

Attn

~~3 Brian Zhang~~
Tony Brasil

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02-REN-1038	
DATE	JAN 18 2005
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To be presented at Energy
Commission meeting Jan 19 regarding
item ~~1B~~
3 on the agenda.
Jan 19 '05 Business Meeting

Jandy
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Record #19846

Dear Commissioners

I have a concern about the extension policy that I would like to bring to your attention.

My installation is on new construction and I'm sure you are realistic enough to know that there are often unforeseen delays and that is why you have an extension policy in place. As my extension request states we found a very large one buried on our lot. Once we got it dealt with we probably would still have been able to meet the original March deadline as 2 more weeks of good weather would have seen

the foundation in & more as we still should have had 4 or 5 additional weeks of fair weather.

But winter arrived, not just 2 weeks early but nearly 2 months. And he arrived with a real attitude. It's not just a "bad" winter, it's the winter of the century, the one that many may not see in their lifetimes, let alone plan for, and it's not over yet!

I am worried that for those of us adversely impacted by this weather that even a 90 day extension granted to individuals whose deadline is between now & the end of the rainy season won't be enough, not because we're trying to abuse the system but because it's out of our control.

I'm sitting with my foundation all dug out & water standing in the trenches. When we had the good weather at the beginning of Dec. I pumped them out. I was even out there with a broom pushing water to the pumps to get every drop I could. But it still took nearly 3 weeks for it to dry out enough that they might have passed compaction. And then it rained again!

Now I'm pumping & sweeping again but the ground is so saturated that I'm totally dependent on ~~saturation~~ evaporation to dry things out. This is difficult when the fog dumps nearly as much moisture back at night as was evaporated during the day. If it quit raining today I might be able to meet an

an extended deadline, but there is more rain & rain delays ahead. If it continues to rain through April there's not much chance I can finish by June.

I know I'm not alone in how this winter has destroyed all imaginable schedules.

Up the road from me another homeowner was at the same stage as I am. When the water in his trenches overflowed it eroded the fill on his pad so badly that he has an 8' foot canyon where his master bedroom should be. So properly repair his pad he has to pull everything out (plumbing, forms, etc.) wait for the ground to dry out & rebuild his pad entirely.

At the lumber yard, while buying more plastic to cover stuff, I

met a man who had his house mostly framed. & was due to have his trusses & roofing materials delivered. Only now he is hiking a quarter mile to his property because the road is washed out. Who knows when the road will be repaired to carry the weight of a heavy truck? It definitely won't be while its still raining.

I don't know if either of these individuals have reservations with you but they are real examples of the hardships people are encountering with this winter's severity. But, for argument's sake, let's assume they do. For none of us a 90 day extension where the original date fell during this rainy season may not be enough, and it's not because we

were trying to manipulate the system. Even if we had unlimited funds & could hire double or triple crews to do the work (were they available) we might not meet deadlines because it is just too wet.

It is my hope that you will give those of us who have already made a financial commitment to improving the quality of life in this state the benefit of some consideration to meet that commitment. In my case where both I & my housemate are totally disabled its almost everything left in my IRA.

It is my hope that you will consider an extension policy for those of us impacted by this winter that recognizes the weather's brutality. Something along the lines of an extension that includes time left

on contract at the time of an extension request & the declaration of the end of the rainy season by a government entity (i.e. the National Weather Service) plus the 90 day extension.

Example:

- 1) request made 60 days before end of contract
- 2) Rainy season end April 15

April 15 + 60 days + 90 day extension - new deadline would be Sept 15.

It may be that you request photos or receipts to show good faith progress but that would be reasonable.

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I understand that you are considering abandoning the policy that grants

extensions totally. I hope these cases also support an argument against that policy. It seems extremely punitive to those people who have limited resources & are trying to do the right thing but are caught by circumstances that are out of their control.

Thank you for your
consideration

Sincerely
Jandy

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