



Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, Standards Council

21 August 2019*

To: Interested Parties

Subject:

Standards Council Decision (Final):	D#19-15
Standards Council Agenda Item:	SC#19-8-38-d
Date of Decision:	6 August 2019
<i>TIA No. 1422 to NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting, 2016 Edition</i>	

Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 5-7, 2019, 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: S. Everett, S. Gallagher, L. Fuller, D. Trebisacci, E. Conlin
Members, TC on Wildland Fire Fighting Protective Clothing and Equipment (FAE-WFF)
Members, CC on Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment (FAE-AAC)
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 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 publication date of this Decision.



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SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to deny the appeal seeking to overturn the Technical Committee’s Action and Issue TIA No. 1422 on NFPA 1977, *Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting*, 2016 Edition.

DECISION:

At its meeting of August 5-7, 2019, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Korena Hallam of GREEN BUFFALOW, Ltd. The appeal requests that the Standards Council overturn the Technical Committee’s ballot results and issue TIA No. 1422 on NFPA 1977, *Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting*, 2016 Edition. Specifically, the appeal requests that the Standards Council issue TIA No. 1422 which seeks to revise Table 6.1.14.3(a); revise cross references to 6.1.14.3; and add new Table 6.1.14.3(d). The proposed text is intended to provide clarification to minimum sizing requirements for protective upper torso garments, including a dedicated table of women’s sizing.

As background, TIA No. 1422 was balloted through the Technical Committee on Wildland Fire Fighting Protective Clothing and Equipment (TC) and the Correlating Committee on Fire and Emergency Services Protective Clothing and Equipment (CC) 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 failed the TC on both technical and emergency nature, while the CC ballot passed on correlation and emergency nature.

When a TIA fails to achieve the recommendation of the responsible committees, the resulting recommendation of the standards development process is to not issue the TIA.

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 2016 Edition of NFPA 1977, *Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting* will not include the text of TIA No. 1422.

The Council notes that a task group of interested parties has already been assembled to further review minimum sizing requirements for protective upper torso garments, and, if appropriate, propose a revised Tentative Interim Amendment. Council encourages the task group to continue this work, and also encourages stakeholders and the Technical Committee to continue working on this issue within the current revision cycle.