glycerine solutions because they're my understanding is a vast majority of the 8 9 antifreeze systems out there, any actions taken 10 should also consider that there is still permitted diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol solutions that 11 have flammability properties that aren't all that 12 13 much different from glycerine and from glycol. So even though we don't have specific test data on 14 those, some action should be taken with respect to 15 those also. 16

The end of my formal presentation.
Thank you everybody for your time on this and I
think maybe have some questions now.

THE CHAIR: Yes, thank you. We appreciate the presentation. I am going to open it up to questions from the Council members at this point to ask of the consultant that did the work for

any item that you have. Do Council members have 1 some questions for MR. WOLIN? 2 MR. GERDES: Ralph Gerdes, Council 3 Why the focus just on residential occupies. 4 member. 5 MR. WOLTN: That's where the fire 6 condition that really brought this about was an 7 incident in Truckee, California. And so with the major lack of data on an incident that happened 8 9 prior to that, that was the focus this research that 10 was given to us. In the future there certainly might be a need to look at commercial systems or 11 other things. 12 13 MR. GERDES: Because you note the ESFR problem that was discovered a few years ago, 14 and limitations on that. I'm just wondering is 15 there a potential for parallel on other --16 ESFR is a little bit 17 MR. WOLIN: different, typically such a large orifice that the 18 problems that they saw were increases in heat 19 20 release rate but not big large scale spray. UL did their own research back in May. But for let's say a 21 5.6 K factor sprinkler and typical commercial 22 23 sprinklers, there is a need for further work.

1 MR. GERDES: Could you explain the 2 tenability criteria of the UL standard. You were measuring temperatures, is that all you were 3 4 measuring. 5 MR. WOLTN: Yes. The standard itself 6 is based on measurements of temperature within the 7 enclosure. So it's been temperature at 5 feet 3 inches above the floor 8 inches away from the 8 9 sprinkler. Temperature at the ceiling level, temperature behind the back of it, and there is back 10 up research data in late 70s that correlate the 11 temperature criteria to other tenable criteria. 12 13 What was measured on the test was temperature but there was prior testing done back in the late 70s by 14 FM to correlate that temperature criteria to other 15 criteria such as carbon monoxide concentration. 16 17 MR. GERDES: Thank you. 18 THE CHAIR: Mr. Milke. Jim Milke, member of 19 MR. MILKE: 20 Council. A couple of questions, Steve. The scope A test that you did, were the sprinkler arms oriented 21 in the same direction all the time or did you turn 22 23 them so that you had different orientations of those

arms in the spray pattern in particular. 1 MR. WOLIN: You'll notice that the 2 fire, fairly sizeable fire was right below the 3 4 sprinkler, and so we did get ignition or we got fire 5 sources up around the spray pattern on several But to answer the question directly the arms 6 sides. 7 were oriented perpendicular to the length of the fire source. And they were all run in that same 8 9 fashion. 10 MR. MILKE: My second question, with the diethylene glycol ethylene glycol the fact that 11 you haven't tested those or included any of those 12 13 there, you've suggested that you should limit somehow the solutions to these also. Can you draw 14 direct parallels say 50 percent or 40 percent, or 15 I'm not sure I would be so confident given the 16 differences you've seen in these and what happens at 17 freezing points. 18 The real key to it is that 19 MR. WOLIN: 20 the diethylene glycol ethylene glycol have very 21 limited applications. Only for systems not

22 connected to put a water supply so it's a very, very
23 small percentage of the systems out there. So we

wanted to make sure that the glycerine and propylene glycol that are much more common got investigated more thoroughly since we really ran this whole research project this whole test plan in about 2 weeks. UL did a hell of a job getting that done. So we focused it on that.

7 If you're asking what dose limit mean in this context I think that's what you're getting 8 9 it. It could be that the solution is to say well 10 unless there is further testing done, don't use 11 those two and instead use the propylene glycol and glycerine in concentrations we know work, and maybe 12 13 that's the solution unless there is more testing done to look at them. 14

15 MR. MILKE: Thank you.

16 THE CHAIR: Additional questions?17 Mr. Jardin.

MR. JARDIN: Member of Council, I'm 18 sure you've covered and I probably didn't process 19 20 it. Can you explain how the typical furnished room test compared to the UL standard 16.26 test. 21 The 16.26 field 22 MR. WOLIN: Yes. 23 package has a wood crib and heptane fire together

that are very difficult to extinguish. And that 1 really along with the shielding provided by those 2 ends provides a difficult fire source the 3 4 extinguisher to control. The test with the 5 furniture was run with the wood panel on the walls and that same piece but it was two, sofa and couch, 6 7 wind up in the same concern and furniture end but with the wastebasket to ignite them. In terms of 8 9 comparison between the two, the results of the 10 UL 16.26 field package test ended up being more severe than the furniture fire because the furniture 11 fire was basically a lot more easily extinguished by 12 13 the sprinkler. We didn't have the heptane fire and the crib there to keep the fire going during the 14 sprinkler, to the same extent. 15 16 MR. JARDIN: Okay. THE CHAIR: Ouestion? 17 Mr. Bell. MR. BELL: Kerry Bell, member of 18 Council. Would you care to comment on the safety 19 20 factor as outlined in the test and how you were

21 intending to evaluate that.

22 MR. WOLIN: The direction that we moved 23 forward with initially was to look at in Scope A
find the solution limit to where we had successful 1 operation in Scope A. So we find let's say a 2 certain solution that ended up working out okay, and 3 4 then the thought was to go below that limit where 5 the 16.26 and the final determination. So the thought was that if there is a limit of a certain 6 7 percentage in Scope A that could cause a flash fire that we want to make sure that there is in the 8 9 original test plan 5 percent factor between what 10 that is and what is finally used. Now we really ended up testing something glycerine that was a 11 little bit close to the line, but it performed very 12 13 successfully in Scope B.

14

THE CHAIR: Mr. Milke.

15 MR. MILKE: One more question. Sorry, 16 Steve, for the additional one I guess. Keeping in mind residential sprinklers an awful lot of the 17 applications will involve pressures well under a 18 hundred psi not that there aren't exceptions to 19 20 that, obviously. But there are a lot of systems I 21 would think that are run at much lower pressures and at the low pressures you saw very few problems for 22 23 any of the concentrations really.

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1 MR. WOLIN: We saw, I know we had an awful lot of test data and slides. When we first 2 went into the project was maybe if you limit it to 3 4 80 psi 90 psi something like that that it's okay. 5 That worked out just fine until we ran a test where at 30 psi we had a flash. And that really gets down 6 7 to the difference between models of sprinklers and deflector design and all that. You might have a 8 9 certain concentration created with a certain 10 sprinkler at 30 psi that didn't happen with another 11 sprinkler at 30 psi. So we went into the thing maybe question draw a line. And that line kept 12 13 moving down. And it really, unless there is going to be tests done for I think every single sprinkler 14 to look at how this performs complete range of 15 pressures, that's not such a viable solution. 16 17 MR. MILKE: Right. Thank you. 18 THE CHAIR: Additional questions. Jim Pauley, chair of the Council. Can you give me an 19 20 idea at the 50 percent and at the 40 percent levels that you found what were the temperature ranges now 21 22 with respect to freeze protection.

