

Dated: July 11, 2003.
Jeffrey Anspacher,
Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

National Fire Codes: Request for Comments on NFPA Technical Committee Reports

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) revises existing standards and adopts new standards twice a year. At its November meeting or its May meeting, the NFPA acts on recommendations made by its technical committees.

The purpose of this notice is to request comments on the technical reports that will be presented at NFPA's 2004 May meeting. The publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of NFPA is being undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the standards referenced in the notice.

DATES: The National Electrical Code is published in a separate Report on Proposals and is available about July 11, 2003, on the NFPA Web site <http://www.nfpa.org/nec/TheNEC/ROPsROCs/2003ROP/2003ROP.asp>. Comments

received on or before October 31, 2003, will be considered by the National Electrical Code Panels before NFPA takes final action on the proposals.

Thirty-one reports are published in the 2004 May Meeting Report on Proposals and will be available on August 1, 2003. Comments received on or before October 10, 2003, will be considered by the respective NFPA Committees before final action is taken on the proposals.

ADDRESSES: The 2004 May Meeting Report on Proposals and the NEC® Report on Proposals are available and downloadable from NFPA's Web site—<http://www.nfpa.org> or by requesting a copy from the NFPA, Fulfillment Center, 11 Tracy Drive, Avon, Massachusetts 02322. Comments on the report should be submitted to Casey C. Grant, Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, P. O. Box 9101, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Casey C. Grant, Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101, (617) 770-3000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) develops building, fire, and electrical safety codes and standards. Federal agencies frequently use these codes and standards as the basis for developing federal regulations concerning fire safety. Often, the Office of the Federal Register approves the incorporation by reference of these standards under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

Revisions of existing standards and adoption of new standards are reported by the technical committees at the NFPA's November meeting or at the May meeting each year. The NFPA invites public comment on its Report on Proposals.

Request for Comments

Interested persons may participate in these revisions by submitting written data, views, or arguments to Casey C. Grant, Secretary, Standards Council, NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101. Commenters may use the forms provided for comments in the Reports on Proposals. Each person submitting a comment should include his or her name and address, identify the notice, and give reasons for any recommendations. Comments received on or before October 10, 2003, for the 2004 May Meeting Report on Proposals or October 31, 2003, for the NEC® Report on Proposals will be considered by the NFPA before final action is taken on the proposals.

Copies of all written comments received and the disposition of those comments by the NFPA committees will be published as the 2004 May Meeting Report on Comments by April 2, 2004, or on April 8, 2004, for the NEC® Report on Comments, prior to the May meeting.

A copy of the Report on Comments will be sent automatically to each commenter. Action on the reports of the Technical Committees (adoption or rejection) will be taken at the May meeting, May 23-27, 2004, in Salt Lake City, Utah, by NFPA members.

2004 MAY MEETING REPORT ON PROPOSALS

Doc No.	Title	Action
NFPA 32	Standard for Drycleaning Plants	C
NFPA 45	Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals	C
NFPA 70	National Electrical Code®	P
NFPA 91	Standard for Exhaust Systems for Air Conveying of Vapors, Gases, Mists, and Noncombustible Particulate Solids ...	C
NFPA 96	Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations	P
NFPA 120	Standard for Coal Preparation Plants	C
NFPA 121	Standard on Fire Protection for Self-Propelled and Mobile Surface Mining Equipment	W
NFPA 122	Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Underground Metal and Nonmetal Mines	C
NFPA 123	Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Underground Bituminous Coal Mines	W
NFPA 241	Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Operations	P
NFPA 271	Standard Method of Test for Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter.	P
NFPA 302	Fire Protection Standard for Pleasure and Commercial Motor Craft	P
NFPA 405	Recommended Practice for the Recurring Proficiency Training of Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting Services	C
NFPA 408	Standard for Aircraft Hand Portable Fire Extinguishers	C
NFPA 409	Standard on Aircraft Hangars	P
NFPA 410	Standard on Aircraft Maintenance	C
NFPA 422	Guide for Aircraft Accident Response	C
NFPA 423	Standard for Construction and Protection of Aircraft Engine Test Facilities	C
NFPA 430	Code for the Storage of Liquid and Solid Oxidizers	P
NFPA 450	Guide for Emergency Medical Services and Systems	N
NFPA 502	Standard for Road Tunnels, Bridges, and Other Limited Access Highways	P

