



# Light reading

July/August 2015



## Conservation news

### ENERGY USE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Seattle City Light is the nation's greenest utility. We're proud to be the first carbon-neutral utility in the U.S., providing the cleanest, lowest-cost electricity among the country's largest cities. And we're proud of the many customers



Hydroponic Lighting

we have using our clean power to make a real difference. An example is the Millionair Club, which serves more than 90,000 meals every year to individuals who are homeless or unemployed in King County. They're able to do that by selling and serving the Club's own fresh produce, which grows in a hydroponic garden under LED lighting.

What other ways are customers using electricity from City Light for good?

We want to hear from you. Nominate an individual or a business that uses electricity to make a difference. Learn more and submit your nominee today at [seattle.gov/light/ABetterPlace](http://seattle.gov/light/ABetterPlace). One business and one individual winner will be selected and recognized in the next issue of Light Reading.

### RECYCLE THAT OLD FRIDGE

If you have an older refrigerator that was manufactured in 2000 or before, it could be an energy hog responsible for up to \$150 of your annual electricity use. City Light will haul it away for free and give you a \$30 rebate. Recycle your old fridge today at [seattle.gov/oldfridge](http://seattle.gov/oldfridge).



### GET SolarWISE WITH CITY LIGHT

Attend one of our SolarWISE solar education workshops to learn how solar works, which sites are most suitable, how to select a contractor, and what financial incentives are available to help bring costs down. These free workshops are being held through October. Register today for a chance to win free door-prizes: [www.seattle.gov/light/solarwise](http://www.seattle.gov/light/solarwise)



### CONSERVATION HERO

*"One of my favorite childhood memories is hanging clothes out to dry during the summer. I still make a point to hang my sheets and towels on warm, sunny days. I recently called an Energy Advisor and found out this is a great way to reduce my electric bill, since clothes dryers use a lot of energy." — Barbara S., Shoreline*

If you use your clothes dryer for one hour a day, for most customers, this will add about \$8 a year to your City Light bill.

Want to save like a Conservation Hero or have a question about energy conservation and our renewable energy programs? Call a Seattle City Light Energy Advisor at **206.684.3800** or email [SCLEnergyadvisor@seattle.gov](mailto:SCLEnergyadvisor@seattle.gov).

"HIGHEST CUSTOMER SATISFACTION WITH BUSINESS ELECTRIC SERVICE IN THE WEST AMONG MIDSIZE UTILITIES"\*



## Seattle City Light



**From Interim General Manager Jim Baggs**

As you may know, Jorge Carrasco has

retired as City Light's general manager and CEO after 11 successful years at the utility. During his tenure, Jorge led the effort to overcome economic and operational challenges, always moving toward stability. He leaves City Light in excellent shape and we're grateful for his contributions.

A national search is underway for his replacement while I provide interim leadership.

Part of this job is to share information with you, and in Light Reading, we hope to offer news you can really use.

