Register of the Sierra Club California Legislative Office Records, 1970-[ongoing]

Collection number: BANC MSS 91/1 c

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Materials Cataloged Separately
Office newsletter, The Legislative Agenda, has been transferred to the serials collection of The Bancroft Library.

Acquisition Information
The Sierra Club California Legislative Office began donating its records to The Bancroft Library in 1991. The office continues to transfer groups of historical records in appropriate increments.

Administrative History
John Zierold, formerly the head of the California Planning and Conservation League, began advising the Sierra Club on state legislative matters in the 1960s, and he became a full-fledged lobbyist for the club in 1970. Some of his early successes included helping to pass the legislation which created the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, the [San Francisco] Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the California State Solid Waste Management Board. He also influenced laws on logging and forestry management, nuclear safeguards, coastal zone management, and California's counterpart to the National Environmental Policy Act.

When Zierold retired in 1984, his assistant, Michael Paparian, became the state director. Paparian currently supervises a staff of experts in such areas as ancient forests, public lands, hazardous materials, and energy and water policy legislation. The Sacramento office also maintains a consultative relationship with Sierra Club California, which is comprised of volunteers from each California chapter.

Scope and Content
The Sierra Club California Legislative Office, located in Sacramento, began in the late 1960s. It was one of the first offices established to work strictly on state-level environmental legislation. The staff consists of a state director, currently Michael Paparian, legislative representatives, the editor of the California Legislative Agenda, and a fund-raising coordinator.

Records were received from the office in December, 1990. Most are files of former staff members. In June, 1991, the office was destroyed in a fire.

The best-documented issues are energy-related, including liquefied natural gas, nuclear energy, and the California Energy Commission. Water quality, hazardous substances, pesticides, and all terrain vehicles on public lands are subjects which can be found in the papers of the state directors, legislative representatives, and the subject files.
Series 1: Papers of the State Director, 1971-1989

Scope and Content Note

John Zierold's files contain one folder of correspondence; the remaining papers are alphabetically-arranged subject files. Topics include the California Energy Commission, nuclear energy, radioactive waste disposal, and the Sierra Club Committee on Political Education (SCCOPE).

Michael Paparian's papers also are comprised of one folder of correspondence, followed by subject files, arranged alphabetically. Subjects include the California Public Utilities Commission, liquefied natural gas, hazardous substances policy, and water issues.

Subseries 1.1: John Zierold Papers, 1971-1989

Correspondence 1979-80

Subject Files

Allen-Warner Valley Energy System 1979-80
Calaveras River Hydro Project 1976
California Building Industry Association - Energy policy 1980
California Energy Commission 1977
Access to documents 1976
Biennial report 1980
Minutes 1979
Power-plants - Location 1976
Proposed regulations for record disclosure 1977
California Energy Development Finance Bond Act 1979-80
California Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission - Power-plants - Location 1977
California Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission appointment - Commissioner 1976-77
California State Legislature - Assembly and Senate bills 1983-84
Californians for Nuclear Safeguards 1979-80
Campaign funds from energy industries 1977
Coal-fired power plants 1977
Conservation of natural resources 1971-73
Electric Utility Rate Design Structure 1977
Environmental law 1979-80
Finance, Public 1978
Future Energy Alternative Project 1977
Grants-in-aid - Proposals 1980
Household appliances - Efficiency 1978-79
Kesterson Reservoir - Selenosis 1981-89
Moss Landing Power Plant (Calif.) 1978
Nuclear energy
Disadvantages of 1975-77
High temperature gas-cooled reactors 1977
Law and legislation 1976
Hearings 1976-77
Lawsuit 1978
Regulation 1976
Nuclear power plants, underground 1977
Outer Continental Shelf Land Act 1982
Pacific Gas and Electric gas-turbine power-plant 1977
Radioactive waste - Low-level 1986
Radioactive waste disposal 1975-77
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Subseries 1.2: Michael Paparian Papers, 1977-1988

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Series 2: Papers of Legislative Representatives, 1970-1989

Scope and Content Note
Arrangement
The first sub-series, Mike Eaton's files, are entirely concerned with energy conservation issues. They are arranged alphabetically by subject. Kirk Neuner's papers contain a correspondence section, arranged alphabetically by subject, and subject files, also arranged alphabetically by subject. Topics include liquefied natural gas and the Sohio Project. Paula Carroll's files consist of eight folders of correspondence, arranged chronologically, and alphabetically-arranged subject files. Subjects include all terrain vehicles; the proposed East Bay Shoreline Park; and Sinkyone Wilderness (California).
Subseries 2.1: Mike Eaton, 1970-1981

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Ctn. 4, folder 1-13
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folder 16

Subseries 2.2: Kirk Neuner, 1975-1986

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Subseries 2.3: Paula Carrell, 1974-1989

Ctn. 5, folder 1-8
Subject files
Ctn. 5, folder 9
folder 10-12
folder 13
folder 14-15
folder 16-19

California Energy Commission
- Energy policy 1970-1978
- California Energy Reporter - Proposal 1976-77
- Nuclear energy - Safety measures 1976-81
- San Joaquin Nuclear Project 1978
Series 2: Papers of Legislative Representatives, 1970-1989

Subseries 2.3: Paula Carrell, 1974-1989

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California Legislative Office
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