



**OREGON
RURAL
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE
ASSOCIATION**

"The Power of Community"

April 28, 2008

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P.U.C.

Mr. Jerry Murray
Public Utility Commission
550 Capitol St. NE Ste 215
Salem, OR 97301-2551

Dear Jerry:

On behalf of the 18 electric cooperatives in Oregon, I am respectfully requesting the assistance of the Public Utility Commission in asking for a delay in the January 1, 2009 implementation date for the new NESC Arc Flashing Protection Standards.

There is great concern by the co-ops with the complexity of the changes required to meet these new standards. Providing the necessary training by January 1st is an unrealistic time-frame. Co-op Managers will be challenged to perform the assessment and implementation process in an effective and timely manner.

A delay in the mandatory implementation date would provide additional time necessary for the co-ops to further understand the standards and implement the requirements.

We would very much appreciate your assistance in requesting the Commission ask for a delay for all utilities in Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Sandy Flicker
Executive Director

Cc: Co-op Managers