

MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ANSI/CSA FURNACE TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (TSC) WORKING GROUP (WG) MEETING

FY 25 OP PLAN ENTRY: Gas Appliances - CO Sensors

DATE OF MEETING: 12/5/2024

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Caroleene Paul

FILING DATE: 12/5/2024

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Caroleene Paul (ESMC), Ron Jordan (EMSC)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact CSA for the full attendee list

Summary of Meeting:

This is an ongoing weekly meeting of the furnace TSC working group to discuss Request For Change (RFC) #23 to ANSI Z21.47- ed. 9, Standard for Gas-fired central furnaces.

The working group discussed the following:

- **Purpose.** The WG chair restated that the purpose of the RFC #23 is to provide a means to shut down a furnace if carbon monoxide (CO) levels exceed a specified threshold as measured by CO detector devices in the circulating air of the furnace. CPSC staff asked for an explanation of why the WG is not considering CO sensors that are hardwired onto the exterior of the furnace, especially given the number of incidents in which the exhaust vent breach occurred at or near the furnace (in some cases, there is photographic evidence). WG members responded that they have not been provided the same incident data and therefore have not been able to make same evaluation. One conclusion from WG members, based on data that has been shared by CPSC in the past, is that CO alarms in the living space would have been effective; this indicates 70 ppm is an appropriate threshold level for a CO detector in the circulating air.
- **Incident Data.** CPSC staff stated that a notice of availability (NOA) will be published in FY25, and will provide access to redacted copies of the in-depth investigations (IDIs) that CPSC relied up on for the notice of proposed rule (NPR). The Working Group members welcomed this sharing of information, and reiterated that IDIs that have been provided in the past showed high levels of CO in the home which indicates high levels of CO would have also been in the circulating air of the furnace.
- **Scope.** The WG chair stated the group has been laboring as it is on requirements for detection of CO in the circulating air, and adding another task to the scope of work would be burdensome. The WG is aware that the CSA Technical Sub-Committee on Gas Boilers is discussing the option of an exterior CO sensor on the appliance, and the furnace WG will evaluate the final boiler WG proposal.
- **Action Item 12.** The WG continued discussions of how to define “end-of-life” of sensors.
- **Action Item 19.** The WG continued discussing the definition of “circulating air” and how it effects CO sensor placement.

Next Steps:

CPSC staff will participate in the next working group meeting scheduled for December 12, 2024.