



Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, Standards Council

10 September 2021*

To: Interested Parties

Subject:

Standards Council Decision (Final):	D#21-7
Standards Council Agenda Item:	SC#21-8-15-a; -b; and -c
Date of Decision:	26 August 2021
NFPA 2001, <i>Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems</i> , 2022 Edition	

Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of August 24-26, 2021, the Standards Council considered appeals 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, B. Chase
Members, TC on Gaseous Fire Extinguishing Systems (GFE-AAA)
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 appeals requesting the Council to overturn the Association Action on CAM 2001-5/2001-9 and Reject Second Revision No. 24.

DECISION:

At its meeting of August 24-26, 2021, the Standards Council considered three appeals from Thomas Wysocki of Guardian Services, Inc.; Mark L. Robin, PhD, of The Chemours Company; and John G. Owens of 3M. The appeals request that the Standards Council overturn the Association Action and Reject Second Revision No. 24 for the 2022 Edition of NFPA 2001, *Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems*. Specifically, the appeals request to amend multiple sections of the standard to remove references to a clean agent known as Halocarbon Blend-55 (or HB-55), which was newly introduced to the standard.

As background, the Technical Committee on Gaseous Fire Extinguishing Systems (TC) voted to approve Second Revision No. 24 at second draft. Two Notices of Intent to Make a Motion (NITMAM) were filed, one by Mr. Robin and one by Mr. Owen, and were certified by the Motions Committee, then presented for debate during the NFPA Technical Meeting as CAM 2001-5/2001-9. CAM 2001-5/2001-9 failed to achieve the necessary simple majority support of the Membership during the NFPA Technical Meeting. Mr. Robin, Mr. Owen, and Mr. Wysocki filed appeals with the Council based upon the unsuccessful result of CAM 2001-5/2001-9.

The text subject to the appeal of CAM 2001-5/2001-9 did not gain sufficient support within the standards development process to Reject Second Revision No. 24 from the 2022 Edition of NFPA 2001, *Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems*. The appeals request 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 finds no such basis demonstrated in this matter.

The appellants, who are all members of the TC, raised concerns that in approving Second Revision No. 24, the TC failed to follow criteria included within NFPA 2001 which it established to evaluate clean agents prior to recognition and inclusion in the standard. Appellants allege that the TC, in fact, did not evaluate HB-55 in a manner equivalent to the process used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP). Appellants also claim that the TC failed to seek and consider sufficient technical data to substantiate the inclusion of HB-55 in NFPA 2001.

The Council generally defers to the TC on matters of technical substantiation because the TC is the balanced consensus body with expertise related to the standard and in the best position to thoroughly evaluate technical, scientific data. The record reflects that the TC discussed and evaluated the proposed clean agent, HB-55. (See Second Draft Meeting Minutes, October 7, 2020, "Honeywell presented the status of a new agent for consideration. The US EPA confirmed the status of SNAP approval. The committee voted to

add the new agent to the standard.”) Results of the Second Draft ballot show that the TC overwhelmingly voted to approve Second Revision No. 24 to include HB-55 (23 affirmative votes in support, 4 negative). Council also heard testimony that HB-55 has since received SNAP approval, which is consistent with the record of the Second Draft Meeting Minutes from October 2020.

The Council has reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and has considered all the arguments put forth in the appeals. In the view of the Council, these appeals do 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 appeals. The effect of this action is that NFPA 2001, *Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems*, 2022 edition, will include the text of Second Revision No. 24.

Council encourages the appellants to submit Public Input for the next revision cycle or to consider developing a Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) if they believe this matter warrants further technical review by the TC between revision cycles.