In our staff letter dated October 28, 2010, ICC-ES noted that reports issued under AC43 to the 2009 International Building Code (IBC) would be issued for only one year, since it was our intent to bring the criteria back to the committee for additional changes in a few months. Limiting reports to one year would help to keep a level playing field for report holders.

During the hearing on AC43 at the October meeting, members of the steel deck industry asked that ICC-ES allow the AISI Subcommittee on Diaphragms to complete their work on a diaphragm specification before doing any more work on AC43. ICC-ES staff believes this is a valid request.

In addition, given that the 2012 IBC is scheduled to be released in April of 2011, the ICC-ES staff has decided that any major changes to AC43 should take place in conjunction with an update of the criteria to the 2012 code. Accordingly, staff encourages the AISI Subcommittee on Diaphragms to provide needed changes and clarifications as early as possible, so the ICC-ES staff can begin their work on updating AC43 in mid-2011.

In consideration of the above items, the one-year limit for reports issued to the 2009 code is no longer needed, and ICC-ES will accept applications for AC43 reports for either a one- or a two-year period.