6 October 2015

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Standards Council Decision (Final): D#15-4

| Standards Council Agenda Item: | SC#15-8-4-a |
| Date of Decision: | 19 August 2015 |
| NFPA 24, Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances, 2016 Edition |

Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 17-19, 2015, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter. On August 21, 2015, NFPA issued the Council’s decision on the appeal in the form of a “Short” decision which briefly stated the outcome of the appeal and which indicated that a full Final decision on the appeal would be issued in due course and sent to all parties as soon as it became available.

The Council’s Final decision is now available and is attached herewith.

Sincerely,

Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council

c: D. Berry, S. Everett, L. Fuller, R. Bielen, M. Klaus
Members, TC on Private Water Supply Piping Systems (AUT-PRI)
Members, CC on Automatic Sprinkler Systems (AUT-AAC)
Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)
Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary
SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to deny the appeal to Accept Public Comment Nos. 2 and 16, and Reject an Identifiable Part of Second Revision No. 3.

DECISION:
At its meeting of August 17-19, 2015, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Ariel Carp of Buenos Aires, Argentina regarding issuance of NFPA 24, Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances, 2016 Edition. Mr. Carp sought Standards Council action to Accept Public Comment Nos. 2 and 16, and to Reject an Identifiable Part of Second Revision No. 3. Specifically, Mr. Carp seeks to retain reference to “AWWA M11, A Guide for Steel Pipe Design and Installation” by rejecting an Identifiable Part of Second Revision No. 3.

The Council, having reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and having considered all the arguments put forth in this appeal, has voted to deny the appeal. The Council further voted to issue NFPA 24, Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances, 2016 Edition in accordance with the recommendations of the Technical Committee on Private Water Supply Piping Systems (TC) and of the Correlating Committee on Automatic Sprinklers (CC).

As background, the appellant filed a Notice of Intent to File a Motion (NITMAM) in compliance with NFPA Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards (Regs) which was certified by the Motions Committee for presentation at the 2015 NFPA Technical Meeting (Tech Session). Certified Amending Motion 24-1 sought to accept Public Comment Nos. 2 and 16, and to Reject an Identifiable Part of Second Revision No. 3. Although Certified, Motion 24-1 was not made at the 2015 Tech Session, therefore no action was taken by the membership and the document was forwarded to the Standards Council for issuance. Mr. Carp filed his appeal with the Standards Council on June 18, 2015 seeking the actions specified above.

On appeal, the Council accords great respect and deference to the NFPA standards development process. In conducting its review, the Council will deviate from the result recommended through that process only where a clear and substantial basis for doing so is demonstrated. The Council has reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and has considered all the arguments put forth in this appeal.
The present appeal requests that the Council overturn the action recommended by the standards development process. In the view of the Council, this appeal does not present any clear and substantial basis upon which to overturn the results yielded by the NFPA standards development process. Simply put, the text subject to appeal did not gain sufficient support within the TC for inclusion in the 2016 edition of NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*. Finding no procedural errors, the Council has denied the appeal.

Important to note, and as identified by Mr. Carp, the record regarding the actions of the TC are somewhat confusing. Despite the TC’s action on Public Comment No. 16 being recorded as “Accepted”, the record is clear through both the processing of Second Revisions and balloting of the text of NFPA 24 that the TC did not intend to “Accept” Public Comment No. 16 in its entirety but rather intended to “Reject but See”.

The TC action was mislabeled during processing. Had the TC “Accepted” Public Comment No. 16 in its entirety, the text of NFPA 24 would include a reference to the 2004 edition of AWWA M11, *A Guide for Steel Pipe Design and Installation*. However, the reference to this guide was clearly intended to be removed from the standard. Additionally, the TC’s action of Second Revision No. 3 deleted AWWA M11 because it “does not appear in mandatory chapters” according to the TC substantiation for Second Revision No. 3.

In the NFPA standards development process, revisions represent the changes proposed by the TC. Revisions are balloted to determine if consensus of the TC, and if applicable the CC, has been achieved. The text of NFPA 24 that was balloted did not include the reference to the AWWA Guide. Throughout the process of TC/CC review and balloting of revisions to NFPA 24, there were no comments or negative votes from TC/CC members claiming that the text of the TC’s revisions, as reflected in the ballots, was incorrect or did not reflect the TC’s intent.

The Council believes that the actions of both the TC and the CC were clear on this matter; their actions in both processing Second Revision No. 3 and balloting results (with no negative comments regarding the text) are clear indications of the TC/CC’s intentions relative to AWWA M11.

All Standards Council members participated in the consideration, deliberation, and voted on this issue.