

Subject 1201

August 10, 2018

SUMMARY OF TOPICS

The following changes in requirements to the Standard for Sensor Operated Backwater Prevention System, UL 1201, are being proposed.

1. Update to requirements for the secondary power supply

STP BALLOTS AND ALL COMMENTS DUE: September 10, 2018

UL's goal is to have no interest category comprise more than one-third of the STP membership balance. To improve the current balance for STP 1201, UL is looking for participants in the AHJ, Commercial/Industrial User, Consumer, Government, Producer, Supply Chain, and Testing & Standards interest categories. Definitions for these interest categories are available on the Standards STP Internet site:

<http://ulstandards.ul.com/develop-standards/participation/interest-categories/>

If you are interested in applying for STP 1201 membership or are aware of potential candidates for this STP, please contact the STP Project Manager, Grace.Roh@ul.com.

For your convenience in review, proposed additions to existing requirements are shown underlined and proposed deletions are shown ~~lined-out~~.

1. Update to requirements for the secondary power supply

RATIONALE

Proposal submitted by: Mark Ramlochan, ULC Standards

This proposal was developed by a task group on sensor operated backwater prevention system.

The National Research Council of Canada (NRC) wanted to update standards in respect to resilience to climate change impact regarding elements such as snow, loss of power, etc. The risks analysis showed that the areas to focus on for UL/ULC 1201 was in the area of loss of power or longer power outages.

The changes were based largely on input from the only known manufacturer of sensor-operated backwater protection systems in North America.

It was generally recognized that any recommendation for power backup duration would not be on based on data since it is not possible to provide a general assessment of duration of power outages for any given location where the standard may apply. Projections on increase in the duration of power outages under changing climate conditions were not available to the sub-committee.



An increase to the duration of power backup to 72 hours was made. The manufacturer reported to the sub-committee that power outages exceeding 24 hours are common. The initial figure (24 hours) in the standard itself was an arbitrary figure, and was pulled from an unrelated standard. There is no technical reason why the 72 hour duration cannot be achieved using available technology and battery backup approaches. The manufacturer of these types of systems reported that their standard backup battery system will allow operation of the valve over 7 days (minimum), and potentially as long as 10 days. This increase would account for potential increase in power outage risk under changing climate conditions. The "5 minutes of continuous operation" requirement was considered to be irrelevant for available sensor operated backwater protection devices and was removed from the Clause.

The task group added a statement in Section 35, Maintenance and Operating Instructions, because duration of sewer surcharge events is highly dependent on local and site conditions. It is not possible to make a general assessment on how many sewer surcharge events a particular building may be exposed to over a given period of time. Local authorities (e.g., municipalities, power utilities) may have information available on high or low sewer surcharge risk areas, areas at risk of long-duration power outages. The statement reflected a recognition that power backup needs are dependent upon:

- The number of cycles of valve operation over a given period of time.
- The likelihood of long-duration power outages (i.e., those exceeding 72 hrs).
- The risk tolerance of owners or operators of the valve.