

73557

FILE NO.

Communication

OF

Secretary of Agriculture to  
Corporation Counsel

re

Skagit River Power Project.

MAY 27 1919.

FILED

BY

ADDRESS

H. W. CARROLL  
CITY COMPTROLLER AND EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK

BY

DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

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C. B.

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DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your

to which was referred the within

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that

Committee

CHAIRMAN



File  
Skagit

Delivered to HMC in person by  
Secy of Agriculture in Wash. D.C.

Comptr. # 73,557  
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON

January 18, 1918.

Mr. Hugh M. Caldwell,  
Corporation Counsel,  
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your request on behalf of the City of Seattle for the approval by this Department of an application by the City for a permit for power development on the lower Skagit River in the State of Washington. It is understood that the City desires action to be taken at this time in order that it may be able at an early date to call for bids for the construction of a hydroelectric plant of a capacity of approximately 25,000 kilowatts, at a site on the lower Skagit River, that a plant of this capacity would meet the present needs of the City, but that the City intends in the future, as the demands for power increase, to extend its development work further up the river in which event it is probable that the lower development now applied for would be superseded by the new development.

An examination of maps and other data available indicates that such a development as is immediately proposed could be made without interfering with the subsequent development of the remainder of the river if the City's operations for any reason should not extend beyond the lower site. The Department is willing, therefore, that the lower Skagit site should be

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used as a basis for calling for bids for the proposed plant and in the event any bids so offered are accepted, or if not accepted, in the event the City will itself undertake to make the development, the Department will grant a permit to the City for the purpose.

The Department will also grant the City until May 15, 1918, priority of consideration for any further developments of the Skagit River on the understanding that in the meantime the City will prepare and submit to the Department its proposed scheme for such development.

If the City proceeds under this authorization and subsequently fails to carry out its plans, it is understood that no expenditures which the City may have made in this connection shall constitute any obligation, moral or otherwise, upon the Department to extend the priority of the City.

Very truly yours,

*D. J. Austin*,  
Secretary.

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