

DS
CPSA 6 (11/11) Cleared
2/8/1995

LOG OF MEETING

Comments Enclosed

SUBJECT: American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Electrical and Electronics Standards Board.

DATE: April 20, 1995

PLACE: 11 West 42nd Street
New York, NY

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: April 24, 1995

SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: William H. King, Jr., ESEE *WAKJ*

CPSC PARTICIPANT: William H. King, Jr., ESEE

NON-CPSC PARTICIPANTS:

- Charles Zegers, ANSI
- Joseph Cannatelli, Chemical Mfrs. Assoc.
- Lois Ferson, Instrument Society for Measurement and Control
- Ed Mikoski, Electronic Industries Assoc.
- Frank Bruttomesso, Underwriters Laboratories Inc.
- Alvin Lai, Alliance for Telecommunications Ind. Solutions
- Jim Heldenbrand, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers
- Luigi Napoli, Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers
- Ken Edwards, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Mark Earley, National Fire Protection Assoc.
- Roberta Breden, Telecommunications Industry Assoc.
- Milton Bush, Inchcape Testing Services
- Philip Lang, ANSI
- Sergio Mazza, ANSI President (Item 4 of agenda only)
- C. Hayden, ANSI

SUMMARY:

Mr. King provided a brief summary of the major electrical activities of the CPSC. Mr. King provided an overview of the Home Electrical System Fires Project and spoke from the attached project summary and outline.

Mr. Mazza discussed the ANSI Strategic Plan. Following this, in informal remarks to the board, Mr. Mazza noted the cooperation and participation by the CPSC staff in the voluntary standards process of ANSI (Mr. Church on the Government Member Council, and Mr. King on the Electrical and Electronics Standards Board).

See the attached preliminary agenda for the meeting. Detailed minutes of the complete meeting are being prepared by ANSI.





EESB 2334
24 March 1995

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Electrical and Electronics Standards Board
ANSI Headquarters
Thursday, 20 April 1995
New York City
(10:00a.m. - 3:30p.m.)

1. Call to Order and Introductions - J. Cannatelli (Chairman)
 2. Approval of Agenda (EESB 2334)
 3. Approval of Minutes of 30 November, 1994 Meeting (EESB 2330)
 - 3.1 Review of Action Items
 4. Dialogue with ANSI President Sergio Mazza on the Institute's Strategic Plan
 5. Report of Chairman
 - 5.1 EESB Meeting Schedule and Agendas
 - Monday, 4 December 1995 - EIA HQ, Arlington, VA
 - Tues, 5
- training session for
USNE Dec 6 @ EIA
USNE Dec 7 Executive
Committee
@ EIA*
6. Report of Executive Standards Council Activities-A. Lai, ExSC Liaison
 7. Report on Government Agency Participation - W.H. King Jr. CPSC
 8. Reports-Standards Developing Organizations
 9. Reports-Government Agencies
 - NFPA NEC, NFPA 77
etc - weekly, annual lists, early copies,
etc. horizontal sh.
vs
vertical sh.*
 10. Break-out Discussions on Selected Topics
 - 10.1
 - 10.2
 - 10.3
 - 10.4
 11. Reports on Results of Break-out Discussions
 12. Status Report - National Standards Systems Network-Ron Walker(NSSN) — *NIST sponsored*
 13. Status Report - Information Infrastructure Standards Panel (IISP)- C. Hayden, ANSI
 14. Report of Staff - C. T. Zegers
 - 14.1 Applications for Accreditation
 - ASTM (EESB) 2311)
 - ASTM E31 on Computerized Systems (EESB 2252)
 - ASTM E43 on SI Practice (EESB 2118)
 - American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)(EESB 2075)
 - Electromagnetic Energy Association (EEA) (EESB 2305)
 - Health Industry Business Communications Council (HIBCC)(EESB 2292)
 - Society for Cable TV Engineers (SCTE)(EESB 2290)
 - Central Station Alarm Association (Cavass Method)
 - 14.2 Relationship Between Accredited Standards Committees and Their Secretariats
 - 14.3 Proposed Revisions to ANSI Procedures - Blue Ribbon Panel Recommendations
 - 14.4 H.J. Roux's Letter 13 May 1994 Re Meaning and Value of the American National Standard Designation

15. International Electrotechnical Commission

16. Other Business

17. Adjournment

CTZ/dw

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Home Electrical System Fires Project Summary

The purpose of the project is to reduce the incidence of injuries and deaths from electrical fires in dwellings. The goal is to identify and correct electrical hazards in residences, especially older homes with unimproved wiring systems, through use of an inspection code published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The inspection code is NFPA 73, Residential Electrical Maintenance Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings.