23 MF

MR. WOLIN: 40 percent propylene glycol

has of negative 6 Farenheit, 50 percent glycerine 1 solution has a freeze protection of negative 19 2 Farenheit. This might be a little bit different 3 4 from what you see in NFPA 13 table right now a 5 degree or two different. I had a different source I used on that. Somewhere right around negative 6 for 6 7 propylene glycol and negative 20 for glycerine. THE CHAIR: Thank you. Additional 8 9 questions. Seeing none MR. WOLIN, thank you for the 10 presentation. I'll ask you to stand by if you will. 11 At this point I am going to ask the appellants, for lack of a better description, that 12 13 we have got, I would like to hear actually from all three appellants on the TIA and then sort of what 14 your perspectives are relative to those TIAs that we 15 have in front us, and in light of the data that has 16 been presented. So I guess whether that's 17 Mr. Haque, Mr. Isman, Mr. Pilette, if I can get a 18 little perspective from all of you perhaps as 19 20 submitters of the TIAs maybe on where you see this 21 standing presently. 22 Nobody wants to go first. MR. ISMAN:

23 THE CHAIR: Would you like me to flip a

1 coin?

How many other folks do I have thatwant to speak to the TIAs? Mr. Flemming.

Gentlemen, whoever would like to gofirst.

MR. ISMAN: Ken Isman with the National 6 7 Fire Sprinkler Association. What you have before you are 6 TIAs that were all kind of balloted 8 9 through the system simultaneously. Three of them 10 basically banning all antifreeze systems, three of them were attempting to just ban antifreeze systems 11 that were over 50 percent in concentration. 12 The 13 National Fire Sprinkler Association was concerned with the concept of banning all antifreeze systems 14 basically for two reasons. We don't want to ban all 15 16 antifreeze systems because there are some noncombustible antifreeze solutions that would have 17 been affected by the ban. 18

19 So there are at least two, and people 20 are working on developing more frantically right 21 now, non-combustible possibilities that if you just 22 ban all antifreeze solutions you would be cutting 23 out of the process. So we didn't want to see the

all antifreeze ban for that reason, but also we 1 didn't want to see the combustible solutions, the 2 glycerine and propylene glycol ban because we know 3 there are some lower concentration solutions where 4 5 we don't have problems. And we knew through the 6 literature searching through our own experience and 7 through real life experience with fires where antifreeze systems have suppressed or controlled 8 9 fires that there were some situations where antifreeze solutions could be used. And we 10 recognized that some research needed to be done to 11 12 tie down exactly what those circumstances were, but 13 we didn't want to see that direct ban on all antifreeze solutions go through. 14

15 So we put through the three TIAs that 16 just would ban the solutions of concentration above 17 50 percent as a stop gap TIA and then we really want 18 to address this fully in the next cycle of NFPA 13 19 where we would get into the meat of the issues.

The TIAs 5 of the 6 didn't pass ballot but the one that did pass ballot was the ban the solutions over 50 percent in NFPA 13, but for correlation reasons you couldn't do that in NFPA 13

and then ignore 13 R and 13 D. So you can't just 1 pass that one TIA. Given the research there could 2 probably be drafted a TIA that would just ban 3 4 antifreeze solutions above 50 percent glycerine and above 40 percent propylene glycol and that might 5 6 seem reasonable. But as someone just leaned over 7 and whispered in my ear a few minutes ago, even the 50 percent propylene glycol took a really big fire 8 9 to create any problems. So we may need to analyze 10 that a little bit.

11 My sense is if we slapped a revised TIA on the table right now you wouldn't be able to act 12 13 on it anyways because you want the input of the technical committees involved. So at this point in 14 time my suggestion to the Council would be don't 15 issue any of the TIAs. They didn't pass ballot. 16 The one that passed ballot wouldn't be correlative 17 with anything else that is going on with the 18 19 standards anyway. So don't pass any of the TIAs and 20 give us a chance to digest all this data that just came in as of Monday morning Friday we got some of 21 it and the rest of it today, and let us come back 22 23 with a TIA relatively quickly that we can balance

through the system and try to work all together so 1 2 there is one set of TIAs at this time rather than multiple. I'm hopeful other folks would be amenable 3 4 to that philosophy that there is some concentrations 5 of antifreeze that we can all live with. Thank you. Mr. Hague. 6 THE CHAIR: 7 MR. HAGUE: Thank you. Dave Hague, Liberty Mutual Property. I'm not sure I can add 8 9 much more to that other than I don't think it would 10 appropriate to totally band antifreeze at this point in time but certainly would be willing to work with 11 Mr. Isman and Mr. Pilette in developing or 12 13 determining what the appropriate levels would be. So I think I'll just leave it at that. 14 Thank you. Mr. Pilette. 15 THE CHAIR: 16 MR. PILETTE: Maurice Pilette. I agree with Kenny and David on this thing that the 17 committees themselves have to work further to come 18 up with the appropriate wording but there is the 19 20 concern I still have relative to the TIA prohibiting antifreeze going forward. To prohibit it at this 21 time in 13 D and R because somewhat different than 22 23 the 13 system. You're not mandated to use

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residential sprinklers in 13. You're mandated to 1 use it in 13 D and 13 R and with very few exceptions 2 to that particular rule. Residential sprinklers 3 4 have a total different spray pattern testing 5 differently than the commercial sprinklers, and the issue of going forward to allow the industry to keep 6 7 on doing antifreeze and 70 percent which is in effect if it's not acted on would allow that to 8 9 continue. And then through the, at some point in 10 time the committee themselves may be reversing 11 themselves to say we are going to go to 50/50 but it doesn't say that now. So there has to be something 12 13 that stops it from going forward. And the TIA, 994, 995 relative to residential sprinklers which is 14 getting a lot of momentum nation wide because of the 15 promotion of residential sprinklers through the 16 building code starting next year. Without having 17 some sort of documentation, something in effect that 18 says look, continue with the residential sprinklers, 19 20 it's a life safety device, but there is an expectation by the homeowner, a person sitting in 21 their kitchen or in their kitchen or in their living 22 23 room if the sprinkler system ignites there is an

expectation that individual is not going to become
 part of the fuel package. So you can't end up
 having that happen.

4 Now, the research that has occurred 5 through the foundation has gone on quite a bit of phenomenal information has come about in the last 6 7 few months on this thing, and I was part of those panels but I still feel the same thing at this 8 9 point, that especially for the 13 D and 13 R which 10 these are life safety, predominant use of those two standards is life safety, not for property 11 12 protection the way 13 is using high flow rates 13 different type of sprinkler heads. You are kind of like narrowed down into these other documents. 14 And then the safety factors concern, who knows, 50/50 15 16 may be the right mixture but the committee hasn't 17 looked at the appropriateness of the potential safety factors associated with this, and it may go 18 down to 40 percent and can very well be, but the 19 20 committee themselves have to look at these reports that just came about today. The first time that 21 22 these things have been released the committees 23 haven't even looked at it and still questions to be

We all saw the videos. So these things raised. 1 have to be looked at. So the safety factors haven't 2 been put together. The effects of the various 3 4 sprinkler manufacturers and the deflector designs 5 are all the contributing factors to what we've seen today. No risk assessment done between the validity 6 of freeze protection which we all know needs to be 7 in these particular systems but it hasn't been 8 9 viewed against what we're seeing now that these are 10 creating potential fire over life safety concern that may override that. So where is the balance? 11 Who is going to make that determination of the 12 13 balance? And the committee needs to see additional data through this next cycle to deal with that. 14 The verification doing installation 13 D, very loose, 15 has no requirement on that. You put the stuff in, 16 no signage, no determination, no what occurs, how do 17 you verify the correct mixture put in, at the time 18 of the installation. Just not there. Different 19 20 than what you see in 13. Even documentation 13 D doesn't require any plans to be drawn. So one could 21 end up doing antifreeze on a whim anywhere in this 22 23 particular country. So none of that documentation

exists of what is actually going into these 13 D
 life safety systems.

