



Public Utility Commission,
RE: Docket #UM 1538, Comments of Ken Hayes, March 7th, 2014

Dear Commissioners,

We regret to find ourselves once again pleading for another extension for the Hayes project.

This recount is not intended to assign blame, rather to reiterate a sequence of events from one perspective.

By Dec. 26, 2013 we had installed half of the solar panels on the roof, the new service box, meter and base. It was time to call PGE to give them the green light to connect power to the new service.

We never really heard back from them. But, after several weeks we heard from the Hayes that it looked like someone had been out there because there was a new meter. We scheduled our return to complete the installation on Jan. 27th. Much to our surprise, PGE had not brought power to the new service which left us scratching our heads and wondering. That day we finished installing the solar panels, hung the inverter, ran the conduit and did some DC wiring. I spent part of the day on the phone with PGE trying to figure out what was going on regarding bringing power to the new service.

We had done our due diligence all the way back in March of 2013 talking to the folks administrating PGE's Solar Payment Program, and the PGE Design and Service department. We were quite articulate and thorough in explaining in pain staking detail the extraordinary, and unusual situation the Hayes project was. Our purpose in having this conversation was to make sure all costs were taken into account and that no stone was left unturned in getting confirmation from PGE that despite the unusual nature of this project neither the owner or SES would incur any costs whatsoever in bringing power to the new service. If there were going to be costs, we wanted to know. We met the PGE meter placement guy out at the site twice to double confirm what we were doing was fine with him and PGE. We talked to the Design and Service department a number of times to make sure we were being thorough. To make absolutely sure PGE was not going to change their minds or ask anything more than what we had agree to, we asked for an email confirmation that PGE would not require anything more from us than to place the second service meter on the wall where and as indicated. Throughout this conversation the term, "Splitting the Service" was frequently employed and we figured they were going to tap into the existing riser to the existing service to 'split the service'. After a lot of conversation with PGE we finally got the email confirmation we were looking for. It said, "**Per request by Andrew w/ Solar Energy - There will not be an installation charge to the customer at 1223 SW Catlin Crest Dr, Portland for the second metered service to be installed to support a solar array provided the meterbase is installed per PGE Meterman Gary Bowen's instruction.**" At this point we felt like we could finally present a completely accurate financial picture to the Hayes on the entire project before they agree to move forward.

Flash forward: On or around Jan. 28th we got a call from a PGE installation crew wondering what they were supposed to do. The transformer was 100' away and they wanted to know if they should bring their excavators over and other heavy equipment to run the new service. While jolting to hear, I knew I had my bases covered. My reply, thinking I had THE email, was, "shoot you can do anything you like as long as you know it is on PGE". The PGE guy politely replied he didn't know about that and would have to check with the office. Needless to say, I was having a coronary attack! If PGE was going to make us responsible for laying a line between the transformer and the house, which had never been part of any conversation previously, we quickly figured an unanticipated cost of 10 to 15 thousand dollars in very complicated excavation.

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After many sleepless nights we got a message from PGE saying running a new line from the transformer was NOT going to be necessary. We signed relief. The following day, however, PGE informed us that we would have to run a new line from the transformer. We had another coronary.

This went back and forth for quite a while. Finally around mid-February PGE and SES had a meeting of the minds and developed a course of action that works for all concerned which would not require running a new line from the transformer to the new service. Unfortunately, the parts required to make this happen are not readily available.

I would like to take a moment to point out that despite the adverse physiological effect this situation has had on us, PGE has been stellar. The folks over at the Solar Payment program, Shawn Foster and Andrew Keizer, have been pulling for us the entire time. The engineers in Service and Design have been patient, sympathetic, cooperative and very helpful in seeking a solution to this "one of a kind" situation.

We just checked with Platt electric this week on the status of the order and were told the delivery of the parts will be in late March. This is two weeks after the initial estimate given at the time the order was made. This new ETA is not a firm date and completely out of our control no matter how hard we try to expedite the order. I, Andrew Koyaanisqatsi, will be out of town much of April on a trip to Iran. Final inspections by Washington County and PGE to finalize the project may be complicated by the out of ordinary nature of this project.

Given the unusual nature of this project and a myriad of other factors beyond our control we are thinking a two month extension is needed to accomplish the tasks at hand. This would put us into mid-June. Even from the jaded perspective of a hardened solar man, it is hard to imagine us coming back and asking again.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our need for an additional two month extension.

Sincerely,

Andrew Koyaanisqatsi

Andrew Koyaanisqatsi

President

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Since 1987,

Moving Portland and Beyond

to an Environmentally Sustainable Future.

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