United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission

MEETING LOG

MEETING TITLE/SUBJECT: Independent/Joint Gas and Electric Range Knob Working Group Meeting

OP PLAN ENTRY: Ranges

DATE OF MEETING: 6/10/2025

LOCATION OF MEETING: Virtual

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Scott Ayers

Filing Date: 6/17/2025

CPSC STAFF ATTENDEE(S): Scott Ayers (ESEF), David Miller (EPI), Tim Smith (ESHF), Chen Su (ESEF), and Maya Kim (LSM)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S):

Kamran Akhlasi
Akshita Iyer
Meredith Birkhead
Bob Milotte
Brad Graham
Paul Cadima
Canfield Paul
Carl Suchovsky
Randy Cooper
Milos Coric
Danny Parker
David Lott
Delgado Humberto
Robert Dellavalle
Kyle Eden
Edwards Mike
Enrico Gatti
Gary West
Gerdes Mike
Armando Gonzalez
Issac Sargunam
Jacob Pixer
Jared Wells
Jim Carfagno
John Moss
Kyle Bowell
Franco LaRiccia
Lauren Kerwin
Brian Lusignan
Matt Wilber
Michael Stoddard
Nick H
Nick Shrewsbury-Gee
Nicolaus Faino
Joan Park
Patrick Howell
Paul Friis
Peter Silman
Steve Polinski
Quan Long
Ravee
Rehan Ehsan
Robert Longseth
Roger Noles
Ryan Beard
Jeff Sefton
Ali Sherazee
Steve Baas
Tiziano Pasetti
Todd Smith
Trevor Lawson

Summary of Meeting:
CPSC is aware of incidents where houses burned and people died from house fires started by range knobs accidentally turning on, whether from people or pets bumping into the knobs and activating the range. An independent and joint working group was formed to discuss the issue and potentially recommend changes to the electric (UL 858) and gas (CSA/ANSI Z21.1) range standards. A kick-off meeting was held on June 27, 2024, where stakeholders were asked to review CPSC data before proceeding. On November 21, 2024, CPSC staff shared data on incidents involving accidental burner control activations on ranges with the

interested stakeholders. During the March 2025 and April 2025 meetings the group agreed that a solution to accidental range activation was needed and that this group should work towards developing a performance-based test to assess accidental activation. That performance-based test should then be proposed to the product standards for implementation.

Prior to this meeting of the working group, participants reviewed an unofficial project charter, which included a problem statement, a scope, and a path forward outline (see annex section below).

During the current meeting, staff led discussions reviewing the unofficial project charter. Participants shared thoughts on the charter, including:

- How people interact with ranges.
- Information on the standard development process and the potential need to revise component standards.
- Discussion on the general types of performance tests (those that would require a probe, those that would impact the appliance, those that require human testing, and those that would require some combination of the three) to address accidental activations.
- Understanding the parameters of a performance test and discussions on possible design solutions is relevant to this group, as those potential design solutions should be considered when developing a performance test.
- Developing the specific evaluation criteria will be done at some point, but not now. Those evaluation criteria should be based on reasonable worst-case scenarios.
- Products that are agreed to be inherently safer from accidental activation may be exempted from performance testing.

Next Steps:
The group will meet on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, from 10:30am to 12:00pm.

Annex:

Problem statement: kitchen ranges that may be easy to accidentally activate pose a potential fire risk in homes.

Scope: consider relevant information on consumers accidentally activating kitchen ranges, technical solutions that reduce the likely hood of accidental activation, and other factors that affect the ease of accidental activation and develop a proposed performance test method to the gas and electric range standards to provide a basic level of protection that reduces the risks of accidental kitchen range activation.

Path forward

- Develop a performance test method
    - Focus on incorporating the performance test methods in the electric and gas range appliance standards (UL 858 and ANSI Z21.1)

    - Necessary changes to range-components should be driven by the appliance standards
    - Changes to standards affecting aftermarket products should be developed after incorporation into the appliance standards
- Consideration of the technologies used in ranges
    - Current technologies (as of this moment)
        - Understand the most common failure modes of current designs and technologies
            - Leaning against the range (for instance to access a microwave above)
            - Bumping into the range (including brushing into the range when passing by)
            - Pet interactions with the range
        - Understand the designs and technologies that impact (positively or negatively) on those failure modes
    - New technologies
        - A performance standard should consider technical solutions that manufacturers may incorporate to address the most common failure modes that make ranges safer
            - Increased forces
            - Added action(s)
            - Change motions (such as pull-turn rather than push-turn)
            - After market solutions
            - Front-mounted controls v. rear-mounted
    - Balance possible changes by trying to understand any possible unintended consequences
        - What is reasonably foreseeable?
        - Can adjustments be made that reduce the reasonably foreseeable consequences without affecting safety?
- Constraints
    - What level of reduced risk can we agree on?

        - Completely eliminating the risk may be unachievable considering other factors involved in kitchen/cooking fires that are outside the control of the standard
    - Compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act is a desired feature for some products (but not all)