A promulgation of codes, building codes 3 4 is the process codes can amend the various 5 standards, can increase or ignore it. And we even 6 have as we speak here in the New England state, one 7 state basically ignored the alert bulletin put out by NFPA saying that drain your antifreeze take a 8 9 look at it and replenish it with water. They took 10 an exception to that and created their own rules and also you are going to end up having these 11 jurisdiction all over the country to look at these 12 13 differently and because of all these particular issues that are out there, something needs to stop 14 it going forward. And I would ask the Council to 15 prohibit the use of antifreeze 13 D and 13 R going 16 forward till the cycle ROP, ROC process that we're 17 in cycle now that the committee put together task 18 groups with the TCC along with Mr. Hague's TIA and 19 20 Mr. Isman's TIA that a joint task group look at this. 21

22 But to go forward and say go ahead 23 still use antifreeze and 70, 30 percent is fine Page 155

after what we've just seen, I don't think is it an 1 appropriate way to go. Because no action indicates 2 that you still go forward using 70/30, and then I 3 4 hate to be in my kitchen and all of a sudden become 5 part of the fuel package if something goes off and 6 in fact that's what happened. And then it would be 7 interesting to note that all the burn demonstration trailers promoting residential sprinklers all over 8 9 this country how many people sit in that little burn 10 trailer on the first go around with 50/50 antifreeze and light it up to see if they're willing to 11 basically sit in there and see, not knowing what 12 13 will occur, or have some little kid stand up in front of the window and take a look at it and have 14 the thing burn or glow out because the wrong mixture 15 of antifreeze was put in there if it was being used 16 17 and demonstrated upon.

18 So for those reasons I'm all in favor 19 of working together with the various entities, but 20 there needs to be something to put a stop to it 21 especially in the predominant use of sprinklers for 22 life safety purposes which is what 13 D is, and 23 there is no other choices. So this is my position

both as a design consultant and also my position 1 only as chair of the residential committees at this 2 point that the Council give high consideration for 3 4 this thing. We know we have a problem, but 50/50 5 seems to be the method of utilizing because I think in the back of everybody's mind is that what do we 6 7 do with all those systems out there now. There are hundreds of thousands of them out there, and if we 8 9 tell people to drain them out, water is not the cure 10 all for it. You have to put something back in. People can't take apart their roofs and attics and 11 restructure the piping system. So I think that's 12 13 the mind set to allow maybe a 50/50, but that's what 14 we have now.

My TIA is to go forward, stop it right 15 now, and then through the next cycle next 2013 16 edition there will be more defined rationale and 17 reasons and design parameters associated where is 18 19 the antifreeze appropriately used, and we may end up 20 having new technology out there that you end up having to use of noncombustible antifreeze, dry 21 One manufacturer just came out recently 22 systems. 23 with a residential dry sprinkler head, so I'm assume

the other ones will follow. One manufacturer, there 1 may be other ones, to release from what I understand 2 the use of dry systems and plastic piping in the 3 4 residential market. So quite a bit is coming 5 forward. And then I'll say as a design in the last 35 years I have designed a lot of residential 6 7 sprinklers. I've never used an antifreeze system in this environment in the New England area protected 8 9 from freeze protection. There are other ways to 10 basically deal with the issue and it's quality control and design and installation. To allow 11 12 antifreeze without knowing in the question behind it is the wrong way to go at the moment. 13

14 Thank you. Mr. Fleming. THE CHAIR: 15 MR. FLEMING: Russ Fleming, National 16 Fire Sprinkler Association. I wasn't planning on speak to this issue today except that I picked up 17 something in Mr. Wolin's presentation that I hadn't 18 seen in earlier presentations. First of all I agree 19 20 with Mr. Pilette in his sense of urgency on this. Ι think the Council does have an opportunity to do 21 something especially with sort of the open ended 22 23 NFPA safety alert out there. It would be nice to

have some direction from the Council immediately. 1 You have two sets of proposed TIAs in front of you. 2 One that would ban solutions over 50 percent, one 3 4 that would ban them altogether. I think it would be 5 a big mistake to ban them altogether. I think you heard from some of your fire marshal constituents 6 7 who understand the significance of the enormity of the problem out there that would occur if you were 8 9 to say or imply that all antifreeze has to be taken 10 out of sprinkler systems. A lot would be shut off, 11 frozen, and cause other problems.

12 I guess my main point I would like to 13 leave you with is on this discussion of safety factor, don't under estimate the safety factor that 14 is inherent with the choice of fires that was made 15 in this program. These were very, very severe 16 fires. Fires that could not be put out by sprinkler 17 Can't be handled by water. And that alone 18 systems. 19 is an enormous safety factor.

The item I mentioned of Mr. Wolin that I picked up from his presentation dealt with the 50 percent propylene glycol mixture. And if you recall, when it came to the heptane pan, this was

6 inches wide by 8 foot long. He said that if this 1 were a normal fuel package that 50 percent propylene 2 glycol would have been fine. In other words it took 3 twice that, took the 12 inch wide by 8 inch long 4 5 heptane pan to get the flash fire at 50 percent propylene glycol mixture. And then of course we 6 7 went with the even worse fire 4 heptane spray nozzles. 8

9 The TIAs are emergency amendments. 10 Emergency conditions out there. In a sense what 11 we've seen from this test program we were testing very high pressure very small orifices and so forth. 12 13 But what we're saying even if you had that small orifice sprinkler 150 psi you're probably okay if 14 your residence has a 6-inch by 8-foot heptane pan as 15 long as you don't go the 12-inch by 8-foot heptane 16 pan because that would produce a problem with 50 17 percent propylene glycol mixture. 18

When the committee deliberates they are going to look at this full range of data and they may decide to cap it at 40 percent propylene glycol. But in terms of this emergency situation it wouldn't give me heart burn to stick with that 50 percent

because remember this is 50 percent across the board 1 on normal fuels that we're talking about, not 2 talking about 8-foot square pan of heptane at 3 4 150 psi with a 3.1 K factor sprinkler. 5 The one place where I think you might consider a tweak is the issue Mr. Gerdes raised. 6 7 Mr. Pilette talked about residential sprinklers. Ι don't see this as a residential sprinkler. I see 8 9 this as an antifreeze solution issue. And so I have the same concern Mr. Gerdes had. One of our 10 incidents was in a restaurant. I am not comfortable 11 with the idea of a baked Alaska or a flambe setting 12 13 off a sprinkler over a party in a restaurant and having a fire ball come out of that sprinkler. 14 In fact I am not aware of any occupancy in which I 15 would like to see a fire ball come out. So I don't 16 know why the TIA would restrict it to dwelling 17 units. Thank you. 18 19 Thank you. I am going to THE CHAIR:

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20 open it up to questions from the member of the 21 Council and before I sort of lose the momentum to go 22 into that, I'm also going to ask that may perhaps be 23 early to some of these questions. I am going to go

back, we heard from Mr. Pilette his view on sort of 1 what to do now, and Mr. Fleming was able to respond. 2 I want to circle back to that issue and have Mr. 3 4 Isman and Mr. Haque both respond on the issue about 5 there is a lot of discussion about let the committee qo back in and so forth. The Council is sort of 6 7 faced as Mr. Fleming points out the emergency nature, what do we do now at this point. I mean as 8 9 I ask you to comment, I also want to ask Mr. Pilette 10 to comment. He was really talking about next cycle and I want to come back around to whether the idea 11 of is there enough information in a TIA whether it's 12 13 one of these or another one that could be drafted quickly to be able to address this and take the data 14 into account. 15

16 Mr. Isman, do you have some thoughts on 17 the response to this? What do you do in the interim 18 between now and even another TIA.

