



Dawn Michele Bellis  
Secretary, Standards Council

1 September 2017

To: Interested Parties

Subject:

|   |                       |
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| Standards Council Decision (Final):   | <b>D#17-7 REVISED</b> |
| Standards Council Agenda Item:  | <b>SC#17-8-25-c-1</b> |
| Date of Decision*:  | 17 August 2017        |
| TIA No. 1264 on NFPA 285, <i>Standard Fire Test Method for Evaluation of Fire Propagation Characteristics of Exterior Non-Load-Bearing Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Components</i> , 2018 Edition |                       |

Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 15 - 17, 2017, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter.

Please note that a correction has been made to the final decision that was sent yesterday for Council agenda item #17-8-25-c-1. Specifically, the current edition of NFPA 285 was corrected in the second to last paragraph of the decision (see bold below). The remainder of the decision is unchanged.

“Additionally,...the existing **(2012)** edition of NFPA 285... *Regs.*”

Attached is the final decision on the matter.

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. Solomon, T. Vecchiarelli  
Members, TC Fire Tests (FIZ-AAA)  
Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)  
Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary

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\*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 (Regs.) and the NFPA Regulations Governing Petitions to the Board of Directors from Decisions of the Standards Council. Since this Council decision is not "related to the issuance of a document" as referenced in 1.7.2 of the Regs., notice of the intent to file such a petition must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Directors within a reasonable time period.



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**SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision):** The Standards Council voted to take no action on the appeal to overturn the Technical Committee votes on emergency nature resulting in the non-issuance of Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) No. 1264 on the 2018 Edition of NFPA 285, *Standard Fire Test Method for Evaluation of Fire Propagation Characteristics of Exterior Non-Load-Bearing Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Components*.

**DECISION:**

At its meeting of August 15-17, 2017, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Marcelo M. Hirschler of GBH International, regarding issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) No. 1264 on the 2018 Edition of NFPA 285, *Standard Fire Test Method for Evaluation of Fire Propagation Characteristics of Exterior Non-Load-Bearing Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Components*. Specifically, the appeal seeks to revise the 2018 edition of the standard to clarify that requirements apply to exterior walls with combustible components regardless of whether or not the buildings on which these walls are installed are combustible or non-combustible construction.

As background, TIA No. 1264 was balloted through the Technical Committee on Fire Tests (TC) in accordance with the *Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards (Regs)*, to determine whether the necessary three-fourths majority support was achieved on technical merit, correlation and emergency nature required to establish recommendation for issuance. The ballot achieved the necessary three-fourths majority with regard to technical merit but fell one vote shy of receiving the necessary votes on emergency nature.

When a TIA fails to achieve the recommendation of the responsible committee on both merit and emergency nature, the resulting recommendation of the standards development process is to not issue the TIA. The appeal, however, requests that the Council overturn the action recommended by the standards development process, and issue TIA No. 1264. The Council has determined to take no action on the TIA in light of the decision to return the 2018 edition of NFPA 285 to the technical committee for further processing in accordance with Standards Council Decision #17-1. The Appellant may choose to participate in the continued processing of NFPA 285 in accordance with this decision.

Additionally, the appellant or any other interested party may choose to initiate a TIA on the existing (2012) edition of NFPA 285. Should such a proposed TIA come before the Council for processing, the Council will consider it promptly and in accordance with the *Regs*.

The effect of this action is that TIA No. 1264 for the proposed 2018 Edition of NFPA 285, *Standard Fire Test Method for Evaluation of Fire Propagation Characteristics of Exterior Non-Load-Bearing Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Components* is not issued.