



Oregon

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March 25, 2010

Oregon Solar Energy Code Committee

March 11, 2010

Meeting Summary

****NOTE:** *The following is a summary of the committee's discussion.*

To review the meeting in its entirety, the archived video of the meeting is available on the committee's Web site at the following link: <http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/committees/10sec.html>

Members Present: Doug Aljets, Electrical and Elevator Board **and** Solar Installer for NW Current Energy, LLC
Brian Crise, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 48
Jerry Henderson, Independent Contractor for Department Of Energy (DOE) **and** Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO)
Robin Rabiuff, Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) **and** EC Company
Robert Rice, Oregon Building Officials Association (OBOA) **and** Josephine County Building, Official
Nathan Philips, National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)
Marcus Reed, State Fire Marshal
Jaimes Valdez, City of Portland – BPS/BDS

Members Absent: Robert Lane, Three Phase Electric
Dave Mumford, Lear Electric
Len Ralston, Solar Installer for Dynalectric

Guests Present: John Caul, Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
David Nilles, Structural Engineers Association Organization (SEAO)
Jonathan Cohen, Imagine Energy
Derek Cropp, Solar City
Bryan Shull, REC Solar
Adam Ward, REC Solar
Keith Knowles, Live Light Energy
Byran Cropp, A/L
Michael Freels, Oregon Home Builders Association (OHBA)
David McClelland, Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO)
Kim Berhorst, National Solar

Staff Present: Chris Huntington, Policy and Technical Services Manager
Dennis Clements, Electrical Program Chief
Areon Teverbaugh, Policy Analyst
John Powell, Facilitator
Debi Woods, Boards Coordinator
Dana Fischer, Building Code Para-Technical

Introductions

John Powell, Facilitator called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m. The meeting began late, due to technical difficulties with the video streaming equipment.

Committee discussion began with Robert Rice reviewing the [Chapter 3, Installation](#) document.

Chapter 3 Installation Section 302 Definitions

Accessible Roof

The committee agreed to delete the definition for “Accessible Roof”.

Firefighters Staging Area

The committee agreed to delete the definition for “Firefighters Staging Area”.

Pathway

The committee added for consistency, “PV” in front of the word “array”. It was also decided that the words “and egress” would be added.

Self Ballasted System

The committee agreed to delete the definition for “Self Ballasted System”.

Solar Roof

The committee agreed to delete the definition for “Solar Roof”.

Motion to approve as amended Section 302 Definitions

The committee continued to discuss the definition for “Self Ballasted System” and decided it should be deleted.

Motion carried unanimously

Section 303 Minimum Standards and Quality

Motion to re-open Section 303 Minimum Standards and Quality

Motion carried unanimously

303.4 Certification Requirements

After a brief discussion, it was decided that “support structures” would be deleted from the section.

Motion to approve as amended Section 303.4 Certification Requirements.

Motion carried unanimously

Section 304 Location

304.7 Mechanical Equipment Clearances

This section was tabled at the February 25, 2010 meeting. The committee discussed the section and decided to table it again until after today’s break in order to review language found in the Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code (OMSC).

304.8 Roof Drainage

The committee reviewed [language submitted by the Energy Trust of Oregon](#). After discussing the suggested language, the Committee decided to delete “Roof valleys shall be unobstructed for 12 inches (305 mm) each side of the lowpoint.”, and add after the first sentence “No vertical supports or roof penetrations shall be allowed within 12 inches (305 mm) of each side of the low point of the valley. The PV modules or racking may extend into the valley no more than 6 inches from the valley low point provided that a minimum 3 inch clearance above the surface of the roof is maintained”.

Motion to approve as amended Section 304.8 Roof Drainage.

Motion carried unanimously.

304.9.1 Fire Fighter Access (Exception “A” only)

The “subcommittee” worked on language for the “exceptions” in this section. Nathan Philips explained the new language to the committee and guests. New language consists of “and where no section is larger than 150 feet measured in length or width:” and “is installed on a sloped roof with an adjacent roof and”. It was decided that “as measured in horizontal projection” and “horizontal” would be deleted. For consistency through out the draft code, the words “solar” has been changed to “PV”.

The committee continued to discuss the language and whether or not “minimum 12 inch” applies to one side of a “ridge” or both sides of a “ridge”. It was agreed that “both sides of” would be added as new language in two places.

Motion to approve (*in concept*) as amended Section 304.9.1 Fire Fighter Access.

Motion carried unanimously.

Section 304.9.1 Fire Fighter Access

The committee continued to discuss the original Exceptions in Chapter 3. It was decided due to the new “Exception” language, that Exception “E” is no longer needed. Exceptions “2” and “3” were briefly discussed and it was decided the language would remain as it is written.

304.9.2 Intermediate Pathway Locations

Mr. Philips briefly explained the language in this section. There were no objections voiced on the current language.

Motion to approve as amended the language in Section 304.9.2 Intermediate Pathway Locations.

Motion carried unanimously.

304.9.3 Prohibited Locations

The committee discussed the language and determined that “within 12 inches of the low point of” should be added.

Motion to approve as amended the language in Section 304.9.3 Prohibited Locations.

Motion carried unanimously.

304.9.4 Cutouts

Mr. Philips explained the language to the committee. The committee agreed to change “1” or “2” to “A” and “B”.

Motion to approve as amended the language in Section 304.9.4 Cutouts.
Motion carried unanimously.

Section 304.9.6 Electrical Component Location

304.9.6.3

Mr. Philips explained the language in this section, proposing that the language be moved into the Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC), as a code amendment in the next code cycle. The committee agreed.

304.9.6.4

The committee agreed to move the language into the Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC), as a code amendment in the next code cycle.

304.9.9.5

The committee agreed to move the language into the Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC), as a code amendment in the next code cycle. It was also agreed that “and” would be added and that “and the method of identification used for dc raceways” would be deleted.

Motion to approve as amended Section 304.9.6 Electrical Component Locations.
Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.