

Modify Section 1613.1 as shown below.

1613.1 Scope. Every structure, and portion thereof, including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments, shall be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions in accordance with ASCE 7, excluding ~~Chapter 14 and~~ Appendix 11A; Chapter 14 is also excluded, except as noted in Chapter 19. The *seismic design category* for a structure is permitted to be determined in accordance with Section 1613 or ASCE 7.

1901.2 Plain and reinforced concrete. Structural concrete shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the requirements of this chapter and ACI 318 as amended in Section 1905 of this code. Except for the provisions of Sections 1904 and 1907, the design and construction of slabs on grade shall not be governed by this chapter unless they transmit vertical loads or lateral forces from other parts of the structure to the soil. Precast concrete diaphragms in buildings assigned to Seismic Design Category C, D, E, or F shall be designed in accordance with the requirements of ASCE 7 Section 14.2.4.

Reason: Seismic design of diaphragms is addressed in Sections 12.10.1 and 12.10.2 of ASCE 7-16. These sections are essentially the same as Sections 12.10.1 and 12.10.2 of ASCE 7-10. Based on significant work done by Issue Team 6 on Diaphragms of the Building Seismic Safety Council (BSSC) Provisions Update Committee (PUC), an alternative seismic design force level for diaphragms has been included in new Section 12.10.3 of ASCE 7-16. The alternative design force level is mandated for precast concrete diaphragms in buildings assigned to Seismic Design Category (SDC) C and above. It is permitted for other precast concrete diaphragms, cast-in-place concrete diaphragms, and wood diaphragms.

At the same time, new precast diaphragm design provisions have been included in new Section 14.2.4 of ASCE 7-16, which goes hand-in-hand with the alternative diaphragm design force level in Section 12.10.3 of ASCE 7-16. The Section 14.2.4 requirements are based on multi-year, multi-million-dollar research, known as DSDM (Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology) research, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI), and the Pankow Foundation.

An integral part of the precast diaphragm design procedure of ASCE 7-16 Section 14.2.4 is a connector qualification methodology that was also developed in the course of DSDM research. ASCE 7-16 Section 12.10.3 will automatically be part of the 2018 IBC, presuming it adopts ASCE 7-16; however, Section 14.2.4 will not be, because 2015 IBC Section 1613 excludes Section 14.2 from the adoption of ASCE 7. This code change is meant to take care of this problem and make ASCE 7-16 Section 14.2.4 a part of the 2018 IBC.