

From: Norman M. Semanko <NSemanko@parsonsbehle.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 4:30 PM
To: Michael Duval <michael.duval@puc.idaho.gov>
Cc: Dayn Hardie <Dayn.Hardie@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: RE: SWS-W-24-01: Intervention

Michael,

Thank you for the follow up. I am glad to provide some additional specifics regarding my previous representation. I am allowed to share these details pursuant to Idaho Rule of Professional Conduct 1.6(b)(5); see also comment [10] (authorizing a lawyer to reveal information relating to the representation of a former client when reasonably necessary to establish a defense against a legal claim made against the lawyer by the former client).

As mentioned in my letter of April 1, 2024, my prior representation was not of CDS Stoneridge Utilities, but did involve Chan Karupiah. I was contacted by a mutual acquaintance of Mr. Karupiah in early 2012 about legislation in the Idaho State Legislature dealing with a proposed minimum lake level for Lake Cocolalla in North Idaho. I was asked to help with opposing the proposed lake level from being approved by the Legislature. Upon checking on the status of the legislation, I determined that the minimum lake level matter was dead and was not going anywhere in the Legislature, which I reported back to the mutual contact, thereby ending the engagement. I did nothing further regarding the matter or for Mr. Karupiah or any of the interests that he has, at that time or at any time since. The 2012 legislative matter was completely unrelated to the current PUC matter involving Mr. Karupiah's interests. In the relevant terminology of Idaho Rule of Professional Conduct 1.9(a), the matters are not "the same or substantially related." As a result, under any reasonable reading of the Rule, I am not prohibited from representing SPOA against Mr. Karupiah's interests in this separate and unrelated matter before the PUC, without informed consent, confirmed in writing. In addition, I did not gain any information during the course of my previous representation in 2012 that could be used to Mr. Karupiah's disadvantage in the current PUC proceedings. If I had, I would be prohibited from using it under Idaho Rule of Professional Conduct 1.9(c), again as mentioned in my letter of April 1, 2024.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Regards,

Norm Semanko



A Professional
Law Corporation

Norman M. Semanko

Attorney at Law

Parsons Behle & Latimer

800 West Main Street, Suite 1300 • Boise, Idaho 83702

Main +1 208.562.4900 • Direct +1 208.562.4909 • Fax +1 208.562.4901

parsonsbehle.com • NSemanko@parsonsbehle.com • [vCard](#)

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic mail message and any attachment(s) are confidential and may also contain privileged attorney-client information or work product. The message is intended only for the use of the addressee. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you may not use, distribute, or copy this communication. If you have received the message in error, please immediately notify us by reply electronic mail or by telephone at +1 801.532.1234, and delete this original message.

From: Michael Duval <michael.duval@puc.idaho.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 3:57 PM
To: Norman M. Semanko <NSemanko@parsonsbehle.com>
Cc: Dayn Hardie <Dayn.Hardie@puc.idaho.gov>
Subject: SWS-W-24-01: Intervention

Hey Norm,

Thank you for speaking with me today about SPOA's Petition to Intervene. Thank you for being willing to provide some clarity on your former representation.

Sincerely,

Michael Duval



Michael Duval | Deputy Attorney General
State General Counsel and Fair Hearings
Office of the Attorney General | State of Idaho
208-334-0320 | www.puc.idaho.gov