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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION CODES  
  
In the Matter of:  
PART 8 ELECTRICAL CODE -  
RULE SET 2022-59 LR  
\_\_\_\_\_ /

PUBLIC HEARING

Michigan Library & Historical Center  
702 W. Kalamazoo Street  
Lansing, Michigan

Thursday, September 21, 2023  
9:02 a.m.

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APPEARANCES:

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION CODE MEMBERS:

Mr. Tony Williamson

Ms. Tracie Pack

Mr. Lance Ash

RECORDED BY:

Karen L. Banks, CER 3592

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1                   Lansing, Michigan

2                   Thursday, September 21, 2023 - 9:02 a.m.

3                   MR. WILLIAMSON: Good morning. My name is Tony  
4 Williamson. I am a departmental analyst for the Bureau  
5 of Construction Codes in the Department of Licensing and  
6 Regulatory Affairs, and I will be conducting the hearing  
7 today.

8                   This is a public hearing on proposed  
9 administrative rules entitled "Part 8 Electrical Code,  
10 Rule Set 2022-59 LR." We are conducting this hearing  
11 under the authority of the Administrative Procedures Act,  
12 Public Act 306 of 1969, on behalf of the Department of  
13 Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Construction  
14 Codes.

15                   We are calling this hearing to order at nine  
16 o'clock a.m. on September 21, 2023, at the Michigan  
17 Library and Historical Center, First Floor Forum, 702  
18 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, Michigan, 48915. Notice  
19 of public hearing was published in the Michigan Register,  
20 Issue 16-2023, on September 15, 2023, and in the  
21 following newspapers of general circulation: The Morning  
22 Sun and the Oakland Press on August 24, 2023, and the  
23 Mining Journal on August 24, 2023.

24                   Please know that we are here today to receive  
25 comments or suggestions on the proposed rules. Please

1 make sure that they relate directly to the proposed rules  
2 and reasons why the changes would be in the public  
3 interest. If you wish to speak, make sure you have  
4 signed in and indicated that you wish to speak. We will  
5 call on speakers in the order in which names are listed  
6 on the sign-in sheets. Each speaker is limited to three  
7 minutes and only allowed one time to speak during the  
8 public hearing. For those making comments today, please  
9 clearly state and spell your name slowly for the record.  
10 And if you are speaking on behalf of an organization,  
11 please identify that organization as well.

12 If you have already submitted comments to the  
13 Department in writing or by email, those comments will be  
14 considered in the same manner as the comments made during  
15 the public hearing today. If you have written comments,  
16 you may submit them directly to me. The Department will  
17 also accept written comments postmarked or emailed until  
18 9/28/2023 at 5 p.m.

19 Now I'll call Don Iveson.

20 DON IVESON

21 MR. IVESON: Good morning, everyone. I'm Don  
22 Iveson, D-o-n, I-v-e-s-o-n. I'm here today to speak in  
23 support of the public Part 8 rules adopting the 2023 NEC.  
24 I represent Schneider Electric. I'm the manager of  
25 industry codes and external relations for the North

1 American business. I also hold a State of Michigan  
2 master's -- master license as well.

3 Schneider Electric continues to be an advocate  
4 for the timely adoption of the National Electric Code.  
5 The NEC focuses on the proper installation of electrical  
6 systems and equipment, supporting safe electrical  
7 infrastructure. Our products are designed and  
8 manufactured to comply with the most current edition of  
9 the National Electric Code.

10 Adopting the most current electrical code  
11 enables us -- or, excuse me, enables the use of the most  
12 advanced technology, which enables higher efficiencies,  
13 supports business to be competitive in the global market.  
14 The adoption of the 2023 NEC will permit the construction  
15 industry to take advantage of the most cost-efficient  
16 infrastructure solution and utilizing emergent  
17 technologies and advancements, while enhancing safety in  
18 all structures in the state. A few of these emergent  
19 technologies are including micro-grids, energy  
20 management, and renewable energy sources.

21 Again, I support the adoption of the '23 NEC  
22 for electrical safety for all Michigan communities,  
23 allowing their economic growth and their well-being.  
24 Thank you very much.

25 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

1 MS. PACK: Thank you.

2 MR. WILLIAMSON: Beau Burton.

3 BEAU BURTON

4 MR. BURTON: I'm Beau Burton, B-e-a-u,  
5 B-u-r-t-o-n. I'm an instructor with the Metropolitan  
6 Detroit Electrical Industry Training Center. We are an  
7 apprenticeship school for electricians in the state of  
8 Michigan. We are owned and operated by the International  
9 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, IBEW Local 58, as well  
10 as the Southeast Chapter of National Electrical  
11 Contractors -- Southeast Michigan Chapter of the National  
12 Electrical Contractors Association. All three of those  
13 organizations have me here to show their support for this  
14 code adoption process.

15 I'd like to note that by adopting the 2023 code  
16 book, we are not skipping the 2020 code book. We will  
17 inherently bring all of those changes from the 2020 into  
18 the '23 adoption.

19 When we look at the history here, we realize  
20 Michigan is on the '17 code book and that was closed  
21 for -- we adopted that on November 7, 2019. That was  
22 almost five years ago. And then when we look at when the  
23 changes for the '17 were shut down, you're going to go  
24 back to September 7 of 2014. That means we are using a  
25 code book based on nine-year-old technology. We are way

1 behind the times. Coming up to new code will allow us to  
2 have the best technology and use it in a safe manner.

