



14
October 13, 2019

SENT VIA EMAIL

J. Richard Aramburu
Attorney for Appellant CENSE

Loretta Lopez
Appellant

Larry G. Johnson
Attorney for Appellant CSEE

Matthew B. McFarland
Cheryl Zakrzewski
Attorneys for City of Bellevue
Development Services Department

Warren Halverson
Appellant

Norm Hansen
Appellant

Erin Anderson
Sara A. Leverette
Attorneys for Puget Sound Energy

RE: Appeal of Hearing Examiner Decision on Puget Sound Energy's Conditional Use Permit Application for the South Bellevue Segment of the Energize Eastside Project

Dear Parties:

I am responding to the October 10, 2019 request from CENSE, joined in by all other appellants, that I recuse myself from participation in the above-referenced appeal.

CENSE's October 10 letter asserts that Council leadership is responsible for materials posted on the City's web site and the timing of notice to the general public concerning the appeal hearing, which CENSE alleges demonstrate bias. CENSE then requests that I recuse myself.

To clarify my role, the City of Bellevue operates under a council-manager form of government. Under that form of government, the Mayor presides at meetings of the Council and is recognized as the head of the City for ceremonial purposes, but has no regular administrative duties. I refer the parties to RCW 35A.13.030 and RCW 35A.13.080. I have had no involvement in the decisions concerning the content or timing of materials posted on the City's web site about this matter. Those decisions were made by administrative departments within the City.

I have not prejudged the issues and do not believe that I am biased in favor of or against any party. I will make my decision in this case fairly and impartially, based on the record before the Hearing Examiner and the arguments presented by the parties.



Therefore, I will not be recusing myself from participation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John L. Chelminiak".

John Chelminiak
Mayor

CC: Councilmembers
City Manager
City Attorney
City Clerk