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APPROVE HIGHER DAM AT RUBY CREEK PROJECT

COUNCIL OKAYS PLAN TO PUT 70 ON PRESENT DAM — WILL DOUBLE OUTPUT

The City of Seattle this week gave approval of a third step in construction of Ross Dam at the head of Diablo Lake, a step that will raise the completed height to 1,620 feet by adding 70 feet to the height of the dam as now planned.

Completion of the present contract is expected by next March, at which time the structure would be 1,500 feet above sea level or 475 feet above bedrock. While this would complete the dam, the extension has been planned in the construction so far, so that it would not bring about any changes in the present structural work.

The 70-foot addition will more than double the energy resources, bringing the output from 338,000 kilowatt-hours for the present unit to 700,000 kilowatt hours. This is based on bringing the storage behind the dam to 3,450,000 acre feet.

The reason for starting work on approval of this new step is that the power officials feel that they can make a saving by doing the job when all construction equipment is on the site. Building the extension now would cost in the neighborhood of \$3,700,000. If the project is postponed until later the cost would be near \$5,693,000.

At some later date when conditions warrant, the base on the dam can be strengthened and the height raised to 675 above bedrock.