



Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, Standards Council

8 August 2016

To: Interested Parties

Subject:

Standards Council Decision (Final):	D#16-3
Standards Council Agenda Item:	SC#16-8-1-a-1
Date of Decision*:	4 August 2016
NFPA 25, <i>Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems</i> , 2017 Edition	

Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 3 – 4, 2016, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter. The Council's Final decision is now available and is attached herewith.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dawn Michele Bellis".

Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council

cc: D. Berry, S. Everett, L. Fuller, R. Bielen, C. Duffy
Members, Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of
Water-Based Systems (INM-AAA)
Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)
Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary

*NOTE: Participants in NFPA's codes and standards making process should know that limited review of this decision may be sought from the NFPA Board of Directors. For the rules describing the available review and the method for petitioning the Board for review, please consult section 1-7 of the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards and the NFPA Regulations Governing Petitions to the Board of Directors from Decisions of the Standards Council. Notice of the intent to file such a petition must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Directors within 15 calendar days of the Date of Decision noted in the subject line of this letter.



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SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): *The Standards Council voted to deny the appeal to overturn the Technical Committee ballot results on CAM 25-1 and Accept Public Comment No. 4.*

DECISION:

At its meeting of August 3 – 4, 2016, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Joe Scibetta of Suwanee, Georgia. The appeal requests that the Standards Council overturn the Technical Committee amendment ballot results for CAM 25-1 and thereby Accept Public Comment No. 4 for the 2017 Edition of NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*. Specifically, the appeal requests the inclusion of a definition for the term “exercise” with regard to the testing and maintenance of systems and components as Section 3.3.11 of the 2017 Edition of NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*.

As background, the Technical Committee rejected Public Comment No. 4. Mr. Scibetta filed a Notice of Intent to Make a Motion (NITMAM) which was certified by the Motions Committee as CAM 25-1. CAM 25-1 passed on the floor of the NFPA Technical Meeting. However, the amendment ballot failed to achieve the necessary 2/3 affirmative vote necessary to recommend approval of the Association action by the Technical Committee.

The text subject to appeal did not gain sufficient support within the standards development process for inclusion in the 2017 Edition of NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*. The appeal requests that the Council overturn the results yielded by the standards development process. On appeal, the Council accords great respect and deference to the NFPA standards development process. In conducting its review, the Council will overturn the results of 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. 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. Accordingly, the Council has voted to deny the appeal. The effect of this action is that the 2017 Edition of NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems* will not include Public Comment No. 4.