

Below are the top changes to the 2018 NFPA 70E as they apply to the Wind Industry, in order of appearance.

1. Emphasis on improving Risk Assessments and Job Briefing before work begins: Consideration of Elimination of Hazard (105.4), Condition of Maintenance (110.1 (C)) and Human Error (110.1(H) (2)) and greater clarity on Job Safety Planning and Job Briefing (110.1(H)) and (110.1(I)).
2. Electrical incidents are now required to be investigated as part of the employer Electrical Safety Program. (110.1(J))
3. Greater emphasis on training requirements (110.2(A) and 110.2(B)).
4. Added LOTO Program to Establishing an Electrically Safe Work Condition (120.1 and 120.2).
5. Added requirement to document energized Electrical Work Permits (130.2(B)(1)) and the Work to be Performed (130.2(B)(2)).
6. Revised Shock Assessment (130.4) to include requirement of risk controls, and documentation, and Arc Flash Risk Assessment (130.5) for reorganization to clarify requirements.
7. Changed the start of the Shock Protection Approach Boundaries of DC Systems from less than 100V to less than 50V. (Table 130.4(D)(b)).
8. Added exception to Equipment Labeling (130.5(H)). This exception allows for equipment in supervised industrial installation where it is ensured only qualified person work on the system, the information normally required on labels can be documented and readily available instead of having labels applied.
9. Added clarity to requirements of using rubber insulating gloves without leather protectors (130.7(C)(7)(a)). Using rubber insulating gloves without protectors now requires them to be electrically retested before use, class 00 gloves must be reduced in rating by 50% and class 0-4 must be reduced by one class.
10. Revision clarifying not all battery systems need ventilation (240.1).
11. Revision to require Personal Safety and Protective Equipment and Cranes and Hoists are inspected as per state, federal or local codes in addition to standards (250.2 and 310.5(D)(9)).
12. Added IEEE 1635 reference in regard to battery ventilation requirement (320.1(Informational Note 12)).
13. Added voltage threshold requirement for working on Valve-Regulated Lead Acid batteries (320.3(A)(1)).
14. Additional clarity on conducting a risk assessment and applying controls (Informative Annex F).
15. Added Conformity Assessment of PPE (Informative Annex H).
16. Revisions to Incident Energy Reduction Methods (Informative Annex O.2.3).
17. Added Human Performance and Workplace Electrical Safety (Informative Annex Q). There is a big push at NFPA to include Human Performance as part of not only Risk Assessments, but also to Job Briefing, as it plays a significant role in many workplace incidents.

For the official list of codes and standards, [click here.](#)

