Dawn Michele Bellis  
Secretary, Standards Council  
1 December 2014  

To: Interested Parties  

Subject: Standards Council Decision (Final): D#14-9 (REVISED)  

Standards Council Agenda Item: SC#14-10-2-d  
Date of Decision: 29 October 2014  
TIA No. 1157 on NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®, 2014 Edition  

Dear Interested Parties:  

At the October 28-29, 2014 meeting, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter.  

Please note that corrections have been made to the final decision that was sent out earlier today for Council agenda item #14-10-2-d. Specifically, two typographical errors (in bold below) were corrected and are found in the first paragraph of the DECISION section. The rest of the decision remains unchanged.  

“At its meeting … Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) No. … limited care facilities to have a means to indicate power is being supplied to the receptacle.”  

Attached is the final decision on the matter.  

Sincerely,  

Dawn Michele Bellis  
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council  

c: D. Berry, S. Everett, L. Fuller, M. Earley, W. Burke, J. Hart, R. Bielen  
Members, NEC Code-Making Panel 15 (NEC-P15)  
Members, NEC Correlating Committee (NEC-AAC)  
Members, TC on Electrical Systems (HEA-ELS)  
Members, CC on Health Care Facilities (HEA-AAC)  
Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)  
Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary
SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to uphold the appeal to overturn the action of the Code-Making Panel and Correlating Committee regarding TIA No. 1157 on the 2014 edition of NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®, and issue the TIA.

DEcision:
At its meeting of October 28-29, 2014, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Walter Vernon of Mazzetti regarding the issuance of proposed Tentative Interim Amendment (TIA) No. 1157 on the 2014 edition of NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®. The appeal sought Standards Council action to overturn the action of the NEC Correlating Committee. Specifically, the appeal seeks to delete a requirement in Section 517.41(E) which calls for certain receptacles in nursing home and limited care facilities to have a means to indicate power is being supplied to the receptacle.

The proposed receptacle indicator requirement reads as follows:

…Nonlocking-type, 125-volt, 15- and 20-ampere receptacles shall have an illuminated face or an indicator light to indicate that there is power to the receptacle.

As background, TIA No. 1157 was balloted through Code-Making Panel 15 (CMP) and the National Electrical Code® Correlating Committee (CC) in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards (Regs), to determine if the necessary three-fourths majority affirmative support on technical merit, correlation and emergency nature required to establish a recommendation for issuance was reached. The ballot failed both the CMP and CC on technical merit, correlation and emergency. Four comments were received on the TIA, including one from the CC Chair, Michael J. Johnston, following balloting of the CMP and CC.

When a TIA fails to achieve the recommendation of the responsible committees on both technical 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. 1157. Although a hearing was requested, the appellant did not appear at the meeting so the appeal was decided by the Council based on the written submissions of the appellant and others who commented on the appeal. The Council reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and has considered all arguments put forth in this appeal.

The Council notes that a similar appeal was previously considered and decided during the July 29-31, 2013 Standards Council meeting (see Standards Council Decision Number...
D#13-5; Standards Council Agenda Item #13-8-3-o). In the 2013 decision, the Council addressed parallel issues regarding essential electric systems for hospitals contained in section 517.30(E) of NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®. In that case, the Standards Council upheld the appeal thereby deleting the proposed new requirement for certain receptacles in hospitals to have a means to indicate power is being supplied to them. The basis for doing so was the Council’s conclusion that the requirement was a performance requirement belonging to NFPA 99, not an installation requirement belonging to NFPA 70.

Although the Council is reluctant to reject the results reached during the standards development process, in this case the Council believes action is appropriate for the same reasons described in Decision D#13-5.

The effect of this action is to issue the TIA to remove the language regarding lighted receptacles in Section 517.41(E) from the Standard.