



## What was the outcome of the Perrinville Creek hearing by Phil Olbrechts

Hearing Examiner Phil Olbrechts ruled against the City and in favor of the appellant on key points. He revoked the City of Edmonds' SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for the Perrinville Creek project, finding that the City must address both public-safety risks from the corroded ductile iron outfall pipe under the BNSF tracks and the loss of fish passage in the lower reach of the creek.<sup>[1][2]</sup>

Practically, his decision requires the City to:

- Treat the deteriorating pipe and associated infrastructure as a significant safety concern, with the risk of a potential train derailment if it fails.<sup>[1][2]</sup>
- Restore or provide for fish passage along the lower portion of Perrinville Creek, coordinating with BNSF, WDFW, tribes, and adjacent owners (e.g., through a bridge or box culvert solution) rather than continuing to rely on the existing diversion and pipe.<sup>[2][1]</sup>

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1. <https://www.heraldnet.com/news/edmonds-hearing-examiner-decides-on-perrinville-creek-saga/>
2. <https://edmondsenvironmentalcouncil.org/2025/04/>
3. <https://edmondsenvironmentalcouncil.org/examiner-to-decide-route-of-perrinville-creek/>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/HeraldNet/posts/the-examiner-revoked-the-citys-determination-of-non-significance-forcing-edmonds/1082442837234093/>
5. <https://files.edmonds.wa.us/main.html?download&weblink=c94fb2abbf09e977336cf7daf95bb020&subfolder=Exhibits&realfilename=Exhibit+B82+2024-09-03+Clugston+email+stay+of+Hearing+Examiner+Decision.pdf>
6. <https://files.edmonds.wa.us/main.html?download&weblink=c94fb2abbf09e977336cf7daf95bb020&subfolder=Exhibits&realfilename=2024+11+20+Appellant+Witness+and+Exhibit+List.pdf>