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VOLCANIC ROCK PLAYS ECONOMIC ROLE  
IN HYDROELECTRIC DAM CONSTRUCTION

SEATTLE....Utilization of pozzolanic (volcanic) material is playing an important economic role in the construction of Priest River Rapids Dam on the Columbia River in Grant County, Washington, and will be used in the construction of a second hydroelectric project, Wanapum Dam, 18 miles upstream, it was reported here today at the Summer and Pacific General Meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Some 43,000 tons of pozzolan materials are being added to 142,000 tons of Portland cement for the dam construction at Priest River Rapids, said E. N. Klemgard, associate chemical engineer, Division of Industrial Research, Washington State Institute of Technology, Pullman, and Axel E. Strom, director of utilization, Grant County Public Utility district, in a paper, Pozzolan Production at the Priest River Dam.

The pozzolan in the form of raw pumicite for the Priest River Rapids project was taken from a pit 5 miles upstream from the dam, and was calcined and delivered to the dam at a cost of about 30 per cent less than the delivered cost of portland cement, they said.

They said that the use of suitable pumice type pozzolanic material in power dams, roads and structures should be encouraged. Their chief advantage is economic as "in many cases there are appreciable savings in replacing portland cement by pozzolans." Other advantages include workability, impermeability, and reduced heat of hydration, they said.

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