

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

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[unclear]

NPDVE

16 September 1953

REFER TO FILE

NO.

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

Dear Sam:

We just recently submitted our revised civil works program tailored to fit the new expenditure limitation of \$107,000,000 imposed by your office on the North Pacific Division for fiscal year 1954. Total funds available before the limitation were \$145,000,000. By careful scheduling, we will be able to meet existing dates now set for first power on the line for the Albeni Falls, Chief Joseph, McNary and Lookout Point projects. First power on the line for The Dalles project will have to be extended one year, and several months delay is expected on McNary units 6 through 14. Public acceptance of the reductions imposed generally was quite good, although I expect considerable pressure will be brought to bear from local and Congressional sources to provide funds sufficient to maintain schedules on The Dalles. With an increase of \$9,000,000 in the division expenditure ceiling, this project would be maintained on schedule provided the over-ceiling amount (\$58,000,000) is appropriated for fiscal year 1955. The Bonneville Power Administration estimates that loss of power revenues because of a year's delay in The Dalles will be \$9,000,000. I have assured local interests that decision on this project is not yet final and that your office is carefully reviewing the entire program. I am inclosing a copy of an editorial from the 5 September 1953 issue of the Portland Oregon Journal which will give you an idea of local feelings.

Since it has been agreed that the Bureau of Reclamation will survey and report on that stretch of the Snake River between the Hell's Canyon site and the mouth of the Salmon River, we are taking every precaution to assure that in the conduct of our own survey and preparation of our report the fullest cooperation is maintained and that no duplication is permitted. Our field efforts will be confined almost wholly to the Clearwater Basin, but our report will, of course, include the Bureau's data on the main stem of the Snake.

Maj. General S. D. Sturgis, Jr.

16 September 1953

Our Military Construction program is continuing on schedule. During August contracts were awarded in the amount of \$21,000,000. Bids for the Haines-Fairbanks pipeline project were advertised on 29 August and will be opened 14 October. Contractor interest is high and we expect keen competition.

I am now accompanying the Civil Functions Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee throughout its inspection of our work here and will meet the House Public Works Committee to conduct it through the region when it arrives on the 18th. I will report all significant occurrences to you upon completion of these inspections.

Sincerely yours,



E. C. IPSCHNER
Brigadier General, USA
Division Engineer

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Editorial dtd 5Sept53

NPDVE

28 August 1953

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

Dear Sam:

Our military construction program at the beginning of this fiscal year amounted to approximately \$584,000,000. Of this amount \$377,000,000 is now under contract. During July we awarded contracts amounting to \$5,800,000 and expect to award additional contracts totaling \$55,000,000 within the next 90 days.

*Ad Barry
\$70,000,000
July - Aug
Sept
?*

We have received Using Service site plan approvals on approximately one-half of the guided missile sites in this Division. District offices are expediting the design of NIKE facilities on these sites as directed by your office. We expect to obtain approval of the remaining site plans in the near future and will expedite the design for these sites. Standard drawings for the structures included in this program were received from your office 31 July 1953.

Of the six previously programmed ACW stations in Alaska, we have been informed by USAF that only four will be funded. This reduction will in all probability result in resiting three of the four remaining stations. Design of three stations has been under way for some time. It now appears that only one of these designs will be actually constructed as planned due to required resiting. We now expect to place this one station under contract in December 1953.

Emergency funds in the amount of \$6,000,000 have been released by the appropriate Congressional Committees for the restoration of Whittier dock facilities destroyed by fire earlier this year. G-4 has allocated \$1,000,000 of these funds to provide temporary docking facilities pending completion of permanent facilities to be constructed with the remaining \$5,000,000. The Alaska District will begin negotiations 31 August for the construction of temporary facilities consisting principally of two DeLong Dock sections which now are scheduled to arrive at

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Whittier 17 September. Engineering studies for the permanent docking facilities are under way and will be presented to your office for approval prior to initiation of plans and specifications.

We have received all clearances for the Haines-Fairbanks POL line and expect to open bids on this \$40,000,000 project about the middle of October this year. We plan to take alternate bids on (1) minimum through-put by the latter part of calendar year 1954 with final completion in calendar year 1955; and (2) final completion calendar year 1955. By doing this we will be able to provide USARAL with information as to the excess cost, if any, in obtaining early use of the line.

The Air Force navigational aid program is presently being delayed pending necessary reprogramming by Headquarters USAF. Further delay in the reprogramming of navigational aid facilities both in ZI and Alaska will make it impossible to meet the 1 January 1954 beneficial occupancy date requested by USAF on all of these facilities. At the present time contract award on navaid facilities at Larson AFB has been delayed since 30 June pending allocation of additional funds.

Operations to allow raising the McNary pool to its full operating level by 1 November are continuing on schedule. I do not anticipate any insurmountable difficulty to prevent placing power on the line in December as scheduled.

The Middle Snake River investigation has been started. Both Colonel Tandy and I are optimistic as to the outlook in this undertaking and we anticipate no difficulty in completing the report by the end of the year. We are receiving good cooperation from and are coordinating with the Department of the Interior at this level despite any reports to the contrary you may have received in Washington.

First power went on the line at Detroit Dam on 26 June. The unit supplied about 20,000,000 KWH during the month of July to the Northwest Federal Power System. Since the project must pass minimum flows for downstream needs, we are able to generate power around the clock.

I noticed considerable activity in both the Bonneville Power Administration and Bureau of Reclamation on the subject of cost allocation in recent weeks, and there has been a renewed exchange of ideas between the various departments at this level. I feel sure the effort now being made by the Interior Department to review their cost allocation procedures will be beneficial all around. Your interest in this matter may be expected to bear fruit very shortly.

Our run of blueback (sockeye) salmon this summer has broken all records since counting began, 235,063 having passed Bonneville as of 16 August. Previous maximum run of record was 184,645 fish in 1952. It is too early to

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predict how large the run of all salmon species will be for the year.

On the whole, our entire program is moving along quite satisfactorily out here with many routine but no really crucial problems at this time.

Considerable apprehension on the part of local interests has arisen over the surcharge flood control feature of John Day Dam project because of the towns and improvements which would be affected and the 37 foot differential between normal operating pool level and maximum flood control pool elevation. I feel that the public hearing scheduled for 23 September for the purpose of obtaining the views of local interests will clear the air of much of this apprehension. The District Engineer will encourage full expression of the desires of local interests with the understanding that he will be guided by their wishes. I hope funds will become available through one medium or another within the near future to permit us to study the problem and select a pool elevation which in so far as possible will meet the expressed wishes of the people.

I was out of the office most of last week with the Senate Public Works Committee. Only three members were on hand for the first part of the tour, starting with the Snake River, McNary and The Dalles Dam. Senator Case joined the party at Portland and accompanied them to Alaska. Their reaction was excellent throughout the Pacific Northwest. It is reported however that Senators Stennis and Case, who are also members of the Armed Services Committee, remarked that the new construction at Big Delta which is just now getting under way was unnecessary. I am afraid that they may be quite rough on the remainder of the program which is now being held in abeyance pending the results of a restudy by the Department of the Army.

Sincerely yours,

E. C. INGHAM
Brigadier General, USA
Division Engineer