MR. ISMAN: As I see it you have three choices in front of you. You could pass on the TIAs that ban all antifreeze right now. You could pass the TIAs that ban the 50 percent solution, more than 50 percent solutions as a package right now. Or you 1 could have us sit around right now and draft
2 something else which I had actually prepared. I
3 have a one page TIA actually three TIAs that you
4 could take a look at right now if you want to pass
5 something right now. But I got the sense that you
6 would rather not try something new right now without
7 getting some input from the committees.

So if you have those three choices then 8 9 I would say the best choice would be to ban 10 antifreeze solutions above 50 percent. You have 11 that in front of you now. It's been balloted 12 through the committees. It didn't do great but the 13 committees didn't have the benefit of all of that test data that you've seen. So if you had to do 14 something right now that would be the best of your 15 three options, I think. 16

17 I kind of have a question to you. I'm 18 not allowed to ask the Standards Council questions, 19 but I wonder if we were able to develop something 20 really quickly, if you would be able to issue it 21 before the next Council meeting, if you can issue 22 TIAs via conference call and if something could be 23 balloted through a committee relatively quickly with Page 163

which can be done by email, I would be hopeful that maybe there is that compromise route where if you don't want to do the ban them above 50 percent, because they really didn't pass ballot, then maybe we can put something together really question.

I think we can address Mr. Pilette's 6 7 concerns of safety factors. I think that inherent in going to pre-mixed solutions we can deal with the 8 9 issue of safety factors by not allowing contractors 10 to make their own solutions and by using a quality control process in a manufacturing facility that the 11 manufacturers tell us they can be very tight in 12 13 their quality controls. I think we can handle that safety factor issue so that when you say 50 percent 14 solution you get 50 percent solutions. I think we 15 can handle Mr. Pilette's concerns relatively 16 quickly. So I quess that would be my thoughts. 17

18 THE CHAIR: Mr. Hague, any comment? 19 MR. HAGUE: I would like to add that 20 prohibiting the use of antifreeze systems would not 21 be appropriate. I would certainly be more in favor 22 of limiting 50/50 at this point in time. Certainly 23 not in favor of encouraging the end user to convert

the system to wet pipe systems for fear some of 1 those systems would not be addressed before the 2 onset of freezing temperatures, so I'm not sure 3 4 that is the appropriate action either. I would be 5 very much in favor of 50/50 solution and not to exceed that. As far as Mr. Pilette's concerns I'm 6 7 certain the committee can address those in future editions as far as quality control. Mr. Isman 8 9 mentioned that and I've personally seen efforts to make antifreeze in the field and calibrate 10 containers are not available so the mixtures are not 11 very accurate. So I am very much in favor of a 12 pre-mixed solution. I think that might lead to 13 resolution of this problem. 14

Mr. Fleming also pointed out that the 15 test fires that we saw this morning are very intense 16 in nature and probably not what you would see in the 17 common kitchen. So I think the testing was very 18 conservative. So I'm not convinced that that is as 19 20 much of an issue as we first thought. Probably not going to see that intensity in most situations. 21 Ι think we do have some time to address the issue. 22 23 This is not strictly a residential issue as well.

It's an antifreeze issue. I don't want to encourage
 my policyholders to spray a combustible atomized
 mixture on their personal and real property as well.
 So it should not be limited to strictly residential.
 So I think we need to do something across the board
 including NFPA 13.

7 THE CHAIR: Mr. Pilette, from your 8 earlier comments, do you believe that given that 9 Council has TIAs in front of them and understand 10 your point on this, that if another TIA somewhere in 11 between all this, you're talking about going to next 12 cycle, do you believe this could be done on an 13 interim or on a quicker basis by the committee.

MR. PILETTE: 14 There is probably a possibility of that. Things can move rapidly. 15 But it wouldn't require to go through a particular 16 process to do that. It's not about freeze 17 protection at the moment. The TIA that I submitted 18 is about the flammability and the contributor of a 19 20 commodity within a piping system that contributes to 21 fire. So we all know the freeze protection part of it and there is no way to basically stop the amount 22 23 of antifreeze that is out there in storage by

sprinkler contractors and they're going to continue.
 Hey, I have to get rid of this stuff, and it's not a
 matter of big pre-mix. The contractors buy the
 nonpre-mixed stuff because of the cost factors and
 they mix it themselves.

6 So basically it is not an exact science 7 of 50/50 or 70/30. The stuff goes in the more the better. I have to get rid of this stuff. I don't 8 9 want to take it back to the shop. But there is a 10 supply of that stuff. And the industry should be told at this point in time going forward. It's not 11 12 about the systems that are out there now. Maybe 13 50/50 is a solution to fix the problem. That's an NFPA 25 issue possibly but 13 D doesn't address that 14 issues on how to deal with that. 15

Plus there is an alert bulletin out 16 there that basically says get rid of the stuff at 17 the moment. You know, the solution that NFPA alert 18 bulletin put out may not be the best solution that 19 20 was put out there. There was issues associated with that, but going forward you can sure as hell design 21 a residential sprinkler system without the use of 22 23 antifreeze. That can be done. And it's just a

matter of do you care about where you locate the 1 piping. Do you care about the insulation. Do you 2 care about the coordination aspect of it. So all 3 4 these things need to be taken into account. And it 5 can be done by a prudent designer and the 6 contractor. It's just that the industry as a whole doesn't like, kind of like decision making process, 7 take the easy way out, and that's what occurs. 8 The 9 high pressures, even in this a state here, cities 10 just like north of here have a hundred 70 psi in some of these residential sprinkler systems going 11 Antifreeze is being utilized. 12 in.

13 There has to be some sort of stop action gap here saying don't go forward, don't use 14 Whether or not the Council wants to go 15 antifreeze. forward and ban it altogether in 13 that's a 16 It's options. No mandate to use different issue. 17 the antifreeze of residential sprinklers in those 18 19 dwelling units. It's an option. It's not an option 20 in 13 D. In 13 R basically allows something other than a residential sprinklers but that option is 21 seldom used. The TIAs to ban antifreeze was lost by 22 23 less than a vote, 18.75. Last time I saw those

numbers was in my daughter's bank statement when she pays the credit cards. That is what you end up seeing. So the vote margin was 19, 18.75 came through. So here there is an issue that the committee based on the information that it had wanted to go forward to ban the use of antifreeze going forward.

Now the cycle process, we're talking 8 9 about a 2-year type thing but a lot of issues have 10 to come about. The charts are going to have to be rewritten. The committee is going to have to 11 examine do we use antifreeze for freeze protection 12 13 and also write criteria to avoid the combustibility of this fluid in there. The testing and 14 maintenance, the documentation of it to see where it 15 This can't be done overnight to have a few is. 16 people sit down and try to develop a TIA. Possibly, 17 but it's another band-aid approach. And what we 18 don't need is all of a sudden to say do nothing and 19 20 we need another Truckee or Utah incident that If that should occur and people are still 21 occurs. using antifreeze going forward then we have a severe 22 23 problem in the United States on this issue. That

will be a huge issue for the sprinkler industry. We
 can't afford another fire incident involving
 antifreeze where NFPA itself and the committee did
 allow to do nothing and just only found a Band-Aid
 approach.