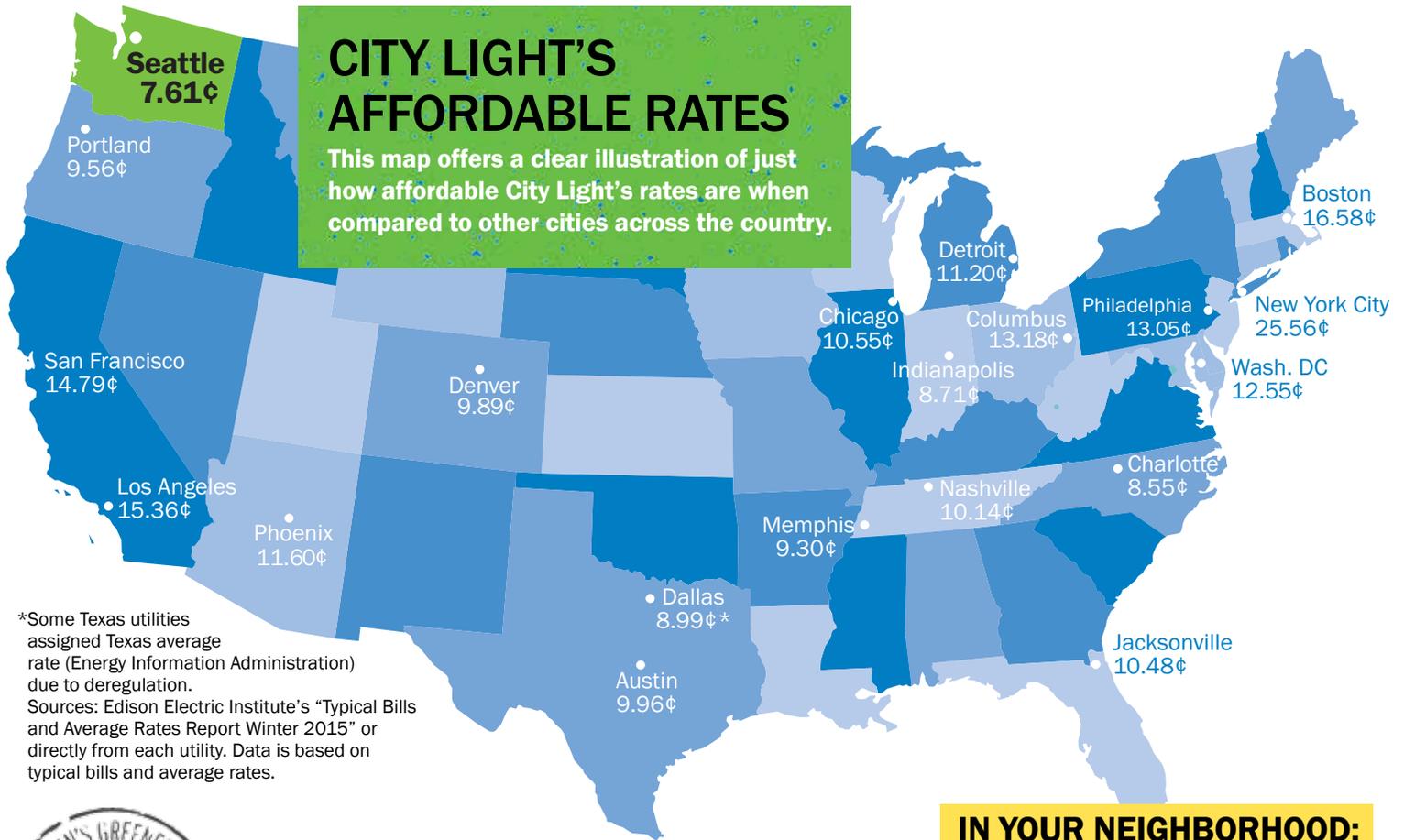
On this page, you'll find ideas on how to conserve energy and save money in the process. Plus, we invite you to nominate someone who is using electricity to make a difference. Check out the details at this website: [seattle.gov/light/ABetterPlace](http://seattle.gov/light/ABetterPlace) and read the article on this page.

Check out the back page for our latest rates map, which dramatically illustrates how affordable City Light services are.

I hope you enjoy the latest issue of Light Reading.

Jim Baggs  
Interim General Manager

\* Seattle City Light received the highest numerical score among midsize utilities in the West in the proprietary J.D. Power 2015 Electric Utility Business Customer Satisfaction Study<sup>SM</sup>. Study based on 22,857 total online interviews ranking the 12 largest providers in the West. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of businesses surveyed April-June and July-November 2014. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](http://jdpower.com).



\*Some Texas utilities assigned Texas average rate (Energy Information Administration) due to deregulation.  
Sources: Edison Electric Institute's "Typical Bills and Average Rates Report Winter 2015" or directly from each utility. Data is based on typical bills and average rates.



## SKAGIT TOURS

### GET OUT THERE

See where your power comes from and take a Skagit Tour in the beautiful North Cascades. Visit [skagittours.com](http://skagittours.com) or call **360.854.2589**.

### PROPERTY-TAX RELIEF

Low-income seniors, disabled veterans, and people retired because of a disability, may qualify for a property-tax deferral (\$40,000 or less) or exemption (\$35,000 or less). Please contact King County Assessor Lloyd Hara's office at **206.296.3920** or email [assessor.info@kingcounty.gov](mailto:assessor.info@kingcounty.gov) to determine eligibility. More at [kingcounty.gov/assessor](http://kingcounty.gov/assessor).

### SAFETY TIP FROM THE FIELD

*"Parents, talk to your kids about outdoor safety and electricity. Make sure kites, model airplanes and other toys are used only in open areas."*  
- Stacy Claybo, City Light Skagit Hydroelectric Project



### TELL US HOW TO GROW

Seattle 2035 updates the city of Seattle's comprehensive plan, which includes City Light service. Read a draft of the plan online: [2035.seattle.gov](http://2035.seattle.gov).



## IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD: CITY LIGHT @ WORK



**Crews are in these neighborhoods, working to provide you with reliable power:**

- Burien, Seattle, Shoreline (various locations): replacing utility poles;
- Montlake: relocating, replacing underground power lines in support of a state project;
- Webster Point (Laurelhurst): upgrading underground capacity and reliability;
- Elliott Bay: At Alaskan Way between Madison and Columbia: providing support for seawall project. All other areas are open to the public.
- Central District: Installing a major, new transformer at E. Pine Street substation.

This is a partial list. For details go to [seattle.gov/light/construction](http://seattle.gov/light/construction) and click on the  construction sign.

## Seattle City Light

**City Light offers some of the lowest rates in the nation and the Northwest.**

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