PLANS REVEALED ON GORGE DAM

Contractors are now inspecting the site and preliminary plans for the Gorge high dam and power intake tunnel on the Skagit between Newhalem and Diablo. Seattle City Light hopes to have final drawings complete soon so that bids can be called this summer.

The proposed dam is to be a combination arch and gravity structure rising about 150 feet above the present river bed. It will be 670 feet long and will replace the temporary diversion dam for the Gorge powerhouse.

There will be two vertical-lift spillway gates and two fixed-lift spillway gates, a reinforced concrete power tunnel intake to connect with the present tunnel; a tunnel-lake gate and hoist and an access road to the top of the dam.

The contractors will also build a 4.5 mile road that will require two tunnels, one 670 feet and the other 350 feet long and a 240 steel bridge across Gorge creek. There will be some 200,000 cubic yards of excavation, most of which will be solid rock.

Not satisfied with present drilling on the proposed hydro-electric dam at Copper Creek on the Skagit between Marblemount and Newhalem, the Seattle City Light has requested $250,000 more to continue their search for a suitable bed-rock location for the dam.