So it's still my contention that the 6 7 Council should make the right decision, ban it going forward, and then I'm sure there will be other 8 9 options and other types of antifreeze, different 10 mixtures, safety factors will be put forth in the next edition of the residential committees to allow 11 in some form or fashion or maybe ban it altogether 12 13 in the residential 13 D systems.

THE CHAIR: 14 Thank you. Mr. Gerdes. 15 MR. GERDES: Ralph Gerdes, Council member. I guess the question I want to throw to you 16 three gentlemen, if we chose to reballot the 17 committees what do you think the chances of success 18 might be. Before I give you that question, when I 19 20 look at the results of the ballots, I find it interesting in the 13 D and 13 R you had more votes 21 for a total ban. 22

Right.

MR. PILETTE:

23

MR. GERDES: Than a 50/50 ban, and I didn't see the logic or reasoning behind that, but those two committees think a total ban is a better way to go.

5 MR. PILETTE: That's what I have been indicating, that I lost my listing of vote on this 6 7 issue, and the committee, technical expertise of the committee, saw this as an issue. And the technical 8 9 aspects of the committee should be looked upon by That's where it lies. 10 the Council. That's our entire process. Looked at the data, looked at the 11 12 issues, and summarize it and went forward. And if I 13 had one individual that kind of like voted on this thing that elected not to vote, it would have met 14 ballot. And you look at the emergency nature of it, 15 it was almost overwhelming a hundred percent. 16 One descending vote that this is an emergency. 17 Something has to be done. The whole committee 18 itself 27 out of 28 members voted something has to 19 20 be done. And it came within a quarter of a percent 21 of meeting the 3 quarters vote on this issue. 22 You're a hundred 80 MR. GERDES: 23 degrees from the 13 committee which is going to pose an interesting challenge for the correlating
 committee.

MR. ISMAN: I want to clarify the 13 R 13 D are written by the same committee. One committee that writes 13 R and 13 D and that's whey they were at least consistent within their own voting, which doesn't necessarily always happen.

What I also wanted to say is that most 8 9 of the reasons for their negative ballots was they 10 just didn't have the data. They were uncomfortable saying a 50 percent solution was okay or 40 percent 11 solution was okay. They just didn't have any data 12 13 with which to make a decision. Now that we have got data, there is a lot of really good data to make a 14 decision, I'm confident we can come up with the 15 3 guarters we need that would allow some antifreeze 16 solutions, that would not totally ban all antifreeze 17 solution. And if you were to reballot having all 18 this data now, the idea of banning all antifreeze 19 20 solutions, you'd get a ton of negative votes because people want to maintain antifreeze as a potential 21 22 solution. Maurice is right in that a lot of 23 sprinkler systems can be redesigned so that you

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don't need antifreeze, but there is always going to be some need for some kind of antifreeze solution. There are some situations where antifreeze is just the right answer to the problem, and so we just don't want to ban all antifreeze solutions.

6 THE CHAIR: Mr. Gerdes, if you still 7 have others that want to comment on your question. 8 MR. GERDES: Please, go ahead.

9 MR. PILETTE: Yes antifreeze, why the 10 NFPA, what we know at this point, the committees 11 themselves, even NFPA as a whole, wants to allow a 12 fluid that is combustible in any form or fashion 13 inside of a piping system or a life safety device needs to be highly questioned. It's one thing to 14 end up having a flash fire or fire ball come out of 15 a warehouse 40 feet up in the air. People look at 16 it, gee, what was that. It's another thing to have 17 your kitchen involved with it. And it's not a 18 matter of controllability. I think what the report 19 20 indicated is the aspect of it and the 5, 10 minute water supply associated with that the tenability and 21 everything there is there. It's what is happening 22 23 initially right at the point of activation is what

has occurred in California and Utah. And even the 1 testing program on 16.26, the spacing of the heads 2 whether or not it's 20 by 2400-square foot in a 3 spacing, I don't recall any of the testing that has 4 5 been done under the research foundation where we had 6 the residential sprinklers the antifreeze directly 7 over the field package or close to it. It's all been done on the regular spacing rules of which you 8 9 can end up having for the distribution based on the 10 wider spacing and everything else. Nothing has been 11 If you're sitting on your couch or whatever done. 12 the case may be or in bed or whatever or right over your stove and the thing goes off, there is an 13 expectation that water comes out of that, that 14 basically protects you but not encouraged to fire at 15 16 that point. I don't think any of us want to do that as you're cooking watching TV and fire ignites and 17 all of a sudden the initial impact of antifreeze 18 solution in any form or fashion may end up having a 19 20 contributing factor that you light up or that individual lights up and gets severely burned. 21 Burn injury resulting from something that is supposed to 22 23 help you is not something that the general public is

going to understand. The moms and dads and children 1 are not going to understand the issue how come that 2 stuff coming out of that residential sprinkler head 3 4 that I was told by government to put in is creating 5 a particular problem. That's what we need to stop right now and until we find a right solution or 6 7 right fixture or requirements to have antifreeze go forward in residential sprinklers. It's not a 8 9 commercial aspect at this point, not the warehouse, 10 not that tiny little loading dock in the back and 11 not on the balcony. It's what happens right in your kitchen. And then the Council wasn't purview and 12 13 didn't see any of those videos done on Phase 1 or 2 where you had an entire room enclosure of what 14 There isn't a clear spot in that particular 15 occurs. room upon the ignition of the activation of that 16 sprinkler head. 17

18 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Fleming, do 19 you have a comment? 20 MR. FLEMING: Yes. I just want to 21 point out every incident of the problem we've seen 22 can be attributed to antifreeze solutions over

23 50 percent concentration. So the TIA that would ban

antifreeze solution over 50 percent is responsive to
 the problems that have been seen out there in the
 field and represents dealing with the emergency
 nature of the situation.

5 I also want to point out as we saw in the present by Mr. Wolin, the base document for the 6 7 antifreeze information is NFPA 13. NFPA 13 D picked them up from NFPA 13. You have got the necessary 8 9 votes from the NFPA 13 committee to proceed with the 10 TIA banning solutions over 50 percent. And I think you can use that for the moral authority to enforce 11 it on 13 D and 13 R as well. For consistency. 12

13 THE CHAIR: Thank you. Any questions14 from members of Council. Ms. Brodoff.

Maureen Brodoff, NFPA 15 MS. BRODOFF: Just a couple of questions. staff. 16 Ken, you mentioned non- combustible antifreeze solutions. 17 What is currently available as far as that goes and 18 are they commercially acceptable and useable. 19 20 MR. ISMAN: There is two potential

21 antifreeze solutions that are noncombustible.
22 MS. BRODOFF: I mean actually
23 available.

