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SEATTLE OKAYS COMPLETION OF HIGHER ROSS DAM

COUNCIL GIVES SIGNAL FOR NEGOTIATION WITH PRESENT CONTRACTORS ON FINAL STEP

The Seattle City Council this week approved the proposal to negotiate with the builders of Ross Dam for completion of the third and final "step" in the huge Skagit river project. The present contract will be complete, except for minor details in the next two months and the officials of City Light believe that they can secure a good bid on the final step if the work is begun while the contractors have their equipment and labor still at the site.

The present dam rises to a height of 475 feet. The final contractor will elevate this to the 540 foot level and will allow the generating equipment to be installed and placed in operation. No power will be generated at Ross Dam until the final step has been completed.

The present contractor is a construction combine composed of the General Construction Company, the Shea Construction Company and the Morrison-Kudsen Company, operating under the name of General Shea Morrison Co. The firm now has about \$1,500,000 in equipment at the dam site, in addition to their steady crew of workers who will scatter if the contract ends.

The final step on the dam will cost in the neighborhood of seven million dollars and will require another two years work.