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BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF RULES AND APPEALS

FBC 8TH EDITION (2023) FORMAL INTERPRETATION (#35)

DATE: January 9, 2025

TO: All Building Officials and Chief Electrical Inspectors

FROM: Dr. Ana Barbosa, Administrative Director

SUBJECT: Modification of NFPA 70, 2020, Section 555.5 and 555.9, Marina Voltages

At its regularly scheduled meeting on January 9, 2025, the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals approved Formal Interpretation #35 regarding the allowable supply voltage at docks.

The 2017 National Electrical Code (NEC) permitted pier (dock) power voltages up to 1000. This section was changed and became unintendedly more restrictive in the 2020 edition of the NEC. The 2020 NEC specifies that the voltage for dock power is up to 250 volts with no restrictions and that the voltage provided for dock power from 250 to 600 be installed under the supervision of an engineer.

Formal Interpretation:

- NFPA 70, 2026, Section 555.5. Maximum Voltage-Alternating Current Only. Pier power distribution systems shall not exceed 600 Volts phase to phase.
- NFPA 70, 2026, Section 555.9. Documentation of the design of the pier distribution system shall be provided upon request of the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

Please replace the above sections 555.5 and 555.9 in the 2020 and 2023 NEC.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9, 2025

*** PLEASE POST AT YOUR PERMIT COUNTER ***

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