Codes and References Used to Prepare This Book

This book is based on the NCEES FE Reference Handbook (NCEES Handbook), ninth edition. The other documents, codes, and standards that were used to prepare this book were the most current available at the time.

NCEES does not specifically tie the FE exam to any edition (version) of any code or standard. Rather than make the FE exam subject to the vagaries of such codes and standards as are published by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and other organizations, NCEES effectively writes its own “code,” the NCEES Handbook.

Most surely, every standard- or code-dependent concept in the NCEES Handbook can be traced back to some section of some edition of a standard or code. So, it would be logical to conclude that you need to be familiar with everything (the limitations, surrounding sections, and commentary) in the code related to that concept. However, that does not seem to be the case. The NCEES Handbook is a code unto itself, and you won’t need to study the parent documents. For example, power transmission and distribution are covered in the NCEES Handbook, but anything specifically from the National Electrical Code is not.

Therefore, although methods and content in the NCEES Handbook can be ultimately traced back to some edition (version) of a relevant code, you don’t need to know which. You don’t need to know whether that content is current, limited in intended application, or relevant. You only need to use the content.