Tentative Interim Amendment

NFPA® 70®

National Electrical Code®

2026 Edition

Reference: 700.6(C) and Exception(new)
TIA 26-10
(SC 26-8-47 / TIA Log #1903)

Pursuant to Section 5 of the NFPA *Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards*, the National Fire Protection Association has issued the following Tentative Interim Amendment to NFPA 70®, *National Electrical Code*®, 2026 edition. The TIA was processed by the NEC Code-Making Panel 13 and the NEC Correlating Committee, and was issued by the Standards Council on August 20, 2026, with an effective date of September 9, 2026.

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~~ 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.

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