

City of Seattle

Senior Mechanical Engineer

SALARY

\$74.99 - \$87.31 Hourly

LOCATION

WA, WA

JOB TYPE

Classified Civil Service, Regular, Full-Time

JOB NUMBER

2026-00618

DEPARTMENT

Seattle City Light

OPENING DATE

05/04/2026

CLOSING DATE

Continuous

Position Description

Seattle City Light, a department of the City of Seattle, is one of the nation's largest municipally owned utilities in terms of the number of customers served. Over the years we have worked very hard to keep Seattle's electricity affordable, reliable, and environmentally sound. Today, City Light is a recognized national leader in energy efficiency and environmental stewardship.

Seattle City Light's Engineering & Technology Operations Division is seeking a Senior Mechanical Engineer to ensure reliable operation of hydro turbine generating units and all auxiliary systems that support the generating units. In this position, you will be responsible for design changes, maintenance and construction of powerhouse and dam support systems, gates, hoists, structural equipment, piping

systems, ventilation system, etc. This position reports to the Mechanical Engineering Supervisor.

Job Responsibilities

Here is more about what you'll be doing:

- Reporting to City Light's Boundary Project and provide engineering support with operations and maintenance
- Meet regularly with the mechanical maintenance crew to review planned work and ensure projects are completed and documented
- Provides support with procurement and sourcing of materials
- Work independently to complete tasks and manage priorities
- Recommend projects at our plants and facilities when deficiencies are identified, with a goal of enhancing worker safety and productivity or generation reliability and efficiency
- Ensure customers (Shops and Generating Plants) and other engineering disciplines (Electrical & Civil) are included as needed in the development of designs
- Ensure that designs meet or exceed all Codes, Laws and Ordinances and promote safe operations of equipment and a safe environment for yourself, your co-workers and the general public
- Experience with Work Asset Management systems for creating work tasks, preventative maintenance requirements and ordering equipment

Design Engineering

- Reverse engineering – review old parts without existing information or drawings. Determine functionality, loading, forces, and calculate/design new replacement parts.
- Full design engineering includes calculate part stresses, strains – to be compliant with safety and code requirements and produce drawings with part dimensions, tolerances, bearing clearances, and alignment requirements.
- Review designs for code compliance and/or industry standards.
- Modifications or replacement of piping with ASME B31.1 & B31.3 piping codes

Field Engineering

- Knowledge of rotating machinery systems and their testing procedures and control systems.
- Develop disassembly procedures including tooling and rigging designs for rotating machinery.
- Develop assembly procedures for rotating machinery including proper materials, clearances, bolt torque values, alignment and fit up. Confirm shaft run out measurements meet industry standards.
- Oversee and inspect work performed by machine shop, machinists, iron workers, and structural welders during generator and support system overhauls.
- Directing of in-place machining of turbine and generator components including the use of boring bars and alignment verification.

Qualifications

Required Qualifications:

In addition to the skills and experience mentioned below, a successful applicant will have experience that reflects a commitment to creating fair and equitable outcomes and has:

Requires five years of professional mechanical engineering experience and a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering or other combinations of education and/or experience which provide preparation to do professional mechanical engineering work.

Work Environment/Physical Demands:

- Most work is performed at the City's hydroelectric project
- Work may entail exposure to all types of weather, high noise levels, hazardous/toxic substances, confined spaces and work near heavy equipment
- May be required to work nights, evenings, weekends, and/or holidays
- Overnight travel may be required
- Work at other City Light projects and facilities may be required, including travel to Seattle

License, Certification and Other Requirements:

- Registration as a Professional Engineer in the State of Washington
- Current Washington State driver's license or evidence of equivalent mobility

Desired Qualifications - *You will be successful if you have the following experience, skills, and abilities:*

- Experience working at a hydroelectric generating facility
- Experience with large rotating machinery
- Experience with vibration analysis of rotating machinery
- Knowledge of welding codes and welding procedure generation
- Experience with Non-Destructive Examination (NDE) methods
- Experience with mechanical data analysis to determine changes in machine operation
- Ability to work on multiple projects and adapt to project and site needs
- Power Plant, plant maintenance, and maintenance procedure experience
- The ability to communicate and collaborate with skilled trade workers
- Proficient using CAD, 3D design software, and Matlab

Please note this job advertisement is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

Emergency Response Commitment:

Seattle City Light is committed to reliable service during emergencies. Through our Emergency Response Program, each employee is assigned a role—usually aligned with their regular duties—to support emergency operations. Your participation is required and vital to helping the utility stay prepared and serve our community when it matters most.

Additional Information

The full salary range for this position is \$74.99 to \$87.31 per hour.

Application Process

Please submit the following with your online application:

- A cover letter in which you clearly describe how your knowledge, experience, skills, and abilities prepare you for the job responsibilities and qualifications outlined in the job announcement
- A current resume of your educational and professional work experience.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Who May Apply: This position is open to all candidates that meet the qualifications. Seattle City Light values diverse perspectives and life experiences. Applicants will be considered regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Seattle City Light encourages people of all backgrounds to apply, including people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQIA+, people with disabilities, veterans, and those with diverse life experiences.

Job offers are contingent on the verification of credentials and other information required by the employment process, including the completion of a background check. The background check will involve a criminal history check, which includes conviction and arrest records in compliance with the [Seattle's Fair Chance Employment Ordinance, SMC 14.17](#) and the [City of Seattle Personnel Rule 10.3 \(Download PDF reader\)](#). A driving history review may be conducted in compliance with [SMC 4.79.020](#). Applicants will be provided an opportunity to explain or correct background information.

The City of Seattle offers a comprehensive benefits package including vacation, holiday, and sick leave as well as medical, dental, vision, life and long-term disability insurance for employees and their dependents. More information about employee benefits is available on the City's website at: <https://www.seattle.gov/human-resources/benefits/employees-and-covered-family-members/most-employees-plans>.

Want to know more about Seattle City Light? Check out our web page: <https://www.seattle.gov/city-light/about-us/careers>.