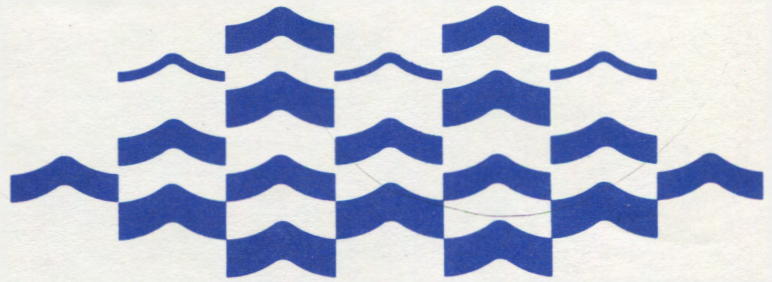


## News Release

Upper Colorado Region

Salt Lake City, Utah  
Loveless (801) 524-5403  
For Release August 24, 1984



### U.S. and People's Republic of China Sign Hydropower Agreement

Secretary of the Interior William Clark announced today the signing of a hydropower agreement between the United States and the People's Republic of China, marking the first time in U.S.-China relations that such an agreement has been signed.

Harold W. Furman, the Interior Department's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, signed the agreement in Beijing (Peking) on August 3, 1984. Under the agreement, Interior's Bureau of Reclamation will provide fully reimbursable technical and consulting services in the design of the Three Gorges Project on the Yangtse River over the next five years.

Clark said, "We are pleased to be entering this landmark agreement with the People's Republic of China. We expect both countries to derive benefits from this cooperative effort."

The purpose of the agreement is to obtain the best quality in the design and construction of the Three Gorges Project at the lowest cost, to shorten the construction time, and to achieve the best economic results," Clark said.

Technical assistance provided by the Bureau for the project will include:

- Reviewing preliminary design, technical design, and detailed drawings.
- Proposing technical criteria for hydraulic structures; selecting important design parameters; and consulting on layout of the spillway and outlets, as well as on the design for control facilities.
- Testing and designing roller-compacted concrete.

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- Designing powerhouses, selecting hydraulic turbine generating units, and designing powerplant automation.

- Designing instrumentation and monitoring systems for the dam.

- Consulting on construction management and quality control.

- Consulting on the operation and maintenance of the project.

In addition to being responsible for the design, construction, and operation of the Three Gorges Project under the agreement, China's role will include:

Paying all costs agreed upon for advisory and technical services, as well as for associated expenses including communication facilities, interpreters and translation services, food, lodging, and transportation costs.

The Bureau of Reclamation began its involvement with the Three Gorges Project in the early 1940's, but a combination of political and economic problems brought the project to a halt in 1947. When the proposed project is completed, it will be a 540-foot-high concrete gravity dam stretching across the Yangtse. By comparison, the Three Gorges Dam will be nearly as high as the Hoover Dam and more than a thousand feet longer than Grand Coulee Dam, the current world leader in hydropower production. The proposed Three Gorges Dam powerplant will have a 13,000 megawatt capacity, surpassing Grand Coulee's proposed 10,000 megawatt potential.

The first team of U.S. engineers, composed of representatives from the Bureau of Reclamation and a number of private engineering and construction firms, is scheduled to arrive in the People's Republic of China in late September of this year.

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