



City Public Service
of
San Antonio, Texas

January 22, 2003

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor, City of Seattle
600 Fifth Avenue, 12th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Attn: Regina LaBelle

Dear Mayor Nickels:

As General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of City Public Service, I am writing on behalf of Mr. Gary Zarker, who while serving as Superintendent of Seattle City Light, distinguished himself through years of dedicated service to his community and to the industry of public power.

I have had the pleasure of visiting with Mr. Zarker at various meetings hosted by the Large Public Power Council (LPPC). As you may know, the LPPC is an organization composed of the nation's 24 largest locally owned and controlled power systems. During these meetings, the CEOs are provided with an opportunity to exchange information regarding specific projects occurring within their company and/or accomplishments that deserve recognition. During these exchanges, I have been briefed on the various programs that Seattle City Light has implemented, such as Seattle Green Power, the Home Energy Profile, and the Energy Efficient Water Heater Rebate Program. Through remarkable foresight and skillful guidance of these and other programs, it appears to me that Mr. Zarker has contributed immeasurably to the success of the utility, which in turn has greatly benefited the customers of Seattle City Light.

As the electric industry is on the verge of great change and public power is faced with new challenges, it is critical that chief executives of public power entities work together to develop consumer-oriented positions on national energy issues and advance those positions with state and national lawmakers and regulators. Two issues of particular importance to public power are standard market design and the comprehensive energy bill, which will soon be revisited by the U.S. Congress. Under the leadership of Mr. Zarker, Seattle City Light has taken proactive measures in working with other public power utilities to address these issues of concern.

Mr. Zarker is an asset, not only to Seattle City Light, but also to the public power industry at large. His diligence, personal interest, and professional competency are necessary characteristics that make his reconfirmation as Superintendent essential.

Sincerely,

Milton B. Lee
General Manager and CEO

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