



City of Burien

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CITY OF SEATTLE
MAYOR'S OFFICE

Mayor
Wing Woo

January 23, 2003

Deputy Mayor
Rose Clark

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor, City of Seattle

Councilmembers
Noel Gibb
Kevin James
Stephen Lamphear
Joan McGilton
Sally Nelson

600 Fifth Avenue
12th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Attn: Regina LaBelle

Dear Mayor Nickels:

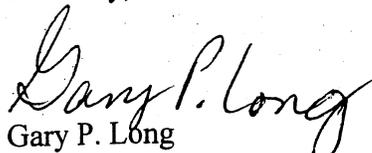
As City Manager for the City of Burien and a professional colleague, I am writing to support the reconfirmation of Gary Zarker as Superintendent of Seattle City Light. I have known Mr. Zarker for over seven years and have found him to be a credit to the public administration profession and a person with exceptional integrity and honesty.

Under Gary Zarker's leadership a franchise fee arrangement was negotiated and agreed to which provided that served cities would receive similar revenues from the public utility (Seattle City Light) in the same way that other served cities receive a utility tax from private utilities. Mr. Zarker's willingness to seek a creative compromise helped to resolve a long-standing conflict between Seattle and suburban cities.

I can state that when I have had some problem or issue with Seattle City Light, Gary has always been available and helped me find a prompt, practical resolution.

With the recent west coast energy crisis of last year still fresh in our minds and with new efforts by FERC to re-write federal energy policy, it is important that we feel that we have the stability of an experienced superintendent with a history of strong environmental leadership and accomplishments as our regional partner in the complex energy business. Retaining Gary Zarker would help to build that level of confidence and trust for the suburban cities.

Sincerely,


Gary P. Long
City Manager