

American Lumber Standard Committee, Incorporated

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VIA E-MAIL

August 6, 2010

Mr. Kirk Grundahl
Structural Building Components Association
6300 Enterprise Lane
Madison Wisconsin 53719

Dear Kirk:

We received this morning your "Bulletin Regarding SPIB Notice dated July 28, 2010." In recent days, we too have been apprised of the information that is referenced, but to date have not been able to obtain any of the specific data or particulars on the testing that the SBC Research Institute or other unnamed parties have conducted. It is our understanding that SPIB has similarly not been given access to any of the data giving rise to these assertions.

As you know, the in-grade test program that is the basis of the design values was conducted over the course of many years with the participation of the Forest Products Laboratory and numerous industry experts from the United States and Canada. It was based on testing of over 70,000 individual pieces of lumber and has been recognized for almost twenty years.

If, as has been suggested, there are concerns with published design values or their application, it is essential that they be addressed by the ALSC in a thorough, professional and prompt manner. The appropriate ALSC Subcommittee has already met once on this subject and there will be a meeting at the FPL to review these concerns and receive their guidance to evaluate the situation.

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We agree with you that "action that is not well thought out" would be counterproductive. We specifically request access to the data that you reference in your bulletin. It is premature to discuss the reservations of various parties without review of the underlying data and the input of the FPL and other experts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas D. Searles".

Thomas D. Searles
President

TDS:tw