1 They're available. MR. ISMAN: One is a salt water brine solution and the other is called 2 potassium lactate. There are problems with both of 3 4 them which is why they're not being used at the 5 moment. The problem with the brine solution is that is really corrosive to the brass parts in the 6 7 system, and even with plastic piping system we have brass inserts that go into the fittings. And the 8 9 problem with the potassium lactate is it's got a 10 very low surface tension so it winds its way out screwed threads, and we have screwed threads in our 11 12 joints that put the sprinklers into the piping so 13 that potassium lactate leaks out, causes a very leaky sprinkler system. 14

So those kinds of things can be 15 overcome with some protection for the brass parts 16 and maybe developing another way to put sprinklers 17 in the outlets that wouldn't have screw threads that 18 might make these viable solutions. People haven't 19 20 gone to those lengths because they have had the propylene glycol and glycerine as options, but they 21 may decide on a commercial basis to look into those 22 23 things, so that's why we're saying we don't want to

Page 178 see the total ban on all antifreeze. 1 2 We're also aware of a research project that has been fast tracked by one of our 3 4 manufacturers to develop another combustible 5 solution that they hope to have on the market very 6 soon. 7 MS. BRODOFF: In the short term from what you're saying they don't appear to by viable 8 9 solutions now. 10 MR. ISMAN: There would be challenges 11 to overcome. MS. BRODOFF: So it wouldn't be 12 13 appropriate to issue a TIA, for example, limiting antifreeze to non-combustible forms that wouldn't 14 solve anything in the short term. 15 16 MR. ISMAN: No, that wouldn't. 17 MS. BRODOFF: That's all I'm trying to find out. How do you verify one of the issues 18 raised by Mr. Pilette was in the 13 D system there 19 20 is no documentation verification required. Does that raise any concerns for you about the proper 21 potential misapplication of the standard and should 22 23 any TIA or solution to the problem address that in

1 some fashion, if you can comment on that.

2 MR. ISMAN: If NFPA 13 D required some 3 limit on antifreeze solution use there could be a 4 limit on what contractors could do that are required 5 by law to follow NFPA 13 D. So I don't necessarily 6 follow his assertion that there is no limit on the 7 installation of the system.

Now the long-term maintenance is 8 9 another issue. NFPA 13 D systems are exempt from 10 maintenance NFPA 25. So NFPA 25 doesn't cover NFPA 13 D systems. So there could potentially be a 11 12 long-term maintenance problem with a system 13 originally installed with 50 percent antifreeze or say limited to 40 percent antifreeze, and the 14 initial installation would be correct as long as 15 people follow 13 D, but it's possible that over time 16 that system could become diluted. That would be the 17 worst case situation. There is no way that 18 additional antifreeze gets in unless the homeowner 19 20 on their own without contracting a knowledgeable sprinkler contractor opens up the system and pours 21 in their own antifreeze of some kind and does it 22 23 wrong. Since sprinkler systems are closed systems

under pressure, the ability for that to happen would actually be relatively small because people can't open a fill cup and poor antifreeze in. The system is under pressure. If they open a fill cup they get splashed in the face with antifreeze solution under pressure. So it is not something they can just pour in their own.

So there is probably some aspect of 8 9 maintenance that needs to be dealt with in some way 10 on a long-term basis, but I don't see it as an 11 emergency nature that we have to deal with on TIA. 12 MS. BRODOFF: I wasn't talking 13 long-term. You're operating under the assumption that the correct amount will always be put in by the 14 contractor and so no verification required, and I'm 15 questioning whether that is an assumption that can 16 be relied upon given the magnitude of the danger 17 caused by high use. 18

MR. ISMAN: What our TIAs requires which are in front of you, that the contractor use a pre-mixed solution. So the contractor wouldn't be mixing the solution on the site themselves.

23 MS. BRODOFF: I understand that. But
is it possible that a contractor might unwittingly 1 not apply the standard correctly or might just be 2 more concerned his client's pipes freezing than 3 4 about the possibility of a fire. 5 MR. ISMAN: If you want to be concerned 6 about safety issues for contractors that don't 7 follow the standard, we can make a really long list. If you are going to start worrying about contractors 8 9 not following the rule, there is lots of safety 10 problems that could occur. MS. BRODOFF: So there is not an issue 11 in your mind. 12 13 MR. ISMAN: I don't think that's a reason to ban all antifreeze solutions, no. 14 MS. BRODOFF: How about other 15 verification requirements or other methods of 16 dealing with mis-application accidental or 17 otherwise. 18 MR. ISMAN: One of the things NFPA 13 19 20 requires is before you pour the antifreeze in you take a refractometer and measure the solution 21 concentration. But again if you are going to say 22 23 you're worried about people ignoring the standard, I

don't know what you could put in the standard to 1 2 solve a problem when you are worried about people ignoring the standard. So I guess I don't 3 4 understand your question. What could we write into 5 a standard to solve a problem when your problem is 6 you're concerned with people ignoring the standard. 7 MS. BRODOFF: I'm asking the question because it seems like an issue that Mr. Pilette 8 9 railed and which from a lay person's point of view 10 certainly comes to find you could have third party verification or regular testing. I only raise the 11 12 question from what you said, and I'm not a 13 specialist, but 13 D systems don't require any maintenance or testing once they're installed. 14 That's correct. 15 MR. ISMAN: Once they're beyond the acceptance tests they don't 16 require any maintenance or testing. 17 If I may, Mr. Chair, 18 MS. BRODOFF: Mr. Pilette, do you have any comment. 19 20 MR. PILETTE: 13 D doesn't have an acceptance test criteria as well. It's very loosely 21 written over the years to promote the cost 22 23 effectiveness of sprinklers going into homes. The

antifreeze, the industry the contractors look at the 1 They worry about the liability 2 more the better. issue relative to associating with freeze protection 3 4 and pipes bursting and everything else. That's 5 where the cost factors with insurance policies and everything else, water damage, is pipe breakage. 6 So 7 hay I am going to put more stuff, of the stuff in The control of it is unfortunately you can't 8 there. 9 control the mind set of the sprinkler contractor 10 regardless of what is written there. Codes and standards and law are not written with the 11 12 assumption that people are going to ignore them so you hope that you end up reading it. This is a 13 particular item that is a design issue that allows a 14 substance that needs to be highly checked. And what 15 we're finding out now, and for the last 67 years we 16 really haven't looked at for the combustibility and 17 danger that will occur to one's life by using the 18 19 substance. We always looked at it, yes, it controls 20 the fire and then we have something out there that occurs, like I said before, in a loading dock or 21 22 something of that nature.

23

But this is a whole different

environment when we're looking at a particular 1 subset enclosed room, in your bedroom, living room, 2 and in your kitchen where we're still adding, 3 4 treating like a commercial enterprise. The 5 committee never looked at it that way before and needs to revisit this entire issue. And to 6 7 eliminate all possibilities that whatever the committee puts out there that hey, 50/50 maybe 45 or 8 9 40 percent may do the trick, but, and all the annex material that would have to be written and data 10 associated and additional testing and maintenance 11 for the homeowner, there is very little left for the 12 13 homeowner to deal with. People buy homes with residential sprinklers, they don't even know they 14 have residential sprinklers in their homes. If you 15 were to poll half the people that live in 16 residential homes with sprinklers they may not even 17 know they have sprinklers in there. They just 18 bought it from the real estate agent. 19 They paid 20 their money, walk in, 3 years down the road what is that thing sticking out of the ceiling. That's the 21

23 aspect of this thing. We need to take a look at

22

reality. We need to not look at the bean counting

real life conditions. These are people's homes. 1 2 These are not warehouses. These are not large mercantile, not shopping malls, not airport 3 4 terminals. These are individual persons' homes, and 5 the industry as a culture we look at that totally different. A person's home is his castle. Stay out 6 7 of it. Do I actually know what I have in there, there ain't no sprinkler contractor banging on doors 8 9 saying Lady, you have to take care of this stuff. 10 You may end up having antifreeze.

