

1613.6 Alternatives to ASCE 7. The provisions of Section 1613.6 shall be permitted as alternatives to the relevant provisions of ASCE 7.

1613.6.1 Assumption of flexible diaphragm. Add the following text at the end of Section 12.3.1.1 of ASCE 7.

Diaphragms constructed of wood structural panels or untopped steel decking shall also be permitted to be idealized as flexible, provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. Toppings of concrete or similar materials are not placed over wood structural panel diaphragms except for nonstructural toppings no greater than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (38 mm) thick.
2. Each line of vertical elements of the seismic-force-resisting system complies with the allowable story drift of Table 12.12-1.
3. Vertical elements of the seismic-force-resisting system are light-frame walls sheathed with wood structural panels rated for shear resistance or steel sheets.
4. Portions of wood structural panel diaphragms that cantilever beyond the vertical elements of the lateral-force-resisting system are designed in accordance with Section 4.2.5.2 of AF&PA SDPWS.

1613.6.2 Additional seismic-force-resisting systems for seismically isolated structures. Add the following exception to the end of Section 17.5.4.2 of ASCE 7:

Exception: For isolated structures designed in accordance with this standard, the Structural System Limitations and the Building Height Limitations in Table 12.2-1 for ordinary steel concentrically braced frames (OCBFs) as defined in Chapter 11 and ordinary moment frames (OMFs) as defined in Chapter 11 are permitted to be taken as 160 feet (48 768 mm) for structures assigned to *Seismic Design Category* D, E or F, provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The value of R_I as defined in Chapter 17 is taken as 1.
2. For OMFs and OCBFs, design is in accordance with AISC 341.

1613.6.3 Automatic sprinkler systems. *Automatic sprinkler systems* designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13 shall be deemed to meet the requirements of Section 13.6.8 of ASCE 7.

1613.6.4 Autoclaved aerated concrete (AAC) masonry shear wall design coefficients and system limitations. Add the following text at the end of Section 12.2.1 of ASCE 7:

For ordinary reinforced AAC masonry shear walls used in the seismic-force-resisting system of structures, the response modification factor, R , shall be permitted to be taken as 2, the deflection amplification factor, C_d , shall be permitted to be taken as 2 and the system overstrength factor, Ω_o , shall be permitted to be taken as $2\frac{1}{2}$. Ordinary reinforced AAC masonry shear walls shall not be limited in height for buildings assigned to *Seismic Design Category* B, shall be limited in height to 35 feet (10 668 mm) for buildings assigned to *Seismic Design Category* C and are not permitted for buildings assigned to *Seismic Design Categories* D, E and F.

For ordinary plain (unreinforced) AAC masonry shear walls used in the seismic-