3 If you think about it, at that time we were  
4 using compact fluorescent lighting. In 2014, GE,  
5 Phillips, they don't even make that product any more.  
6 It's gone. Yet we're dealing with code from that era.  
7 We've had lots of technological advances in the last nine  
8 years. Lighting, lighting control, electric vehicles,  
9 batteries, storage, micro-grids, just all kinds of  
10 things. Right now Michigan is investing a lot of money  
11 into their state parks, and a lot of that has to do with  
12 infrastructures for RVs and electrical distribution.  
13 We're using a code book from nine years ago, and  
14 technology-wise we're really probably not building the  
15 best park infrastructure we could. If we updated the  
16 code, we would be there.

17 Again, on behalf of the IBEW 58, Southeast  
18 Chapter of MECA, we support these changes. Also, we  
19 support the change of the Part 8 rules to rescind the  
20 language in the Michigan Residential Code, and then have  
21 all of the industry working off of one code, the Michigan  
22 Electrical Code. Thank you.

23 MS. PACK: Thank you.

24 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

25 John Danic.

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JOHN DANIC

MR. DANIC: My name is John Danic, D-a-n-i-c, instructor at the Southeast Michigan Construction Academy, an accredited apprenticeship training program, and an active state-registered electrical inspector and code instructor.

I am hoping that the State will move forward with the update of the Michigan 2023 Electrical Code and the Part 8 rules to stay in pace with the changing technologies, the rest of the nation, and the rest of the nation's workforce so that we may instruct properly.

Thank you.

MR. ASH: Thank you.

MS. PACK: Thank you.

MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

John Stoudt.

JOHN STOUDT

MR. STOUDT: Hi. I'm John Stoudt. S-t-o-u-d-t is the last name. I'm a registered code official and registered master electrician in the state of Michigan, and I'm here to offer my support to adopt the '23 code and the Part 8 rules, and also to keep up with the rest of the nation. And I also believe we should abolish the MRC and stick to the NEC, because it's a better standard for our public. Thank you.

1 MS. PACK: Thank you.

2 MR. ASH: Thank you.

3 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

4 Paul Kaiser.

5 PAUL KAISER

6 MR. KAISER: Good morning. I'm Paul Kaiser.

7 I'm principal application engineer for Schneider  
8 Electric. I'm also on the -- serve on the advisory board  
9 for the IAEEI, the inspectors association, and I've also  
10 been an inspector/trainer for the IAEEI.

11 I'm here to also support the adoption of the  
12 2023 code. You know, as has been noted, all the changes  
13 in technology in our electrical industry, it's important  
14 that our code keeps up with all those changes so that we  
15 can properly install, inspect and utilize the new  
16 technologies that are available today that were not  
17 available, you know, even three to five years ago. So  
18 keeping -- you know, having our version of the code in  
19 pace with technology that's being installed and utilized  
20 every day in the state of Michigan is very important to  
21 our safety. Thank you.

22 MS. PACK: Thank you.

23 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

24 Scott Weaver.

25 SCOTT WEAVER

1 MR. WEAVER: Good morning. I'm Scott Weaver,  
2 W-e-a-v-e-r. I'd just like to start out with that I'm an  
3 electrical contractor, I'm an electrical master, also  
4 electrical inspector. I serve at LCC as an adjunct  
5 professor teaching code classes. I serve on the IAEI.

6 And I would like to say that I support the  
7 rules as written and I think, as has been spoken before  
8 me, that I think this is going to narrow the gap on the  
9 technologies and the new things that are out there. And  
10 I'd just like to also mention it's become a very common  
11 question that comes to our desk, is when will we adopt  
12 the new code? And that makes me believe that the  
13 contractors and the electrical professionals in the  
14 industry are hungry to get caught up with the rest of the  
15 nation. Thank you.

16 MR. ASH: Thank you.

17 MS. PACK: Thank you.

18 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

19 Don Decker.

20 DAN DECKER

21 MR. DECKER: My name is Dan Decker, D-a-n,  
22 D-e-c-k-e-r. I represent the Burglar and Fire Alarm  
23 Association of Michigan.

24 We are supportive of the update to the 2023  
25 National Electrical Code, but in reviewing the Part 8

1 rules, we believe we found a discrepancy between the  
2 state law and the administrative rules. The Skilled  
3 Trades Regulation Act provides a number of exemptions  
4 from licensing, and Item K under Section -- it's 2016  
5 Public Act 407, Section 737, Subsection 3. Subsection K  
6 under that exempts the installation, maintenance or  
7 servicing of security alarm systems in a building or  
8 structure. As used in this subdivision, "security alarm  
9 systems" means that term as defined in Section 733(2)(c).

10 In the proposed Part 8 rules, Rule 818, Section  
11 80.19, subsection 4 is statute exemptions, and it says  
12 installations that are referenced in Section 737,  
13 subsection 3, and then it lists A, B, C, D, F, H, L and M  
14 of the Skilled Trades Regulation Act are exempt from a  
15 permit. It looks like subsection K, which is included in  
16 the law, was inadvertently left out of the subsection for  
17 reference in the law, and so we would respectfully ask  
18 that that be put in to be consistent with the law.

19 I did some research on this and it was included  
20 in the 2014 Part 8 rules, but it was -- this is  
21 continuing an error, I believe, from the 2017 Part 8  
22 rules. Thank you.

23 MR. ASH: Thank you.

24 MS. PACK: Thank you.

25 MR. WILLIAMSON: Thank you.

1                   If there are no further comments at this time,  
2 I hereby declare this hearing closed. The record will  
3 remain open until 9/28/2023 at 5 p.m. for any other  
4 comments you may wish to share about the proposed rules.  
5 Thank you for attending.

6                   (Hearing concluded at 9:16 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I certify that this transcript, consisting of 14 pages, is a complete, true, and correct record of the public hearing held in the foregoing matter on September 21, 2023.

Date: September 27, 2023



Karen L. Banks, CER 3592  
Notary Public, State of  
Michigan, County of Ionia  
My commission expires 7/20/2027