

LOG OF MEETING

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SUBJECT: National Fire Alarm Code Technical Committee Meeting on Household Fire Warning Equipment

CPSC/DEPT. OF JUSTICE SECRETARY
FOR HOUSEHOLD FIRE PROTECTION

DATE OF MEETING: January 21-22 *rh* 14-15, 1998

1998 FEB -5 A 10:11

PLACE: Las Vegas, NV

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

- Ronald Brave National Association of Home Builders
- Wayne Boyd US Safety & Engineering Corporation
- Richard Bukowski National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Jean O'Connor National Fire Protection Association
- David Christitan Gentex Corporation
- Wendy Gifford BRK Brands, Inc.
- S. Chester Jones Self
- John Parssinen Underwriters Laboratories Inc.
- John Pacelli NEMA (Fred Conforti Alternate)
- Larry Ratzlaff Fyrnetics Inc.
- Walter Schuchard Self
- Sylva Dee Spicer Schirmer Engineering Corporation
- Thomas Stewart BRK Brands, Inc.
- Joseph H. Talbert Zurich Services Corporation

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Julie Ayres Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Julie Ayres

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

The purpose of the meeting was for the Committee of the Household Fire Warning Equipment to discuss proposals submitted for Chapter 2 of NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm Code. The Committee review proposals and votes either Accept, Reject, or Accept in Principal each of the submissions.

Proposals of Specific Interest to CPSC and Committee Vote (see attachment for complete list)

- Due to the high incident of unattended kitchen fires, Committee member W. Boyd proposed requiring heat detector in kitchens locations. The Committee discussed the proposal and related technical issues including research on heat detector performance. The proposal was rejected and differed to NFPA 101, Life Safety Code.
- Committee member J. Ayres proposed requiring photoelectric detectors or detectors with an alarm silencing means near the kitchen to limit the number of unwanted nuisance alarms. Rationale for the proposal included recent studies by the CPSC staff

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and other studies focused on nuisance issues. The proposal was accepted in principal.

- R. Bukowski proposed to permit the 10 year battery where AC power is specified. If interconnection of smoke detectors is required by the code, then the single station 10 year battery detector would not be allowed. The proposal was accepted in principal.
- W. Gifford proposed to recommend replacement after 10 years. The proposal was accepted in principal.
- R. Bukowski and W. Schuchard generated proposals for Chapter 2 as a performance based code with the format including the goal, functional objectives, performance criteria, and verification methods. The proposal was accepted in principal.

Next Steps of the Committee:

- The Committee will formally vote by ballot on the Committee actions and return the ballot by 02/19/98. CPSC Committee members are not voting members.
- A comment period will follow allowing submitter and others to comment on the accepted and rejected proposals.
- On December 7-8, 1998 in Tampa, FL the Committee will discuss comments on the rejected proposals and reconsider proposals after reviewing comments.