

CITY ETHICS COMMISSION

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July 27, 2010

The Council of the City of Los Angeles  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
City Hall, Third Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RE: APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF WATER AND POWER COMMISSIONERS – MS. CHRISTINA NOONAN (CF # 10-1191)**

Honorable Members:

On July 7, 2010, the Mayor transmitted to the City Clerk the appointment of Ms. Christina Noonan to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners. The City Ethics Commission received Ms. Noonan's pre-confirmation Statement of Economic Interests on July 19, 2010, and following our review of that Statement, is providing this letter to the Council for your consideration as part of the confirmation process. A copy of this letter is also being provided to Ms. Noonan at this time to assist her in avoiding any potential conflicts of interest that may arise in the course of her term as a City official on the Board of Water and Power Commissioners.

Ms. Noonan does not report any investments, income sources, or interests in real property on her financial disclosure statement that pose a likely conflict of interest.

Interests disclosed on CA Form 700 (Statement of Economic Interests) are not the only interests that can give rise to a conflict of interest. As an example, in some cases state law may require recusal by a board or commission member due to certain business activities of the clients of that member's employer(s) or sources of income. Additionally, recusal on matters may be required by City law under City Charter Section 222. That section provides that the City Attorney, upon request, may provide a written opinion concerning the obligation of a City official or board to refrain from acting on a matter that may violate State law or where action may otherwise not be in the public interest for the board or commission member to act in a particular matter, contract, sale or transaction.

In the event that any matter comes before the Board that raises potential conflict of interest issues, we encourage the nominee to seek the advice of the City Attorney before acting. If circumstances arise that do require the nominee to recuse herself from acting on any matter, the enclosed Recusal Notification Form should be used by the nominee to notify the City Ethics Commission for purposes of Charter section 707, as well as the Mayor's Office pursuant to Executive Directive 2005-1.

For your additional information, as a part of its review process, the City Ethics Commission also regularly requests and verifies that nominees to boards and commissions are registered electors within the City of Los Angeles. We have received a completed Residence Verification Form whereby the nominee affirms that she is registered to vote in the City of Los Angeles.

This staff report will be scheduled for formal review by the City Ethics Commission at its next meeting pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 49.5.7. If the Commission's formal review results in a different conclusion at that time, our office will notify the City Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LeeAnn M. Pelham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

LeeAnn M. Pelham  
Executive Director

cc: Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa  
Ms. Christina Noonan