



City of Seattle

Michael Patrick McGinn, Mayor

Your Seattle City Light
Jorge Carrasco, Superintendent

May 15, 2012

Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E., Suite 1A
Washington, D.C. 20426

RE: Skagit Hydroelectric Project No. 553 – 2010-2011 Erosion Control
(Article 409 Report)

Dear Secretary:

Seattle City light (SCL) is please to submit the 2010-2011 Erosion Control Report for the Skagit River Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 553), as required by License Article 409 and FERC's May 15, 1996 Order Approving the *Soil Erosion Control Plan*. FERC's July 6, 1998 Order Amending the Approved Soil Erosion Plan changed the variable yearly funding amounts to uniform annual funding amounts and allowed use of a portion of the \$500,000 "New Sites & Maintenance" contingency fund for maintenance of erosion control measures installed at identified sites. SCL's total financial obligation for erosion control remained the same. This is the third biennial report per the Erosion Control Settlement Agreement, which required annual reports for the first ten years of the license and then report covering two years until the end of the license.

The National Park Service (NPS) has performed erosion control work for the Skagit River Project pursuant to the Erosion Control Settlement Agreement (Section 6.1) and continued this work in 2010 and 2011. The 2010 and 2011 *Annual Expenditures Statements* for the Skagit Hydroelectric Project, submitted in March 2011 and 2012, respectively, provides more detail on expenditures for erosion control activities.



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If you have any questions about this report, please contact Shelly Adams at (206) 683-3117 or shelly.adams@seattle.gov.

Sincerely,



Colleen McShane, Manager
Natural Resources and Environmental Planning
Environmental Affairs & Real Estate Division

SA:sw

Enclosure: 2010-2011 Completion Report – Erosion Control Program

cc: w/enclosure
Dave Snyder, FERC
Douglas Johnson, FERC (PRO)
Chip Jenkins, NPS
Tammra Sterling, NPS
Jon Riedel, NPS



**SKAGIT - FERC PROJECT #553
EROSION CONTROL PROGRAM
2010-2011 COMPLETION REPORT**

North Cascades National Park and Seattle City Light

April-2012

INTRODUCTION

As stipulated in the 1991 Erosion Control Settlement Agreement (SA) between the National Park Service (NPS) and Seattle City Light (SCL), erosion control activities in Ross Lake National Recreation Area (NRA) continued for year sixteen and seventeen (including pre-license work).

Within the current reporting period, NPS crews responsible for Erosion Control have been directed to other Park duties due to prioritized circumstances within the Park related to storm damage during the winter of 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Many projects scheduled for the reporting period have been deferred until 2012 due to these circumstances. Initial budget requests were reduced to reflect these changes.

During the current reporting period, NPS Erosion Control crews did perform yearly routine maintenance of existing structures. This maintenance involved visiting all completed sites and monitoring the status of the structure toe and the rock armor originally placed to protect the adjoining structure. Armor rock has a tendency to be displaced by reservoir water level fluctuations, boat wakes, wave activity, and the grinding of free floating woody debris washing in against the structure and armor. Where this occurred, NPS imported rock to re-arm the exposed toe to reduce scouring risk and potential failure of the structure itself. During the site inspections, NPS personnel also checked for new erosion issues at Park facilities and assets.

Detailed accounting of expenditures is provided in other reports and is not duplicated here. The purpose of this report is to update the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on progress under the terms of the current operating license for the Skagit Project.

PROGRESS REPORTS BY PROJECT-2010/2011

Erosion Control

- Cat Island, north shore (new site, E-134C): - At Cat Island, approximately 300 ft of shoreline has incurred significant unraveling during the last ten years. This section of shoreline is adjacent to site E-134, also on Cat Island, and was not originally identified in the initial site plan. Continued erosion will eventually threaten the access trail from the boat dock to the camp sites.

NPS Erosion Control crews began importing rock in fall, 2010 to prepare for construction of a new section of rock wall based on a design used at other NPS facilities. Approximately half of the necessary building rock was imported in 2010. The remainder was imported in fall of 2011. Construction work will begin in spring 2012.

- Lodgepole Campground - Work at Lodgepole Campground included cribbing, re-armoring rock walls, and material delivery.

- Boat and Nautical Equipment Maintenance - Boats as well as other nautical equipment was repaired and maintained.

Plant Propagation

Plant propagation activities in 2010-2011 included:

- Propagation of approximately 1,000 plants for use at Ross Lake and Diablo Lake Erosion Control Sites.
- Maintenance of plants currently in nursery including watering, weeding, fertilizing and repotting as necessary.
- Management of volunteer groups who assist in planting and maintaining erosion control sites.
- Maintenance of program records and preparation of reports.
- Planning and preparation for continuing erosion control work.
- Delivering woody debris to erosion control sites to control noxious weeds.

Seasonal Help and Supplies for Seed Collection

Seed collection activities included:

- Collected seeds and cuttings.
- Tracked plant genetics.
- Planted at select Ross Lake erosion sites.

