BIGGEST PROJECT OF ITS KIND WILL BE STARTED SOON

2,000 to Get Jobs on Giant Irrigation Undertaking

BULLETIN

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.—(AP)—Construction on Hoover dam will be under way tomorrow, officials of Six Companies, Incorporated, announced here today a few hours after they received the mammoth award.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—(AP)—Seretary Wilbur today accepted the $48,890,995 bid of the Six Companies, Incorporated, of San Francisco for building the Hoover dam, power house and appurtenant works at the Boulder canyon project.

Recognition of the company's offer as the low bid was tantamount to awarding the contract and cleared the way for starting construction on one of the greatest peace time engineering feats ever attempted. Estimated cost of the dam, power system and appurtenances, such as the intake towers, spillways and diversion tunnels totals $109,000,000, but approximately half of this will be supplied by the government in materials.

TO START IN 30 DAYS

The company will be notified immediately that its bid was accepted and instructed to start work when ready. The contract will be delayed several days, as it must be accepted by the company, a surety bond of $5,000,000 posted and approved by Secretary Wilbur.

The specifications require that work be started within 30 days after the builder is given notice to proceed, and the dam must be completed within six an one-half years, with a penalty of $3,000 daily for each day longer.

F. T. Crowe, chief of construction operations for the Six Companies, Inc., a former construction engineer for the reclamation bureau, and his company have notified the department work would be started within a few days.

ONLY THE BEGINNING

The Six Companies, Inc., was a merger of as many western construction companies, several of whom have constructed other projects for the reclamation bureau.

Opening the way for actual construction of the great dam, which will rear its crest 727 feet above the bottom of the Colorado river in Black

(Continued on Page 2, Column 5)

(Continued from page One.)

canyon near Las Vegas, Nev., signalizes the beginning of the central part of the Boulder canyon project.

The dam, which will be 1,180 feet long, spanning the river between Nevada and Arizona will be the largest in the world. It will be 650 feet thick at the base, of the arch gravity type, or curving between the two ends, and 45 feet thick at the top.

CITY TO COST $2,000,000

Between 2,000 and 3,000 men will be employed in building it when work gets into full stride. Most of them will live in Boulder City, the model town to be constructed eight miles from the dam site, and connected with the dam by a railroad and highway, now being built.

From the city, inhabitants will be able to see the huge reservoir backed up by the dam, which will create a lake 110 miles long and ranging from 600 feet deep downward to around 100 in the channels of the various small tributary canyons.

The model town will cost about $2,000,000, and be ready for occupancy within a few months.

COSTS OVER $250,000,000

The power house and appurtenant works, to cost an estimated $32,200,000 of the $109,000,000 for the dam and power system, will generate upwards of 1,000,000 horsepower. From the sale of this power, the government will be repaid for the project within 50 years.

The power will be divided among the lower Colorado basin states, but for the time being it will go to the Southern California Edison company, the city of Los Angeles, the Metropolitan water district, and other California centers.

Upwards of $250,000,000 will be spent as the result of construction of the dam, in addition to the government's share.

Los Angeles will spend approximately that amount in building an aqueduct for her municipal water supply. Other millions will be spent in industrial and power development.

GIANT IRRIGATION PROJECT

The final link in the government's program will be construction of the All-American canal, to pour water for reclamation into the Imperial and Coachella valleys of California. This will cost approximately $38,500,000.

Millions of gallons of water will be supplied for irrigation purposes in the desert country along the Colorado, in addition to that made available as water supply for the cities and towns of the southwest.

$4,500,000 BARRELS CEMENT

Power for constructing the dam will be supplied for a time by the Southern Sierras Power company of California, which is nearing completion of a 240-mile transmission line from Los Angeles to the dam site. By 1934, engineers estimate, power from the dam itself will be in use, as the government will start generating current before the dam is completed.

Cofferdams above and below the dam site will hold back the river and turn it aside into four great diversion tunnels, each 50 feet in diameter and approximately 3,000 feet long, while the dam is being constructed. Approximately 4,500,000 barrels of cement will go into the dam and power house.