



PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

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# NEWS

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## PRIEST RAPIDS DAM NOMINATED FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING AWARD

NEW YORK, Dec. 00---The Priest Rapids Dam, on the Columbia River in Central Washington, has been nominated for the "Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement of 1959," the American Society of Civil Engineers announced here today.

The nomination was made by Fred H. Rhodes, Jr., of the University of Washington, Seattle, and ASCE director for District 12, which encompasses Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Alaska and parts of Canada, in accordance with Society regulations governing the annual competition.

It is one of 11 nominations made throughout the country for the outstanding civil engineering achievement. Judging will be by a jury of engineering magazine editors, and the winner will be announced by the Society's Board of Direction at ASCE'S national convention in New Orleans in March.

Priest Rapids Dam is one of two dams in the Priest River Project, the other being Wanapum, 18 miles upstream from Priest Rapids. The dam, a reinforced concrete and earth-fill structure, has an overall length of 10,138 feet, with a maximum height of 178 feet. It was completed a year ahead of scheduled construction.

Twelve public and private electric utilities of the northwest have signed contracts with the Grant County Public Utility District for the purchase of power from the dam, which has a total capacity of 788,500 KW. Grant County is retaining some of the power for its own use.

The Harza Engineering Company, of Chicago, is the designing and supervising engineering firm for the project. Construction was started in 1956 by Merritt-Chapman & Scott, New York, under a general contract for \$98,000,000.