TO: Joint Committee on Sustainable Carpet
FROM: Matthew Realff, Chairperson of the Joint Committee
DATE: October 28, 2014
SUBJECT: Proposed revision to 140 Sustainability Assessment - Carpet (140i28r1)

On behalf of Fareed Ferhut, Issue proponent, the ballot for NSF/ANSI 140, issue 28, revision 1, caprolactam has been recommended to be sent to the Joint Committee for consideration. Please review the proposal and return your ballot by the ballot due date of November 18, 2014 via the online workspace (http://standards.nsf.org).

When adding comments, please identify the section number/name for your comment and add all comments under one comment number where possible. If you need additional space, please upload a word or pdf version of your comments online via the browse function.

Purpose
The purpose of this ballot is to highlight the specific reference exposure level for Caprolactam.

Background
Nylon 6, which constitutes one third of the carpet sold in California, is produced from the polymerization of the caprolactam monomer. However, airborne emissions of caprolactam have been identified as a concern by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) because exposure to caprolactam has been found to cause upper respiratory and eye irritation.

Public Health Impact
This will have no direct impact on public health because this is already a requirement in the standard.

If you have any questions about the technical content of the ballot, you may contact me in care of:

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Joint Committee on Sustainable Carpet
c/o Joint Committee Secretariat,
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6.3 Manufacturing emissions inventory and credit for voluntary reductions beyond compliance

6.3.1 C8 fluorotelomers (prerequisite)

A manufacturer shall receive one point for documenting that the product does not contain fluorotelomers based on C8 or higher fluorocarbon chemistries.

6.3.2 Minimization of indoor volatile organic chemical (VOC) emissions (prerequisite for gold and platinum)

A manufacturer may earn one point by meeting this requirement. The maximum concentration for any chemical emitted at 96 h in emissions tests (following a ten-day conditioning period) shall not result in a modeled indoor air concentration greater than half the chronic reference exposure level (CREL) established by California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), except formaldehyde, which shall not exceed half the OEHHA indoor reference exposure level (REL). Testing shall be in accordance with CA/DHS/EHLB/R-174. Furthermore, the reference exposure level for caprolactam shall be 100µg/m³. This reference exposure level is currently utilized in CRI Green Label Plus Program which represents a level of emission limit achieved by good industry practice.

NOTE – Compliance with this requirement could be met through participation and compliance with the CRI Green Label Plus Program.

6.3.3 Baselines for pollutant reductions and metrics

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