

Community Renewable Energy Program

Construction Start Requirement

As a condition of your Community Renewable Energy Program (C-REP) grant, project construction must begin within 12 months of the execution of the performance agreement. In addition, project construction must be completed within 36 months of the execution of the performance agreement. The following guidance is intended to clarify what does and does not constitute beginning construction activities for the purposes of the C-REP grant.

This guidance may be updated or changed by the Oregon Department of Energy.

“Beginning construction” as outlined in your Performance Agreement, means to start the physical assembly of the Project or its infrastructure at the Project site.

Please Note:

1. The 12-month deadline to begin construction of the project cannot be amended or waived unless “good cause” is shown, as defined in [OAR 330-250-0010\(14\)](#).
2. Per [OAR 330-250-0150](#) and PA Sections 7, 8 and 11, ODOE may verify that installation or construction has begun by physical site inspections, which can include requesting site photographs and labor invoices demonstrating construction activities from the list below have occurred at the project site.
3. If projects are unable to demonstrate they have begun “installation or construction” as defined in [OAR 330-250-0010\(15\)](#), the performance agreement and grant may be terminated.

The following activities will be considered beginning installation and construction activities for the C-REP grant purposes that are directly related to renewable energy system project:

- On-site assembly and/or installation of equipment listed in the system description of the Performance Agreement.
- On-site assembly and/or installation of infrastructure such as equipment foundations or holding tanks.
- On-site assembly and/or Installation of electrical infrastructure such as a switch yard, substation, or upgrades to a motor control center (MCC).
- On-site assembly and/or Installation of mounting equipment, racking and/or support systems.

The following activities **will not** be considered beginning construction activities for C-REP grant purposes:

- Project planning activities such as:
 - Design
 - Permitting
 - Land surveys or sampling
 - Interconnection or utility agreements
 - Other project preparation activities
- Site preparation activities such as:
 - Demolition

- Excavation or grading
- Constructing access roads
- Installing temporary or permanent fencing
- Other activities to get the site “construction ready”
- Off-site assembly of project equipment.
- Delivery of project equipment or materials.
- Merely the existence of, or not directly related modifications of, pre-existing infrastructure.
- The simple incurrence of eligible project costs.