

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE DIVISION ENGINEER
(NOT TO INDIVIDUALS)

CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DIVISION ENGINEER
NORTH PACIFIC DIVISION
500 PITTOCK BLOCK
PORTLAND 5, OREGON

ACE
a/w

NPDVE

REFER TO FILE

9 October 1953

NO.

Major General S. D. Sturgis, Jr.
Chief of Engineers
Corps of Engineers
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sam:

At the close of the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1954 we have met the Civil Works obligation limitation of \$64,700,000 set by your office. Our actual expenditures for this period amounted to \$29,500,000 which is 87% of the expenditure limitation allowed us.

As could be expected, the \$9,000,000 increase in the expenditure ceiling for The Dalles Dam and nearly \$1,000,000 restoration in the ceiling on Operation and Maintenance projects have received very favorable local public reaction. ✓

The Snake River Investigations are progressing on schedule and a public hearing will be held 20 November in Orofino, Idaho. Two coordinating conferences have been held with representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation and a third is scheduled for next week. Agreement is being sought with the Bureau on general methods of project analysis in order that that portion of the investigations to be developed and furnished by the Bureau will fit in on a regional basis with the Corps' report.

The McNary pool, which has been maintained for several months at about elevation 315, is being raised and will reach 335 (5 feet below permanent pool) by 1 November. The lock will be re-opened to traffic about 22 October. The first generating unit is now completely assembled and will undergo rotational checks within a few days. First indications from a canvass of local interests and Congressmen for dedicational plans for the McNary project indicate a preference for ceremonies next summer rather than at the time of first power generation this December. Because

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of weather conditions and of conflicts that would occur in personal programs of those interested in the dedication at a time so close to the holidays, I concur in the sentiment for a postponement until some time after the adjournment of Congress next summer. We will keep you informed in this matter in order that you may work it into your heavy schedule.

I am happy to be able to make the services of Mr. B. E. Torpen, who has been serving as my special assistant in Civil Works, available to the State Department for temporary duty in Pakistan. Mr. Torpen's orders have been received and he will depart 12 October.

During the month of September we awarded military construction contracts in the total amount of \$8,900,000. This amount, plus July and August awards, gives us a total of \$35,700,000 for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 1954.

A pre-bid conference on the Haines-Fairbanks pipeline, held in Seattle 30 September, was attended by approximately 200 persons. Indications are that we will receive a minimum of three bids with a possibility of five, each joint ventures composed of Canadian and United States firms. Bids on this project, estimated to cost approximately \$40,000,000, will be opened 14 October.

Bids will be opened in November for construction of facilities for two Guided Missile Battalions. Construction of the remainder of these sites will follow in an orderly manner. A detailed report on the status of this entire program is being submitted in response to Dave Tulley's letter of 22 September.

Sincerely yours,



E. C. ITSCHNER
Brigadier General, USA
Division Engineer