



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-8000

JAN - 9 2013

Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee  
c/o Robert Solomon, Project Manager  
National Fire Protection Association  
1 Batterymarch Park  
Quincy, MA 92619-7471

Dear Committee Member:

At the request of Congress, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) recently completed a review of the ventilation systems and air quality in manufactured homes. The final GAO 13-52 report entitled, "Manufactured Housing Standards: Testing and Performance Evaluation Could Better Ensure Safe Indoor Air Quality" was issued October 24, 2012.

The GAO Report made the following two recommendations:

To better ensure that air ventilation systems in manufactured homes perform as specified and meet the HUD code, we recommend that HUD develop an appropriate method to test and validate the performance of the ventilation system as part of the HUD certification process.

To ensure that its specification for airflow continues to be appropriate, we recommend that HUD reassess the assumptions for the whole-house ventilation specification, working with the MHCC, to determine the appropriate rates, taking into consideration current natural air infiltration, to achieve the whole-house ventilation performance, considering the expected impact such ventilation would have on indoor air quality.

In response to the GAO Report, the Department agreed to bring the GAO recommendations before the Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee (MHCC) for its consideration. The purpose of this letter is to transmit a copy of the GAO Report to the members of the MHCC through the Administering Organization, NFPA, for review, consideration and appropriate action.

We look forward to future discussions with the MHCC with regard to these important recommendations to further enhance and improve indoor air quality levels in manufactured homes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Henry S. Czauski".

Henry S. Czauski  
Acting Deputy Administrator  
Office of Manufactured Housing Programs

Enclosure