

# Public Discussion

The ACI draft standards open for public discussion that are being processed can be found at [www.concrete.org/discussion](http://www.concrete.org/discussion). These are not yet official ACI standards.

Document number	Title	Open for discussion	Discussion closes
550	Code Requirements for the Design of Precast Concrete Diaphragms for Earthquake Motions (ACI 550) and Commentary (ACI 550R)	11/22/2017	1/6/2018
550.X	Qualification of Precast Concrete Diaphragm Connections and Reinforcement at Joints for Earthquake Loading (ACI 550.X) and Commentary (ACI 550.XR)	11/22/2017	1/6/2018

## Proposed Standards

### ACI 550, “Code Requirements for the Design of Precast Concrete Diaphragms for Earthquake Motions (ACI 550) and Commentary (ACI 550R)”

The ACI Technical Activities Committee (TAC) approved processing the subject document through ACI’s Standardization Procedure in October 2016, as did the ACI Standards Board in November 2017.

The document appears on the ACI website, [www.concrete.org/discussion](http://www.concrete.org/discussion).

Pertinent discussion will be available on ACI’s website and announced in a future issue of *Concrete International* if received no later than January 6, 2018. Comments should be e-mailed to [discussion@concrete.org](mailto:discussion@concrete.org).

### ACI 550.X, “Qualification of Precast Concrete Diaphragm Connections and Reinforcement at Joints for Earthquake Loading (ACI 550.X) and Commentary (ACI 550.XR)”

The ACI Technical Activities Committee (TAC) approved processing the subject document through ACI’s Standardization Procedure in October 2016, as did the ACI Standards Board in November 2017.

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## Code Case ACI 318-14 (1.4.7 and R1.4.7)

### Background:

A letter was submitted to the ACI Technical Activities Committee from the Post-Tensioning Institute Advisory Board on March 22, 2017, requesting clarification of the intent of Sections 1.4.7 and R1.4.7 with respect to the design of residential post-tensioned slabs-on-ground on expansive soils. A Task Group of Terence Holland, Robert Frosch, and Steve Seguirant was appointed by ACI 318 Chair Jack Moehle to review this request. Based on that review, this Code Interpretation was developed, balloted, and approved by ACI 318.

### Question:

The current language of ACI 318-14, 1.4.7 and R1.4.7, has provided the legal profession the opportunity to question whether residential post-tensioned foundations on expansive soils must be designed in accordance with ACI 318. Is it the intent of ACI 318 that residential post-tensioned foundations on expansive soils be excluded from ACI 318?

### Interpretation:

Section 1.4.7 does not address foundations in general; it addresses only slabs-on-ground. Section 1.4.7 is not intended to require residential post-tensioned slabs-on-ground on expansive soils be designed by ACI 318. It is for this reason that the Commentary to 1.4.7 (R.1.4.7) cites *PTI DC10.5-12—Standard Requirements for Design and Analysis of Shallow Post-Tensioned Concrete Foundations of Expansive Soils*. This reference has been in ACI 318 since the 2005 edition.

This interpretation on the applicability of ACI 318 to residential post-tensioned slabs-on-ground on expansive soils applies to ACI 318-14 and to prior editions of ACI 318.