



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

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To: Code Making Authorities Considering the Adoption of the 2008 *National Electrical Code*

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff* understands that you and your Committee are considering adoption of the *2008 National Electrical Code (NEC)* with an exception to reject the expansion of arc fault circuit interrupters to all 120-volt, single-phase, 15- and 20-ampere branch circuits supplying outlets installed in dwelling unit family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sun rooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, or similar rooms. The CPSC staff urges that local authorities having jurisdiction adopt paragraph 210.12(B) of the 2008 *NEC* in its entirety as it was accepted by Code-making Panel 2 (CMP-2) during the Report on Comments meetings in Long Beach, CA in December 2006. The CPSC staff is a strong proponent of the implementation of AFCIs as a powerful tool in mitigating fires that originate in the electrical distribution system.

AFCIs are a significant upgrade in electrical fire safety over conventional circuit breaker and fuse technology. The CPSC staff supports the implementation of AFCI technology as a means to reduce these electrical fires based on a thorough analysis of electrical wiring fire incidents, a complete engineering assessment of arc fault detection technology, and a comprehensive laboratory evaluation of AFCI products.

Please let me know if we can provide any additional information that might be of assistance to you. We appreciate this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dougles Trotta", is written over the printed name.

Andrew M. Trotta

* These comments are those of the CPSC staff and have not been reviewed or approved by, and may not necessarily reflect the views of, the Commission.