AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Code Sections/Tables/Figures Proposed for Revision:
IFC 914.3.8 (will need coordination with IBC amendments)

Proposal:

Add Section 914.3.8 Fire pump & emergency generator redundancy for Risk Category IV:

914.3.8 For individual buildings, planned building groups and podium buildings occupied by greater than 5,000 occupants, dual fire pumps and emergency generators (each capable of satisfying the demand) shall be provided to allow for servicing or downtime.

Supporting Information:

Such large complexes place many occupants at risk when a single afforded fire pump or generator gets placed out of service for basic items like frequency testing and/or maintenance (simple oil change), etc. In addition, during an outage, DFD has struggled to staff such complex firewatches which become very expensive based on number of personnel needed. Other building design features (structural reinforcement) already incorporate higher levels of safety when Risk Category IV is involved, therefore this concept is similar.

Referenced Standards:

ASCE 7

Impact:

Low relative cost and increased coordination/design effort.

Departmental Impact:

Offers redundancy and improved reliability.