

## Imagine Energy LLC

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Oregon Public Utilities Commission 550 Capitol St NE #215 PO Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

RE: Expedited Request for waiver of 12-month installation requirement (OAR 860-084-0210 (1))

To Whom it May Concern:

This is an expedited request. Given the nature of the request and the incredibly tight timeframe we have available, we ask that you review and work through the appropriate process as soon as possible. We very much appreciate your cooperation.

Our client, Steven Ribeiro, has been working through the process of installing an 8.8 kW solar photovoltaic system utilizing the Solar Payment Option for almost one year. Due to circumstances beyond his control, the timeline for installation has been repeatedly pushed back until it is no longer possible to install the system in the allotted 12-month timeframe. Further complicating the issue, Mr. Ribeiro's original solar contractor has now backed out of the project, leaving Imagine Energy, the new contractor, no time for design, processing, permitting, and installation of the project. We request a 90-day extension for the small-scale PV system enrolled in the July 2010 allotment. I am very confident that Imagine Energy will be able to complete the project in this timeframe. This exception would allow a United States Navy veteran and his wife to live out their twilight years utilizing clean, renewable solar energy.

## Statement from Mr. Ribeiro:

We applied for financing for this PV system with the Oregon Department of Energy last year anticipating installation in May of this year as it would be near impossible to bring in the necessary equipment to construct a very tall structure to support the PV system in the mud, as the soil in our area becomes exceptionally difficult in wet conditions. We did not get approval because ODOE required, and we were we were waiting on delivery of engineered drawings and formal bids for the special structure to be constructed for the PV panels. (We now have financing approval from Addison Avenue Credit Union.) After the engineered plans were delivered in late February, and while we were waiting on bids for the structure to come in, the need and opportunity arose to install a hardship manufactured home in our backyard in the same location as the special structure we had originally designed and engineered for the PV system. This is a very special manufactured home called an IdeaBox that will be for Robert and Anne Beveridge. Bob is the retired US Navy Commander of PT Boat-810. (JFK was Commander of PT-109) We are honored to be caring for them in their twilight years. They are very excited about living on solar power and growing their own food in a garden on our property. The roof of the IdeaBox (<a href="https://www.ideabox.us">www.ideabox.us</a>) home is the perfect location for the PV panels, so we abandoned the plans for the other structure.

We called Marion County to make arrangements for Bob and Anne's new home to be delivered and were told that approval for the hardship permit for the IdeaBox home had to be in hand before we could even apply for the permit for the PV system that would be mounted to it, so we hurried down to the County to get that process going. When we got there, they then also told us that no hardship manufactured home permit applications would be accepted until we first changed our home's official address because of a new Marion County 911 policy that has a requirement that our property actually touch Battle Creek Rd. Our home accesses Battle Creek Rd. via our driveway on an easement, so we and the two neighbors that share this driveway have to officially name and register our driveway with Marion County and change our three 30+ year old addresses over to it. That process has begun.

Even though it was not our first choice for location of the PV system, solely in the interest of time, we instructed our PV contractor to instead go ahead with a simple and quick ground mount PV system in the sunny location where we were going to plant Bob and Anne's vegetable garden, as the deadline was now approaching. (We can work on the other permitting issues for Bob and Anne in parallel as they don't have a deadline.) After some time, the contractor said they had a meeting and had decided that they were now uncomfortable doing the install due to both their current workload and the deadline; they backed out. We humbly request up to a 90 day extension that would allow us to quickly get the PV system in and operating with Imagine Energy as the replacement contractor.

Thank you,

Steven & Jerelyn Ribeiro

Request for waiver:

OAR 860-084-000 (3) states, "OPUC may issue a waiver of any of the rules governing the SPO for good cause." Mr Ribeiro and Imagine Energy request that the 12-month requirement for completion of the July 2010 allotment of the SPO be waived in order to allow completion of the project. The project will allow Robert Beveridge, U.S. Navy (Ret.) and Anne Beveridge to live out their twilight years in a unique and comfortable manor befitting a United States Navy veteran.

Now that Imagine Energy is involved in the project and a system design that will expedite the permitting process has been established, a 90-day extension would allow completion of the project, and be greatly appreciated by all involved parties.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Bassett

**Engineering Technician** 