2004 MAY MEETING REPORT ON PROPOSALS—Continued

Doc No.	Title	Action
NFPA 555	Guide on Methods for Evaluating Potential for Room Flashover	C
NFPA 701	Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films	C
NFPA 780	Standard for the Installation of Lightning Protection Systems	C
NFPA 1150	Standard on Fire-Fighting Foam Chemicals for Class A Fuels in Rural, Suburban, and Vegetated Areas	C
NFPA 1201	Standard for Developing Fire Protection Services for the Public	C
NFPA 1250	Recommended Practice in Emergency Service Organization Risk Management	C
NFPA 1710	Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments.	P
NFPA 1720	Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments.	C
NFPA 1931	Standard on Design of and Design Verification Tests for Fire Department Ground Ladders	C
NFPA 1932	Standard on Use, Maintenance and Service Testing of Fire Department Ground Ladders	C

P = Partial revision; W = Withdrawal; R = Reconfirmation; N = New; C = Complete Revision.

Dated: July 9, 2003.

Arden L. Bement, Jr.,

Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

International Code Council: The Update Process for the International Codes and Standards

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The International Code Council (ICC), promulgator of the International Codes ("I-Codes") and Standards, maintains a process for updating the entire family of International Codes based on receipt of proposals from interested individuals and organizations involved in the construction industry as well as the general public. The first edition of the I-Codes was the 2000 edition. The codes are updated every three years (2003 current edition, 2006 editions, etc.) with an intervening Supplement published every 18 months. There are two hearings for each code development cycle; the first hearing (Code Development Hearing) where a committee considers the proposals and recommends an action on each proposal, followed by the assembled members of ICC afforded the opportunity to vote; and the second hearing (Final Action Hearing) to consider comments submitted in response to the committee action on proposals. The schedule is printed below.

The purpose of this request is to increase public participation in the system used by ICC to develop and maintain its codes and standards. The

publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of ICC is being undertaken as a public service; NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend any of the codes or standards referenced in the notice.

DATES: The 2003/2004 Code Development Cycle will start with the Code Development Hearings on September 5-14, 2003, at the Gaylord Opryland, Nashville, Tennessee. This will be followed by the Final Action Hearing tentatively scheduled for May 17-20, 2004, in Overland Park, Kansas.

Completion of this cycle results in the 2004 Supplement to the International Codes.

The agenda for the hearing as well as updates to the schedule are also posted on the ICC Web site at: <http://www.iccsafe.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Pfeiffer, PE, Vice President, Codes and Standards Development at ICC's Chicago Regional Office, 4051 West Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, Illinois 60478, Telephone 708/799-2300, Extension 338.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

ICC produces the only family of Codes and Standards that are comprehensive, coordinated and necessary to regulate the built environment. Federal agencies frequently use these codes and standards as the basis for developing federal regulations concerning new and existing construction.

The Code Development Process is initiated when proposals from interested persons, supported by written data, views, or arguments are solicited and published in the Proposed Changes document. This document is distributed a minimum of 30 days in advance of the first hearing and serves as the agenda.

At the first hearing (Code Development Hearing), the ICC Code

Development Committee considers testimony on every proposal and acts on each one individually (Approval, Disapproval, or Approval as Modified). The assembled body of all ICC members is then afforded the opportunity to vote on the proposal if they disagree with the Committee. The results are published in a report entitled the Report of the Public Hearing, which identifies the disposition of each proposal and the reason for the committee's action. Anyone wishing to submit a comment on the committee's action, expressing support or opposition to the action, is provided the opportunity to do so. Comments received are published and distributed in a document called the Final Action Agenda which serves as the agenda for the second hearing. Proposals which are approved by a vote of the Active Governmental Members of ICC at the second hearing (Final Action Hearing) are incorporated in either the Supplement or Edition, as applicable, with the next cycle starting with the submittal deadline for proposals.

Proponents of proposals automatically receive a copy of all documents (Proposed Changes, Report of the Public Hearing and Final Action Agenda). Interested parties may also request a copy, free of charge, from ICC's Chicago Regional Office at: International Code Council, Chicago Regional Office, 4051 W. Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, IL 60478-5795 or download a copy from the ICC Web site at <http://www.iccsafe.org>.

The International Codes and Standards consist of the following:
 International Building Code
 ICC Electrical Code
 International Energy Conservation Code
 International Existing Building Code
 International Fire Code
 International Fuel Gas Code
 International Mechanical Code
 ICC Performance Code for Buildings and Facilities
 International Plumbing Code