

I think it would be unwise to have a general extension of the time-limit beyond 50 years. Whilst some artists would be protected, many valuable recordings would remain unavailable because large companies who own the copyrights would find it uncommercial to reissue recordings they made. Smaller companies (and individuals) who release material because of their interest (Topic and Musical Traditions in respect of folk music, for instance) would release this material given their lower overheads. I understand that in some cases material is no longer in the possession of the large companies because the recordings were destroyed due to being of no commercial interest.

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