The Commission program includes efforts to obtain adoption and use of the NFPA 73 inspection code by local jurisdictions. To demonstrate cost effective ways to apply the code, CPSC will complete up to four house wiring demonstrations across the United States with professional video taping:

1. Washington D.C. area (P.G. County, Maryland) - Sponsored by CPSC and U.S. Fire Administration with completion in March 1995.
2. Southwest area - Sponsored by CPSC and U.S. Fire Administration with support from the U.S. Army to find a military-owned house for the demonstration. Completion is planned for June 1995.
3. Southeast area (Atlanta, GA)- Sponsored by the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) with completion planned for September 1995.
4. Northwest or Central area - Presently unfunded.

FIRE RISK WITH OLD HOUSE WIRING

THE HOUSE WIRING PROBLEM

There are too many electrical fires caused by inadequate wiring in older homes. Unsafe conditions such as overloaded circuits and extension cords used to replace permanent house wiring create a fire hazard. Estimates for 1992:

- 41,000 electrical wiring fires in homes; the risk is highest in older homes
- 320 deaths (third leading cause of fire deaths for children under five)
- 1630 injuries
- \$511 million in property loss
- \$2.2 billion total annual cost to society

FIRE CAUSES

CPSC study shows that in older homes:

- Aged electrical wiring is worn out, deteriorated and failing.
- Wiring changes and additions are done unsafely.
- Circuits are overloaded and woefully inadequate to handle today's appliances.

CPSC PROJECT FOCUS Three Areas

1. INSPECTION

Target for inspection structurally sound residences over 40 years old.

Promote adoption by "Authority Having Jurisdiction" (AHJ) of new code, NFPA-73, to identify gross electrical wiring hazards in the home that are too unsafe to continue receiving electrical power.

Note: NFPA-73 is a simplified inspection code that identifies about 50 gross wiring hazards in existing homes; it is not to be confused with the very detailed installation requirements contained in the National Electrical Code, designed for new homes.

Refer to *NFPA-73 Residential Electrical Maintenance Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings 1994 Edition* at Tab A.

2. CORRECTION

Keep cost down by using most cost effective repair methods possible.

Note: The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Research Center is currently under contract to CPSC to investigate cost-effective repair options. See statement of work at Tab B.

Control costs by limiting correction to removal of major hazards.
(Resist temptation to enforce new-construction code requirements)

Note: NAHB Research Center is currently under contract to CPSC to conduct up to four electrical rehab demonstrations of actual homes to illustrate repair methodologies. U.S. areas selected are (1) Washington D.C. area, (2) Southwest area, (3) Southeast area - Atlanta, (4) Northwest or Central area.

To date, funding support received from U.S. Fire Administration and Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae).
See statement of work at Tab C.

CPSC PROJECT FOCUS, continued

3. NEW TECHNOLOGY

Create a demand for new and improved safety devices. Smarter circuit breakers that can detect arcing in addition to overcurrent conditions are technically feasible. Advanced design fuses could be applied to replace older types or to supplement existing protection.

Multi-circuit and whole-house ground-fault protection could sense low-level arcing faults to grounded surfaces, a recognized source of electrical fires.

Note: Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. is currently under contract to CPSC to investigate the new technology. See statement of work at Tab D.

PUBLIC RESPONSES

TRADE PRESS ARTICLES

"Can Fire Risk From Old House Wiring Be Reduced?"
Electrical Construction & Maintenance Magazine, July, 1994
See Tab E

"Home Electrical System Fires"
IAEI News Magazine, April, 1994
See Tab F

MEDIA ARTICLES

"CPSC Gets Close to the Home Fires with Solutions"
The Time-Picayune Newspaper, May 20, 1992
See Tab G

**Over 100 groups and organizations outside of CPSC have indicated interest.
See Tab H for current listing**

CPSC SCHEDULE

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

CPSC is scheduled to complete the project activities by Sept 1996.

NAHB contract for cost-effective repair options - Nov 95

NAHB contract for electrical rehab demonstrations - Dec 95

Washington Area - March 95

Southwest Area - June 95

Southeast Area - Sept 95

Northwest or Central - Dec 95 (presently unfunded)

UL contract to investigate new safety-device technology -
Aug 95

Contacts with groups and organizations on-going

Monitor Results

Monitor developments beyond 1996 that result from the actions of CPSC and other contributing organizations in order to measure success.