

SCL SEEC 2013 Budget Resolution

Date of this Brief	February 7, 2013		
Supersedes	N/A		
Key Contacts		Phone	Short Title
	Lynn Best	386-4586	Director, Environmental Affairs Division
	Scott Powell	386-4582	Strategic Advisor 2, Environmental Affairs Division
Council Action Required?	Y	If YES, within the next 3 months?	Y
Public Hearing Required?	N		
Presenters (if applicable)	Lynn Best, Director, Environmental Affairs Division		

Summary Statement

This is a Resolution seeking Council approval of the Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission's (SEEC's) 2013 Budget for its fiscal year April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014. The Commission was established in 1984 as part of a treaty between the U.S. and Canada and an agreement between the City of Seattle and the Province of British Columbia relating to the settlement of the proposed "High Ross Dam." Although its funds come from an endowment and are separate from City funds, the agreement requires SEEC to submit its annual budget to the Seattle City Council for review and approval.

Background

- SEEC supports a variety of educational and environmental projects in the upper Skagit Watershed. SEEC continues to work with the National Park Service, the North Cascades Institute, and appropriate Ministries of the British Columbia Provincial Government.
- SEEC has added the Student Conservation Association and a Canadian educational group, the Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning, as formal partners.
- A 5-year workplan has been developed for the period 2009-2013 that outlines funding priorities for education, ecosystem management, land management, and recreation.
- The 2013 SEEC budget also carries forward a contingent allocation of \$1 million to support land protection measures in the Skagit watershed in British Columbia.
- The endowment fund is professionally managed and achieves a good rate of return.
- The SEEC budget has no financial impact on Seattle City Light.
- By treaty, Seattle City Light provides administrative support to SEEC.

Key Issues

None.

Next Steps

SEEC will not act on its 2013 budget activities until the budget resolution is approved by the City Council.