

[Kristen Bryant](#) replied (Mon, 18 Sep at 9:56 AM)

to : pdc@pdc.wa.gov

Hello Mr. Ragins and the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC),

This is a response to a message received via email from the PDC on September 11, 2017. The subject is an allegation of failure to report information to the PDC for certain communications opposing a Recall petition in Black Diamond spearheaded by the person who filed the complaint, Robbin Taylor.

Regarding the flyer with the contact information for "Save Black Diamond" that is referred to in the complaint:

A few people including myself put out a flyer with the name and contact information for Save Black Diamond in May of 2017. This flyer explained certain facts in the recall attempt and encouraged people not to sign a recall petition. This flyer was not delivered to every door as alleged, but was delivered to approximately 700 households. The flyers were delivered on foot by volunteers. The cost was less than \$100. (The black and white flyer was laser printed inexpensively by a volunteer and the cost of paper was the main expense, approximately \$22 for 250 sheets of paper).

In checking the rules for expenditure, we did not understand a PDC reporting requirement to be triggered. In May 2017 there was only a petition but no certainty of an election and no set election date. It was not clear to us if the signature gathering phase is a campaign under PDC rules (perhaps this information is hard to find because a recall election is rare).

Second, and perhaps more important, we understood an expenditure of less than \$100 to be an independent expenditure that did not require reporting. Save Black Diamond mainly focuses its time and limited funds on issue advocacy, not politics. We continue our work on many issues in Black Diamond. For example, we spent many hundreds of dollars on experts to review environmental and engineering issues with a road and water line construction project in Black Diamond earlier this year. We have also sent out several messages informing people about issues in Black Diamond that were not campaign endorsements.

Next, the complaint from Taylor mentions the names of a number of other people (the McDermands and Carriers). These people have been active in

Black Diamond issues and part of the "save black diamond network" but were not involved in the flyer mentioned, and did not even know about its creation or delivery. While the McDermands may have received a copy of the flyer, they did not participate in or endorse its creation, or help with the printing or distribution. Further, the McDermands and Carriers are not Officers of Save Black Diamond and never have been.

Finally, the complaint mentions yard signs and a website that contain "www.BogusRecall.com". Save Black Diamond did not create the yard signs or the website referenced. "Decline to Sign" is a phrase not original to Black Diamond or the flyer created by Save Black Diamond. Save Black Diamond has not used the phrase for anything more than the flyer and has not spent any other funds on the political action of the current Recall in Black Diamond.

If we do expend further money as Save Black Diamond we would be very interested to receive more information on what triggers the requirement to register as a PAC or report an Independent Expenditure. We agree that people have a right to know who is funding campaign materials, and would gladly provide this information as needed regarding the flyer in the complaint.

Thank you,
Kristen Bryant for Save Black Diamond