

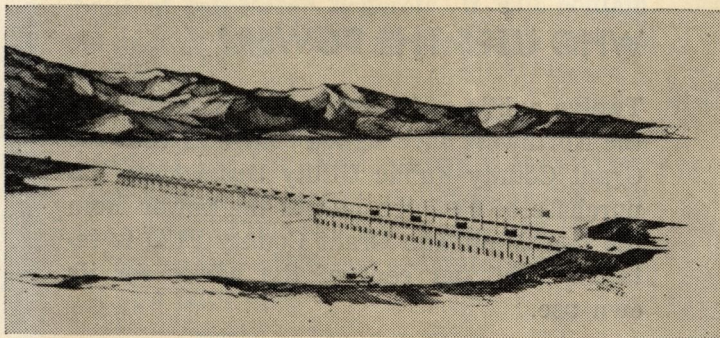
PRIEST RAPIDS PROJECT

Under Construction

By

**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
of GRANT COUNTY**

EPHRATA, WASH.



**LOCATED 24 MILES BELOW VANTAGE ON
THE COLUMBIA RIVER, 200 MILES DOWN-
STREAM FROM GRAND COULEE DAM**



F. WM. ARLT, President

WILLIAM SCHEMPP, Secretary

GEO. SCHUSTER, Commissioner

G. A. SMOTHERS, Manager

WHAT IS THE PRIEST RAPIDS PROJECT?

The Priest Rapids Project consists of two dams, Priest Rapids, now under construction, and Wanapum, approximately the same size as Priest Rapids, to be constructed 18 miles upstream from Priest Rapids.

Construction of Wanapum, for which the Grant County PUD has a Federal license, is expected to follow under a separate contract in about two years.

WHO USES THE POWER?

Twelve public and private electric utilities of the Northwest have signed contracts with the Grant County Public Utility District for the purchase of 63.5 per cent of the power from the two dams. The Grant County PUD is retaining 36.5 per cent of the power for its own use.

FINANCING

The Priest Rapids Dam is financed by 49-year revenue bonds to be retired through the sale of power. No tax money or government appropriations are to be used in its construction.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction was started in July, 1956, by Merritt-Chapman & Scott, New York, under a general contract for \$91,880,625.

The Priest Rapids Dam will require about four years to construct. From 2,000 to 2,500 men will be employed at the peak of construction.

ENGINEERING FEATURES OF PRIEST RAPIDS DAM

3,412 feet long. Reinforced concrete and earth-fill structure, of which 2,427 feet will be concrete and 5,985 feet earthen embankment.

Maximum height of 178 feet from deepest point of excavation, equal to the height of a 14 story building, with approximately a 79-ft. head. Eight Forrestal type airplane carriers could be moored end to end along its crest. The spillway will be 1,142 feet long, and built of reinforced concrete. It will contain 22 tainter gates each 50 feet high and 40 feet wide.

Powerhouse will be 1,025 feet long with a base width of 197 feet. Will contain 8 generators, each with a nameplate rating of 78,850 KW for a total of 630,800 KW. Space will be provided for two additional generators to be added at a later date.

Power from the Priest Rapids Project will be integrated with the Northwest Power Pool.

The Priest Rapids Dam will require the use of 910,000 cubic yards of concrete—enough to pave more than 300 miles of a two-lane, 22-foot-wide highway.

Approximately 3,239,000 cubic yards of earth and rock will be excavated, enough to fill a string of railroad hopper cars 650 miles long. 3,358,000 cubic yards of fill will be required.

Provision will be made for the installation of a future navigation lock to be built by the U. S. Corps of Engineers, when monies are appropriated by Congress.

RESERVOIR

Priest Rapids Dam will create a reservoir of 13 square miles and will have a drainage area of 95,500 square miles.

Backwater from Priest Rapids Dam will extend to just below the town of Beverly, but will not flood any of the existing town.

WHAT IS A PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT?

A Public Utility District is a consumer owned electric utility, sanctioned by law and created by a vote of the citizens of the county to supply its electrical requirements. The "PUD" has authority to issue revenue bonds, to acquire electric utility systems by direct purchase, and to build and operate its own electric generating systems.

The Grant County PUD is building the Priest Rapids Project to insure Grant County an adequate and continued power supply to care for the future population growth and industrial expansion of the District, and to add additional kilowatts to the Northwest Power Pool.

PRIEST RAPIDS NAME

The name of Priest Rapids is derived from the ancient religious leaders of the Wanapum Indians, or "River People." Early explorers saw these religious leaders practicing their rites and named the area "Priest" Rapids. The Wanapum Indians have been very cooperative with the Grant County PUD in planning for the Priest Rapids Development, which is located on part of the camp grounds of the Indians.