

Amended (1-27-2011)
Residential Sprinkler Working Group
January 19, 2011
Department of Public Safety – Room 245
1111 Country Club Road
Middletown, CT

Attendees

Phil Crombie
Jamie DiPace
Robert Duval
Whitney Huber
Richard Hurlburt
Joseph Kingston
Alan Lagocki
Todd Paige
Robert Ross, Chairman
David Thompson
Daniel Tierney
Patrick Tourville
Tim Travers
Ray Walker
Bob Walsh
Timothy York

Representing

CT Fair Plan
CFCA
NFPA
AIA – CT
CT - DCP
CT – DPS – OSFM
AIA – CT
CCFCA
CT-DPS-DFEBS
ABC of CT
CT – DPS – OSBI
CFMA
NFSA
CCM
UPFFA
CBOA

Introductions

Rob Ross, Chairman, introduced himself and other agency members. All attendees introduced themselves. The list of all interested parties that have been included in this working group were also reviewed.

Mission of the Working Group

Rob Ross stated that the working group's mission is to evaluate the impact of the IRC R313 language if adopted in Connecticut. The following needs to be considered:

- Specific historical data on fire statistics for one and two family dwellings as well as townhouses and the age of such homes with an incident. Also statistics on which homes did and did not contain early warning detection such as smoke detectors.
- The unknown requirements of the State's water purveyors, and for individual supply lines, metering, back-flow preventers and related annual fees if applicable.
- The related costs for installation outside of the building footprint for this water service, excavation costs and other related expenses.
- Actual financial installation cost estimates (relative to the State of Connecticut construction industry) of the NFPA 13D system inside the residence (installation requirements).
- Which licensed installer may install this system and how many of such individuals are licensed in Connecticut and available to do this work?
- Who can be the responsible individual to design the system? Can a homeowner do this?

- What are the required annual maintenance and inspection requirements of an NFPA 13D residential sprinkler system? Can a homeowner do this or is a specialized tradesperson required?
- What components are needed to install such system and will product suppliers sell the materials, such as sprinkler heads and related equipment, to homeowners, or only to licensed contractors?
- Will the municipalities include this new system as an additional item to financially assess the homeowner on and what are the implications of such annual cost assessment to a homeowner?
- What are the specific insurance implications to a homeowner?
- What are the financial costs to rebuild a home experiencing a fire with and without a residential sprinkler system here in Connecticut and/or the Northeast?
- What are the impacts on firefighters, first responders and residential occupant safety?
- What education is needed to understand the requirements of the 2009 IRC Sections R313 and P2904 to potential user groups such as the construction industry and code officials relative to NFPA 13D.

The end product will be a report that will be issued back to the Codes Amendment Subcommittee (CAS) of the Codes and Standards Committee.

Meeting Schedule

Rob Ross stated that the following schedule is tentative:

- February 16 (snow date 23)-Training program on NFPA 13D and the IRC requirement language at the Connecticut Fire Academy with possibly a live sprinkler demonstration-weather permitting.
- March-development of working group items
 - Formation of a steering committee
 - Formation of working groups to investigate and report back on their findings
- April-June-reports of working groups' findings
- July-August-formation of findings into draft report document. This will most likely be done through email over the summer months.
- September-review and possible adoption of the report document draft.

Comments

There is a need to understand the intent and language from a NFPA representative. Discussions were held regarding cost, using other state's findings, Tyco Dry System. Chairman Ross will e-mail information related to today's meeting.