

Seattle City Light Annual Reports, 1910-1985

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.). City Clerk
Title	Seattle City Light Annual Reports
Dates	1910-1985 (inclusive) 1910 2000
Quantity	1.2 cubic ft., (3 boxes)
Collection Number	1802-F6
Summary	Annual reports for Municipal Light and Power Plant and System, Lighting Department, and Seattle City Light. Includes financial reports as well as comparative reports on highlights of years. Lighting Department annual reports contain historical reviews, illustrations, and statistical information. Also includes the 1977 and 1978 annual reports for the City Light Office of Conservation.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives 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 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

Seattle 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 were 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 northern Washington began operation in 1967 and currently supplies over half of City Light's power generation. Approximately ten percent of City Light's income comes from the sale of surplus energy to customers in the Northwest and Southwest. The current name of the agency was adopted in 1978 when the Department was reorganized.

Content Description

Included in this series of annual reports are reports for the Municipal Light and Power Plant and System dating from 1913 to 1917; these are signed by J.D. Ross. Lighting Department or City Light annual reports exist from 1910 to 1985, although reports for some years are missing. In some cases there are two reports for one year; some of these are financial reports, while others are comparative or reports outlining highlights of the year addressed to the Mayor and City Council.

Beginning in 1911, the earliest Lighting Department annual reports are complete with a historical review, photographic illustrations, graphs, and statistical information. Many include maps and detail power plant development. The reports, although shorter, continue to be well illustrated and to supply statistical information through the 1970s and 1980s. They reflect issues such as conservation and droughts.

The 1977 and 1978 annual reports for the City Light Office of Conservation are also included in this series.

Records were originally filed with the City Clerk in the Comptroller/Clerk's Files (CFs) and were removed to create this record series.

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle City Light Annual Reports, Record Series 1802-F6. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

Reports are arranged chronologically by year.

Custodial History

Records were originally filed with the City Clerk in the Comptroller/Clerk's Files (CFs) and were removed to create this record series.

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Seattle City Light Annual Reports, 1910-1985

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Lighting Department Annual Report	1910
1/1	Lighting Department Annual Report	1911
1/1	Lighting Department Annual Report	1912-1913
1/2	Municipal Light and Power System Annual Report	1913
1/2	Municipal Light and Power System Annual Report	1914
1/2	Municipal Light and Power System Annual Report	1916
1/2	Municipal Light and Power System Annual Report	1917
1/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1914-1915
1/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1915
1/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1919
1/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1921
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1922
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1923
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1924
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1925
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1926
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1926
1/4	Lighting Department Annual Report (Supplemental)	1926
1/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1927
1/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1927

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/5	Lighting Department (published) Annual Report	1928
1/5	Lighting Department (unpublished) Annual Report	1928
1/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1929
1/6	Lighting Department (published) Annual Report	1930
1/6	Lighting Department (unpublished) Annual Report	1930
1/6	Lighting Department Annual Report	1931
1/6	Lighting Department Annual Report	1932
1/7	Lighting Department Annual Report	1933
1/7	Lighting Department Annual Report	1934
1/7	Lighting Department Annual Report	1935
2/1	Lighting Department Annual Report	1936
2/1	Lighting Department Annual Report	1937
2/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1938
2/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1939
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1940
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1941
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1942
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report (includes Financial Report)	1943
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1944
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1945
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1946

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1947
2/3	Lighting Department Annual Report	1948
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1949
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1950
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1951
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1952
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1953
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1954
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report - "Highlights"	1954
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1955
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1955
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1956
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1957
2/4	Lighting Department Annual Report	1957
2/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1958
2/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1959
2/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1961
2/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1962
2/5	Lighting Department Annual Report	1962
2/6	Lighting Department Annual Report	1963
2/6	Lighting Department Annual Report (includes separate Financial Report)	1964

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/6	Lighting Department Annual Report	1965
2/7	Lighting Department Annual Report	1966
2/7	Lighting Department Annual Report	1967
2/7	Lighting Department Annual Report	1969
2/8	Lighting Department Annual Report	1970
2/8	Lighting Department Annual Report	1971
2/8	Lighting Department Annual Report	1972
2/8	Lighting Department Annual Report (Financial)	1973
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1968
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1969
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1971
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1973
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1973
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1974
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1975
3/1	Underground Wiring Annual Report	1976
3/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1974
3/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1975
3/2	Lighting Department Annual Report (Financial and "Highlights")	1975
3/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1976
3/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1977

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/2	Lighting Department Annual Report	1977
3/2	City Light Annual Report	1978
3/3	City Light Annual Report - Office of Conservation	1977
3/3	City Light Annual Report - Office of Conservation	1978
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1979
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1979
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1980
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1980
3/4	City Light Annual Report (Financial)	1980
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1981
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1982
3/4	City Light Annual Report	1982
3/5	City Light Annual Report	1983
3/5	City Light Annual Report	1983
3/5	City Light Annual Report	1984
3/5	City Light Annual Report	1985
3/6	City Light Annual Report	1986
3/6	City Light Annual Report	1987
3/6	City Light Annual Report (2 copies)	1988
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1990
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1991

Container(s)	Description	Dates
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1992
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1993
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1994
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1996
3/7	City Light Annual Report	1997
3/7	City Light Annual Report	2000

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Droughts--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Electric power--Conservation--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Electric utilities--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Power-plants--Washington (State)--Seattle

Personal Names :

Ross, J. D. (James Delmage), 1872-1939

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Form or Genre Terms :

Annual reports

Other Creators :

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Lighting Dept.

(creator)

Seattle (Wash.). Municipal Light and Power Plant System

(creator)

Seattle City Light

(creator)

Seattle City Light. Office of Conservation

(creator)

Finding aid prepared by Anne Frantilla
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