

**NFPA 70®-2026 Edition**

**National Electrical Code®**

**TIA Log No.: 1903**

**Reference:** 700.6(C) and Exception(new)

**Comment Closing Date: July 27, 2026**

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[www.nfpa.org/70](http://www.nfpa.org/70)

1. *Revise section 700.6(C) to read as follows:*

**700.6 Transfer Equipment.**

**(A) General. ...**

**(B) Automatic Transfer Switches. ...**

**(C) Bypass and Isolation of Transfer Equipment.**

~~For occupancies listed in 700.10(D)(1),~~ if emergency loads are supplied by a single feeder, the emergency power system shall include equipment to facilitate maintenance as required in 700.4(C) that complies with the following:

(1) A means to bypass the transfer equipment shall be provided while maintaining the continuity of power. Inadvertent parallel operation shall be prevented.

(2) Means shall be provided to isolate the transfer equipment from all supply side and load side sources.

(3) If the equipment used to bypass the transfer equipment is manual (or nonautomatic), then it shall be actively supervised by a qualified person when the primary (automatic) transfer equipment is disabled for servicing.

Informational Note: Bypass isolation switches and bypass isolation transfer switches are examples of such means.

*Exception: The requirement for bypass and isolation of transfer equipment shall not apply where any of the following conditions exist:*

*(1) All processes that rely on the emergency system source are capable of being disabled during maintenance or repair activities without jeopardizing the safety to human life.*

*(2) The building or structure is unoccupied and fire protection systems are fully functional and do not require an alternate power source.*

*(3) Other temporary means are permitted to be substituted for the emergency system.*

*(4) A written emergency plan that includes mitigation actions and responsibilities for qualified persons to address the recognized site hazards for the duration of the maintenance or repair activities is developed, implemented, and made available to the authority having jurisdiction.*

**Substantiation:** SR-8322 for 700.6(C) was intended to clarify the requirements for Bypass and Isolation of Transfer Equipment. This SR added text to limit the requirement for this equipment to only those occupancies listed in 700.10(D)(1). This means that bypass/isolation is not required for assembly occupancies of 999 persons or less, educational facilities with 300 or less occupants, and any building with an occupiable story 75 feet or less above fire department vehicle access. Allowing such occupancies to not have provision for bypass/isolation could result in the emergency systems being completely unavailable for an extended period of time should there be an issue with transfer equipment. Presumably CMP-13 made this revision because the requirement for bypass/isolation was considered too onerous for every installation (for example, a small business), but the previous text of 700.6(C) included an exception that could be invoked for those locations where installation of bypass/isolation would be burdensome. Removing the

reference to 700.10(D)(1) and restoring the exception that existed in the 2023 NEC will provide relief where necessary, without exposing a large number of occupants to an unsafe condition.

**Emergency Nature:** The standard contains an error or an omission that was overlooked during the regular revision process. The proposed TIA intends to offer to the public a benefit that would lessen a recognized (known) hazard or ameliorate a continuing dangerous condition or situation.

This is of an emergency nature because the text that was developed in SR-8322 allows installations with a large number of occupants to not have provisions for maintaining operational emergency systems when there is an issue with transfer equipment. There is no justification for leaving an assembly occupancy of up to 999 persons or an educational facility of up to 300 persons unprotected when there is an issue with transfer equipment.

Anyone may submit a comment by the closing date indicated above. Please identify the TIA number, state whether you SUPPORT or OPPOSE the TIA along with your comment, and forward to the Secretary, Standards Council. [SUBMIT A COMMENT](#)