And the alert bulletin released by NFPA 11 12 that is not going to the homeowner. I don't see 13 homeowners and fathers and fathers and mothers looking at the alert bulletin. They're not subject 14 It's contractors, and they have a dilemma 15 to that. what to do about this issue. But for the committee 16 to go forward and to continue the use of antifreeze 17 is kind of like the wrong approach at this point 18 until the whole thing is ironed out based on the new 19 test data we have. 20

21 MR. FLEMING: If I could answer a 22 parallel situation, parallel question would be what 23 keeps contractors right now from putting antifreeze

solutions into the systems that don't meet the NFPA 1 13 requirements. Near all of the antifreeze 2 solutions allowed by NFPA are allowed because of 3 4 compatibility with public water supplies. What is 5 keeping them from throwing in Prestone or something they can buy cheaply at an auto part store. 6 We 7 haven't seen that to be a problem.

I think there is an intent to do the 8 9 right thing among the users of the standard out 10 there, and since we haven't seen them throwing all sorts of toxic antifreeze solutions into their 11 12 systems, you can have some assurance they are not 13 going to do something in violation of the standard, whereas right now they do. I heard of a guy the 14 other day who, unaware of this concern for the 15 maximum concentrations tops off the antifreeze 16 systems every time he inspections them by putting in 17 a small amount of pure antifreeze. That is the kind 18 of thing we have to address through the maximum 19 20 concentration.

I want to add one other thing. The thing about if you put the TIA out that says nothing over 50 percent, it puts arms around the problem in

a way and bounds the problem for the industry and 1 for the authorities having jurisdiction that are out 2 What comes through in the TIAs will be seen 3 there. 4 as applicable to existing systems as well as new 5 systems. And the 50 percent, if we say anything 6 over 50 percent is a problem based on the testing 7 that will at least allow everyone to focus effort on getting rid of the antifreeze exceeding 50 percent 8 9 concentrations that are out there in the field. 10 THE CHAIR: Ms. Brodoff. MS. BRODOFF: 11 With respect to existing 12 systems these TIAs by their terms cover existing 13 systems, and so whether de facto or not they will have affect on existing systems leave that aside for 14 the moment, in terms of actual standard development, 15 16 what thought has your association, for example, or the industry given to how to address the problem in 17 standards of existing systems either through 25 or I 18 understand in 13 D at less some annex material about 19 20 maintenance, whether the existing systems can be addressed through some kind of standards activity 21 since that is a critical issue at this point, I 22 23 would think, and won't be addressed by what the

Page 188 Council does today. Are you planning to take some 1 action within the standard system to address 2 existing systems, and I would address that to 3 Mr. Pilette too. 4 5 MR. FLEMING: Our association technical committee will be meeting in 2 weeks and take up 6 7 these questions, but the NFPA 13 Technical Correlating Committee at its conference call agreed 8 9 this should be referred to the NFPA 25 committee. It has not at this point been referred to the NFPA 10 25 committee for their consideration. 11 12 MS. BRODOFF: I urge you to follow up, 13 don't let it fall to the wayside if there is some issues that need to be addressed in terms of 14 15 existing systems. 16 MR. FLEMING: Let me clarify, it was the understanding of the Technical Correlating 17 Committee that NFPA would in fact refer to the NFPA 18 25 committee. 19 20 MS. BRODOFF: My comment stands. Mr. Pilette. 21 MR. PILETTE: As far as maintenance of 22 23 it currently 13 D there is no requirement for a

sprinkler contractor to leave a copy of 13 D to 1 whoever is going to occupy that house. Nobody knows 2 who is going to occupy that house. And the 3 4 contractor, he goes through a real estate broker, a 5 developer who is selling, somebody comes in and none of that document, to my knowledge, never seen 6 7 basically transmitted to the user. The user doesn't know, very plain and simple. The user as for 13 D 8 9 as the installing contractor used in that aspect and 10 that limelight, and he is using 13 D to install the system and put the antifreeze in, but the user which 11 12 is the homeowner never gets to see that document. 13 There is no requirement for him to see that 14 document.

So this is a huge issue for 15 residential, the homeowner. This is a different 16 environmental condition here. We're looking at the 17 individuals. We can't treat this issue just like 18 it's a commercial enterprise where there are 19 20 facilities managers, where there are contracts for sprinkler contractors that come in and do quarterly 21 testing to take a look at this thing. This does not 22 23 happen on a residential home. Residential occupants

do not go out and bang on doors of residential 1 sprinkler contractors and hey come in and do this 2 because I got this copy of NFPA 13 and it really 3 4 doesn't tell me anything. And I don't even know 5 what you're talking about. You can't go down to Home Depo and buy one or Lowes or any of those 6 7 places where the routine average individual homeowner shops to modify and work on his particular 8 9 house. Absolutely nothing to do with sprinkler 10 systems in any of those entities where they have just about every other tool and entity and feature 11 or modification that they can get to modify their 12 13 homes. Nothing on sprinklers.

The residential occupancy of people in 14 this country really don't know nothing about this. 15 And the government is about to basically go forward 16 across the United States to push residential 17 sprinklers. And we can't end up having the 18 government push 13 D in different editions of 13 D 19 20 saying go ahead put a substance in there that can be a contributing factor. 21

22 MS. BRODOFF: Maybe my question wasn't 23 clear. There is nothing NFPA can do to get

homeowners to read NFPA standards. But that 1 question aside, on the question of existing systems 2 which won't be covered by any TIA that the Council 3 4 can issue today, is there a place within 13 D or 5 through some action within standards to at least provide quidance to contractors and homeowners who 6 7 care to read it about what to do with existing Because other than the alert bulletin that 8 systems. 9 NFPA as a safety advocate has issued, there doesn't 10 seem to be any place within our standards where that 11 can be addressed. And I guess I'm asking is there 12 such a place and could the 13 D committee look at 13 that. Is that raising the issue. 14 Yes. 13 D can go forward MR. PILETTE: to look at that, but it's not something that is 15 going to be done 50/50 or --16 I understand. 17 MS. BRODOFF: Is there something in the annex material now, my 18 understanding is some general guidance about 19 20 maintenance. MR. PILETTE: Not a lot and I think we 21 had, is it the last cycle, this cycle, that we asked 22

23 for our scope for maintenance to be -- it was given

1 to us but it wasn't clear prior to --

2 THE CHAIR: On the record as we're 3 doing it. Did you have a question you wanted to 4 direct to staff, Mr. Pilette.

5 MR. PILETTE: No. We had a scope 6 change that requested for a scope change, to 7 basically refine the purpose to including testing and maintenance scope of 13 D to do that. So we 8 9 worked on that particular issue. But this here 10 there is a lot more information that needs to go in here for the installer and the end user of this 11 document that we don't have now. 12

13 THE CHAIR: Mr. Isman did you have a 14 comment on that topic?

15 MR. ISMAN: Yes. There are three places in the NFPA code and standards where this can 16 be addressed: NFPA 25, the annex NFPA 13 D and 17 there is in the board and care chapter of NFPA 101 18 there is care and maintenance requirements for 13 D 19 20 systems because 101 permits 13 D systems in certain small board and care facilities. So they wrote 21 22 their own care and maintenance requirements in the 23 life safety code. So there are three places it can

1 be address.

