

**Staff Liaison Report to Standards Council on 680.26(B) Task Group.**

At the direction of the Standards Council in their decision D#22-13, NFPA staff formed a task group “to review the new and/or additional data cited by the Appellant: namely the 2021 U.S. Coast Guard Report referenced during the hearing, the results of the most recent EPRI report, the case studies brought forward in the recent (and related) TIA No. 1661 and any other new and existing reports reference on this topic.” The task group was chaired by Scott Harding (chair of NEC Code-Making Panel 5) and consisted of the following members:

Member	Representing/CMP if applicable
1. Harding, Scott – Chair <a href="mailto:gsh@fbharding.com">gsh@fbharding.com</a>	Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc/Chair CMP 5
2. Dorr, Douglas <a href="mailto:DDORR@epri.com">DDORR@epri.com</a>	EPRI
3. Hamilton, E.P. <a href="mailto:ephainc@ephainc.com">ephainc@ephainc.com</a>	CMP 17/Pool & Hot Tub Alliance
4. Hartwell, Fred <a href="mailto:fhartwell@compuserve.com">fhartwell@compuserve.com</a>	Hartwell Electrical Services – Appellant on CAM 70-117
5. Miller, Einstein <a href="mailto:emiller@cpsc.gov">emiller@cpsc.gov</a>	CMP 17/CPSC (Nonvoting)
6. Jackson, Pete <a href="mailto:pjackson@bakersfieldcity.us">pjackson@bakersfieldcity.us</a>	NEC CC
7. Colston, Jacob <a href="mailto:jccolsto@southernco.com">jccolsto@southernco.com</a>	CMP 17/EEI
8. Kuscsik, Stephen <a href="mailto:stephen.kuscsik@ul.com">stephen.kuscsik@ul.com</a>	CMP 17/UL
9. Querry, Dennis Michael <a href="mailto:querrym@trinityra.org">querrym@trinityra.org</a>	CMP 17/ IEC
10. Norwalk, Matthew <a href="mailto:matthew.norwalk@sce.com">matthew.norwalk@sce.com</a>	Chair-IEEE Stray and Contact Voltage Working Group
11. Jiang, Hai <a href="mailto:hai.jiang@ul.com">hai.jiang@ul.com</a>	UL Solutions

The task group first met on October 4, 2022. Prior to the meeting a shared folder was provided to the task group, which contained all publicly available documents referenced, shared or submitted to CMP 17. The task group chair discussed the Standards Council direction and created two sub-task groups with the same charge of reviewing all the relevant information in the shared folder and develop recommendations for the full task group. Daniel Dorr and Michael Querry each chaired a sub task group. Prior to formation of the task groups, the chair provided each member with an opportunity to share their current position on the topic and used this feedback to ensure that there was a balance of interests and positions represented on each sub-task group. Each of the sub task groups met several times and discussed all information provided in the shared folder. It became evident in these discussions there was a clear difference of opinion on the efficacy of the perimeter bonding means currently permitted in 680.26(B).

The full task group reconvened on October 28, 2022. The recommendations of the two sub task groups were presented and discussed. The full task group agreed to move forward with two TIAs.

The full task group met two more times to finalize TIAs and at their meeting on 11/11/2022 agreed to a recommended tentative interim amendment and accompanying substantiation.