City of Cle Elum
ATTN: Planning Department/Lee
RE: STR-2025-002 Lee
119 West First St,
Cle Elum, wa 98922

City Council members,

I am writing in opposition to the requested permit for a short term rental at 408 w 6th st in Cle Elum, WA.

The neighborhood of 7th hill has gone through immense and drastic changes with the Ederra development. With the increase in traffic and usage, our streets are showing wear and trash is accumulating faster than we can clean it.
Nestled near the Cle Elum ridge, our neighborhood is a vital transition area for wildlife, such as deer, elk, turkeys, doves, pheasants, and bears.
The increased traffic without any additional safety measures (such as speedbumps or stop signs on west 5th at the junction of Reed, or a stop sign at the bottom of the Ederra road on 6th st) poses a real and present threat to the children of 7th hill and the wildlife that relies on the remaining habitat between w 6th and 5th to survive.

Approving an application for a 10 person occupancy short term rental will stress the ecosystem beyond its capacity. Each year we experience bear activity as they dig through trash cans and search for food. Short term rentals tend to have little oversight on trash management and little to no accountability from its owners, as they are only in it to make money.

Cle Elum does not need more Westside investors trying to cash in on our land and the limited homes we have for locals. Cle Elum needs people invested in the community, who support and participate in our local businesses and events, who are willing to foster a safe and nurturing neighborhood for the children being raised here and the wildlife already displaced by egregious developments, such as the Ederra build.

We implore you to deny this application. We do not want to set a precedent for others to buy up the houses in Ederra and turn them into short term rentals for profit. We need families and individuals who want to foster a safe and community focused environment to enrich Cle Elum.

Sincerely,

Sophie McVickar