LOG OF MEETING OFFICE OF HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND REDUCTION

<u>SUBJECT:</u> National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 70 National Electrical Code (NEC)

Task Group on NEC section 210.8(F) Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter (GFCI)

Protection for Personnel on Outdoor Outlets

DATE OF MEETING: February 28, 2022

PLACE OF MEETING: Virtual Meeting

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Doug Lee, Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction (EXHR)

<u>COMMISSION ATTENDEES:</u> Doug Lee, EXHR

Einstein Miller, Directorate for Laboratory Sciences (LSE) Kristen Talcott, Directorate for Engineering Sciences (ES) Ashley Johnson, Directorate for Health Sciences (HS)

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

David Humphrey, International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI), Panel 2 Chair

Michael Weaver, M&W Electric, NECA, Task Force Chair

John McCamish, Int'l Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

Dan Buuck, National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

Alan Manche, Schneider Electric

Thomas Domitrovich. Eaton Corporation, NEMA

David Johnson, Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC)

Steve Campolo, Leviton

Jeff Sargent, NFPA Staff Liaison

John Hughes, Trane

Dean Hunter, Minnesota Dept of Labor and Industry/IAEI

Fred Reyes, UL

Amanda Hickman, Leading Builders of America

Jerry Daniel, Texas TDLR

And other task group members and guests (contact NFPA for a complete list)

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Mr. Weaver requested additional details and data from task group members to support task group actions for NEC 210.8(F), GFCI protection of personnel on outdoor outlets. Many task group members voiced concerns for unwanted tripping of GFCIs causing consumers to be without air conditioning in the summer months if the January 2023 effective date for NEC 210.8(F) is not postponed. Other members wanted to consider grounded conductor language in the NEC to address Heating Ventilation and Air Condition (HVAC) leakage current issues from air conditioning (AC) compressors. Another task group member indicated that terminations would also be needed on AC compressor equipment. The effective dates of the three applicable standards: *UL 943 GFCIs*, *UL 101 Leakage Current*, and *UL 60335 2-40 Heating Ventilation*

and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Equipment were also discussed.

A member of the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) discussed that AHRI has initiated a study on the Assessment of Incompatibility of HVAC Equipment and GFCI Breakers that will take approximately 6 months to complete. The study will investigate the root cause of nuisance tripping experienced by HVAC equipment product and ground-fault circuit-interrupters. The study would also consider potential solutions achieved by alternate methods such as grounding and changing HVAC and/or GFCI product designs.

Mr. Weaver asked for additional details of the data from CPSC. Mr. Lee indicated that the data is still being reviewed but does include more than the one incident provided to support the original 210.8(F) proposal. The data is also limited in detail since the source is often from death certificates. Many of the incidents involve technicians and homeowners working on air conditioners including outdoor, indoor and portable units. Mr. Lee suggested that the committee could use the data downloaded from the CPSC public portal until the CPSC data can be provided to the task group. A task group member agreed to provide the CPSC public portal data to the task group although he preferred that the data came from the CPSC.

CPSC staff will provide the electrocution data from CPSC epidemiologists when available and continue to participate in the next task group meeting scheduled for April 4, 2022.

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