



Public Input No. 3884-NFPA 70-2017 [Section No. 80.21(C)]

(C) Responsibility of the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

It shall be the responsibility of the authority having jurisdiction to promulgate rules that cover the following:

- (1) Review of construction documents and drawings shall be completed within established time frames for the purpose of acceptance or to provide reasons for nonacceptance.
- (2) Review and approval by the authority having jurisdiction shall not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of compliance with this Code.
- (3) Where field conditions necessitate any substantial change from the approved plan, the authority having jurisdiction shall be permitted to require that the corrected plans be submitted for approval.
- (4) The authority having jurisdiction shall be permitted to determine the scope of electrical power system rehabilitation independent of the requirements of the building code.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Input

The education facilities industry is the largest non-residential building construction market in the United States; building and renovating campus square footage at a clip of about \$80 billion per year. Construction activity at the University of Michigan alone (with 36 million square feet under management and the largest campus in the US in terms of building square-footage) runs at an annual rate of \$600 million to \$ 1.2 billion annually so the evolution of electrical systems is in plain sight on a daily basis.

This proposal is intended to generate discussion about the degree to which the scope of electrical renovation/rehabilitation shall be permitted to be scaled according the site specific conditions that govern safety and economy. For example, many building codes may require that a 50% change in the square footage affected by a rehabilitation/renovation project may require a corresponding change in the electrical system. That change may or may not be justified on the basis of safety considerations alone. Conversely, the 50% criterion may not be a sufficient threshold to guarantee safety. While this model language for electrical administration may always be subordinate to the building codes, some model language that has been vetted through ANSI processes; that makes scalability a possibility would be welcomed from the standpoint of both both safety and economy

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Committee Statement

Resolution: Section 80.21(C) identifies the responsibilities of the AHJ rather than what the AHJ is permitted to do.

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