2	THE CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Bell.
3	MR. BELL: Kerry Bell, member of
4	Council. Just to comment on that element really to
5	NFPA 13 D Section 4.1.4 of the current edition of 13
б	D does require a testing of the antifreeze solution
7	right now so I assume is that reasonable that that
8	criteria relative to the maximum concentration can
9	be introduced into that section.
10	MR. ISMAN: Sure.
11	THE CHAIR: Any questions.
12	MR. LEBER: Member of Council, just
13	because I have a problem with water sometimes I may
14	not have understood everything presented, but in the
15	presentation there were a number of variables that
16	were raised as making the situation more or less
17	tenable. It was admitted we hadn't tested all of
18	those variables. I just wonder what certainty do we
19	have or how confident do you people feel in the
20	50 percent limit. I mean when we have been told
21	that pressure makes a difference, that the type of
22	sprinkler head makes a difference, that the orifice
23	makes a difference, and so forth. Do we know we're

actually dealing with the problem with the
 50 percent solution.

3 MR. FLEMING: When you go into 4 executive session I hope Mr. Wolin joins you and 5 answers all of these questions. I think this test program was based on a range of very severe 6 7 conditions. He tested from 10 psi up to 150 psi. It would be unusual to see pressures above that. 8 9 Most of your systems as we said earlier are 10 considerably below 80 psi or below. The fires were tremendous fires relative to what you would expect 11 in a residential. You would normally expect in a 12 fire that could be controlled suppressed by water. 13 These fires were not, and they were specifically 14 15 engineered to present a worst case or reasonably worst case situation. And I hope the Council will 16 consult with Mr. Wolin. As I say in my opening 17 comments, I said I was impressed by the fact it even 18 took a very big fire to get propylene glycol to get 19 20 to that flash fire condition at 50 percent solution. A fire that you would not expect to find in a 21 residence or any normally occupied habitable 22 23 occupancy.

The two fires that we do 1 MR. PILETTE: have in Utah and California, there is no way of 2 telling what the actual mixture of antifreeze was. 3 4 It's gone. People are relying on document and 5 hearsay. What happened to the other building over They did this they did that. We have no 6 there. 7 definitive answer of what actually occurred. But we do know and what seems to be factual at this point, 8 9 antifreeze was involved.

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10 So the thing is two fires, one dead, 11 three fire injuries, antifreeze was involved, and different pressures, different types of sprinkler 12 13 head, different I believe the K factors might have been the same. Antifreeze was involved. I don't 14 think the industry can sustain another one of those 15 conditions a third time and when it's still at the 16 same time if that should occur and the committee, 17 NFPA is still promoting the use of antifreeze when 18 it knows that antifreeze was part of something that 19 20 occurred. And none of the investigation in the testing program has gone to that particular area. 21 22 So the Council needs to take that,

that's why there needs to be a stop to it at the

23

moment so we know with absolute certainly. 1 We cannot promote a combustible material and dilute it 2 in some form or fashion to cause another fire injury 3 4 another death at this point in time as we go 5 forward. What we do with all the existing conditions that needs to be addressed at well. 6 7 That's a very real issue, reality issue, but the aspect of it we know to work on the solution to find 8 9 the problem. Now with the existing conditions, we 10 can't go forward saying keep on doing it. That's in effect by saying not stop the use of antifreeze 11 until we know for sure, keep on doing it until we 12 13 find out some more. At this point in time. 14 MR. LEBER: Anyone else. I have to object. 15 MR. FLEMING: I believe that's a misrepresentation of the facts with 16 regard to the incidents that occur. I think the 17 sampling of antifreeze solutions and adjacent drops 18 on the same system is a pretty good indication of 19 20 the antifreeze concentration that were in place at the time of those incidents. 21 22 That was the 70 percent. MR. LEBER:

MR. FLEMING: 60 to 70 percent.

23

1 THE CHAIR: Mr. Isman, do you have a 2 comment?

ISMAN: Yes, just to get back to 3 MR. 4 your question, a wide range of different types and 5 sizes and deflector types of sprinkler were looked 6 at during this particular research program. A wide 7 range of pressures were tested. A wide range of fire conditions were tested. A lot of worse case 8 9 conditions were thrown at the sprinklers and the 10 situations. I feel very confident that we know 11 enough now to start writing some TIAs and some 12 standards and code language. No research program is perfect, but I think this research program gives us 13 the base information we need to move forward. 14 It would be nice to see some future research on some of 15 these finer aspects of some of these issues, but 16 ultimately the residential sprinklers while their 17 droplet patterns may be slightly different coming 18 off deflectors, they're all designed to pass the 19 20 same test. So they're all going to be similar enough, I think, we can move forward with the 21 22 research we have.

23

THE CHAIR: Any final questions from

1 Council? While still on the record, Mr. Wolin, did 2 you have any comments that you want to add to the 3 record based on the discussions that you heard or 4 any perspective you want to offer to the Council at 5 this point.

The only thing I'd like to 6 MR. WOLIN: 7 make sure, clear, is that ignition source used in the scope A test for instance the 8-foot long 6-foot 8 9 wide pan, the reason it was configured like that was 10 to provide ignition sources spatially separating so over a long distance. The ultimate size of the fire 11 12 wasn't the consideration there. So for instance, you may not take 8 foot long 6 foot wide, ignition 13 may be a single 12-inch round cast iron pan with 14 cooking oil that could cause the same ignition but 15 only if it is in the right location along there. 16 Ι hate to really get caught up in the size of the 17 ignition source in terms of the total fire size. 18 Ignition source have very specific purpose, if 19 20 anywhere within the area of the length of that ignition source there is a mix that to be burned to 21 22 make that happen.

23

THE CHAIR: Thank you. I bring this

hearing to a close. We covered a lot of ground a
lot of leeway with the questions from the Council.
Very quickly are there any final remarks from any of
you an item that we haven't covered. I think from
the Council perspective we gather where you sort of
stand on the TIAs at this point but just any last
final comment. Mr. Isman.

8 MR. ISMAN: I just want to thank the 9 NFPA and the Research Foundation and Code 10 Consultants for doing an amazing amount of research 11 in a very short period of time. It was quite a feat 12 that they accomplished and we really appreciate the 13 data we have got to work with now. Thank you.

14THE CHAIR: Thank you. Mr. Hague.15MR. HAGUE: One final comment. We've16used antifreeze for a considerable period of time17and I don't think it's appropriate to -- the back18order at this point. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIR: Mr. Pilette.

20 MR. PILETTE: The antifreeze needs to 21 be looked at and highly considered to make the 22 distinction between the homeowner and his domicile 23 as opposed to walking around in the atrium mall that

1 is significant in today's lifestyle.

Thank you. Mr. Fleming. 2 THE CHAIR: I'd just like to echo Mr. 3 MR. FLEMING: Isman's remarks, UL, and Code Consultants putting 4 5 together a really great program and couldn't have been done without Kathleen Oldman's direction. 6 7 Remarkable what was accomplished in such a short amount of time. 8

9 THE CHAIR: With that I am going to bring this hearing to a close. The Council extends 10 appreciation to all of you for being here today. 11 This is an extremely important topic. We appreciate 12 13 your time and effort that you took to be here. We appreciate the presentation you provided to us, very 14 beneficial to the Council going forward. This was 15 the hearing on the subject of the TIAs with respect 16 to the Council's decision on those TIAs issued by 17 written decision. No member of Council no member of 18 staff will convey any information associated with 19 that decision, that written communication will be 20 the only communication from the Council. With that 21 I will close this hearing and we'll go off the 22 23 record.

1	(Off the record discussion.
2	Meeting concluded at 12:58
3	p.m.)
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5	CERTIFICATE
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10	
11	I hereby certify that the foregoing 200 pages
12	contain a full, true and correct transcription of
13	all my stenographic notes to the best of my ability
14	taken in the above-captioned matter at said time and
15	place commencing at 8:00 a.m.
16	
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20	Carol DiFazio
21	Registered Professional Reporter
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