

# Seattle City Light Copper Creek Dam Project Records, 1974-1981

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Seattle City Light
<b>Title</b>	Seattle City Light Copper Creek Dam Project Records
<b>Dates</b>	1974-1981 (inclusive) 1974 1981
<b>Quantity</b>	.4 cubic foot, (one box)
<b>Collection Number</b>	1206-09
<b>Summary</b>	Records of a proposed hydroelectric project on the Skagit River
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Seattle Municipal Archives</a> Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 <a href="mailto:archives@seattle.gov">archives@seattle.gov</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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## Historical Note

City Light provides electricity and electrical and conservation services to its public and private customers. It is the largest public utility in the Pacific Northwest. Public responsibility for electrical energy dates to 1890 with creation of the Department of Lighting and Water Works. In 1902, Seattle voters passed a bond issue to develop hydroelectric power on the Cedar River under the administration of the Water Department. Electricity from this development began to serve Seattle in 1905. A City Charter amendment in 1910 created the Lighting Department. Under the leadership of Superintendent James D. Ross, the department developed the Skagit River hydroelectric project which began supplying power in 1924. Both public and private power was supplied to Seattle until 1951 when the City purchased the private electrical power supply operations, making the Lighting Department the sole supplier. The Boundary Project in northeastern Washington began operations in 1967 and supplied over half of City Light's power generation. By the early 21st century, approximately ten percent of City Light's income came from the sale of surplus energy to customers in the Northwest and Southwest with the remainder of City Light's financial support coming from customer revenue. The current name of the agency was adopted in 1978 when the Department was reorganized.

# Content Description

Power Manager's records, including correspondence, news releases, energy estimates, stream data, and Copper Creek Citizens' Advisory Committee minutes. Records concern a proposed hydroelectric dam on the Skagit River below Copper Creek. The dam was never built

# Use of the Collection

## Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle City Light Copper Creek Dam Project Records , Record Series 1206-09. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

# Administrative Information

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# Names and Subjects

**Subject Terms :**

Copper Creek (Skagit County, Wash.)  
Copper Creek Project  
Electric power--Washington--Seattle  
Electric utilities--Washington--Seattle  
Skagit River Hydroelectric Project

**Corporate Names :**

Seattle City Light  
Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Lighting

**Geographical Names :**

Seattle (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness  
2010