

March 1, 1956

WWP PRESIDENT RE-AFFIRMS PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT

Kinsey M. Robinson, president, Washington Water Power Company, today reaffirmed his stand regarding development of the region's power resources through Federal and local public-private power partnership.

Said Robinson "The partnership plan is best outlined in the John Day proposal. As it now stands, local private and public power participants would supply \$273,000-000 of the required \$310,000,000 for this major dam. The government would need to spend only \$37,000,000 of the taxpayers money, yet the government would own and operate the project. If private utilities furnish most of the money their federal taxes will repay the government portion of the cost several times in the 50 year period."

Robinson said that the partnership plan would allow for integration of John Day's power into the vast Northwest Power Pool and that it would be built in accordance with the comprehensive plan of basic development as outlined by the Army Engineers. John Day would be the final link in a chain of dams that would, with channel improvements in the lower river, provide slack water navigation all the way from the mouth of the Columbia to Pasco-Kennewick in eastern Washington.

The John Day proposal provides that any local interest, Public Utility District, REA, municipality or private utility can participate in the partnership construction of the project. It would produce over 1,000,000 kilowatts of power and acceptance of the proposal would mean an immediate start of construction without any delays being brought about by necessary waits for federal appropriations, according to Robinson.

In conclusion the WWP president said, "Citizens of this area should raise a strong voice of protest against the 'blockaders' who are insisting on federal-or-nothing power development which can only lead to the privation of prosperity for the Pacific Northwest. This area cannot tolerate those who say they would see our rivers run undeveloped to the sea rather than permit local suppliers to help harness them."





POWERHOUSE SITE -- Contractor's crews with large earth scraping machines and other heavy equipment have been working since early summer preparing the site for the Centralia development power plant. Morrison-Knudsen Inc. holds the site preparation contract. Friday ceremony noted official start of construction at the project.

Photo Caption

From: The Washington Water Power Company  
Pacific Power & Light Company