Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 13-15, 2018, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter. The Council’s Final decision is now available and is attached herewith.

Sincerely,

Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council

cc: S. Everett, L. Fuller, S. Gallagher, R. Roux, S. Frost
    Members, CC Signaling Systems for the Protection of Life and Property (SIG-AAC)
    Members, TC Single- and Multiple-Station Alarms and Household Signaling Systems (SIG-HOU)
    Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)
    Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary

*NOTE: Participants in NFPA’s standards development 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.
Standards Council Decision (Final): D#18-8
Standards Council Agenda Item: SC#18-8-24-d
Date of Decision*: 14 August 2018
TIA No. 1346 on NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®, 2019 Edition

SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to uphold the appeal to overturn the results yielded by the standards development process and issue TIA No. 1346 on NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®, 2016 Edition.

DECISION:
At its meeting of August 13-15, 2018, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Wendy Gifford, Chicago, Illinois. The appeal requests that the Standards Council issue the proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (“TIA”) No. 1346 on the 2016 Edition of NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code® although the TIA failed to achieve the necessary ¾ affirmative votes on emergency nature by the NFPA 72® Correlating Committee.

As background, Wendy Gifford submitted a TIA to the 2016 edition of NFPA 72®, proposing to delete Section 29.7.3 in its entirety. Section 29.7.3 established a requirement for smoke alarm and smoke detector systems to be listed for resistance to common nuisance sources. TIA No. 1346 passed the ballot of the Technical Committee on both technical merit and emergency nature. TIA No. 1346 passed ballot of the Correlating Committee on technical merit, but failed to achieve the necessary ¾ affirmative votes on emergency nature.

The appeal requests that Council overturn the NFPA 72® Correlating Committee ballot results and issue the TIA. The TIA was filed to address the fact that the UL Technical Panel charged with developing tests to meet the listing requirement determined that resistance to cooking nuisance was sufficient and therefore no device will be listed to other “common sources.” As noted by Ms. Gifford in her substantiation for the TIA, this language has been removed by the responsible Technical Committee in the 2019 Edition of NFPA 72®.

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 this case, based upon all information presented, the Council finds sufficient basis to issue TIA No. 1346. Accordingly, the Council has voted to issue TIA No. 1346 and uphold the appeal. The effect of this action is that the 2016 Edition of NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code® will no longer include the text of Section 29.7.3, as proposed in TIA No. 1346 (see attached).
Tentative Interim Amendment

NFPA® 72®

National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®

2016 Edition

Reference: 29.7.3
TIA 16-2
(SC 18-8-24 / TIA Log #1346)

Pursuant to Section 5 of the NFPA Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards, the National Fire Protection Association has issued the following Tentative Interim Amendment to NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®, 2016 edition. The TIA was processed by the Technical Committee on Single- and Multiple-Station Alarms and Household Signaling Systems, and the Correlating Committee on Signaling Systems for the Protection of Life and Property, and was issued by the Standards Council on August 14, 2018, with an effective date of September 3, 2018.

A Tentative Interim Amendment is tentative because it has not been processed through the entire standards-making procedures. It is interim because it is effective only between editions of the standard. A TIA automatically becomes a public input of the proponent for the next edition of the standard; as such, it then is subject to all of the procedures of the standards-making process.

1. Delete 29.7.3 in its entirety:

  29.7.3 Resistance to Nuisance Source. Effective January 1, 2019, smoke alarms and smoke detectors used in household fire alarm systems shall be listed for resistance to common nuisance sources.

Issue Date: August 14, 2018
Effective Date: September 3, 2018

(Note: For further information on NFPA Codes and Standards, please see www.nfpa.org/docinfo)

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