

NH Building Code Review Board

NH Department of Safety
33 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03305

Request to amend the New Hampshire adopted version of NFPA 70, NEC 2011

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Please indicate organization represented (if any) | New Hampshire Electrical Contractors Business Association

1. Section/Paragraph | 225.36

2. Proposal Recommends (check one): new text revised text deleted text

3. Proposal (include proposed new or revised wording, or identification of wording to be deleted): [Note: Proposed text should be in legislative format; i.e., use underscore to denote wording to be inserted (inserted wording) and strike-through to denote wording to be deleted (~~deleted wording~~).]

Re-number 225.36 Exception to Exception No. 1 and add a new Exception No. 2 as follows:

Exception No. 2: The disconnecting means permitted in 225.32 Exception No. 5 shall be comprised of a circuit breaker, molded case switch, general use switch, or other approved means. Where applied in accordance with 250.32(B) Exception, the disconnecting means shall be suitable for use as service equipment.

Substantiation:

This proposal is a companion proposal to one submitted to 225.32 that, if accepted by the State Building Code Review Board, would permit the disconnecting means for standalone transfer equipment to be located ahead of the transfer equipment provided it is within sight of or it is lockable in the open or off position.

The addition of this exception would permit a device such as a molded case circuit breaker or molded case switch supplied with a generator to be used as the disconnecting means for the transfer equipment without being marked as suitable for use as service equipment. Although this exception would permit the use of a device that is not marked as suitable for use as service equipment under the general conditions 250.32, the proposed last sentence in the new exception recognizes existing conditions where the requirement to be suitable for service equipment is necessary. An example of this condition is where the grounded conductor is also serving as the supply side bonding jumper or equipment grounding conductor and is bonded to the enclosure.

The fiscal impact to the customer is substantial as the request to amend recommends adding an exemption to requiring additional electrical disconnects where the safety of the installation is not enhanced in any way. The installation of additional switches in areas not needing such equipment only adds to the complexity and potential installation failure points in the overall system. The only impact to the exemption of the disconnect listing requirements would be the elimination of an additional unnecessary financial burden to the installation. The disconnecting means furnished with the source equipment (i.e. a generator) meets a safety standard that is sufficient and accepted within the listing of the equipment assembly.

I am the author of the text in this proposal along with the photos and graphic descriptions as presented. The information provided will be substantiated with testimony during the presentation of this proposal.

William Benard