RECLAMATION AWARDS CONTRACT FOR TUNNEL ON COLLBRAN PROJECT, COLORADO

A $344,468 Bureau of Reclamation Contract for construction of a tunnel on the Southside Canal of the Collbran Project in west-central Colorado has been authorized for award, the Department of the Interior announced today.

The job goes to the Theo. Wood Construction Company of Salt Lake City, Utah, on that firm's low bid. Sixteen bids were received for the job.

Commissioner of Reclamation W. A. Dexheimer said that the work to be undertaken includes excavation and concrete lining of 2,300 feet of tunnel having a diameter of about 6 feet and construction of inlet and outlet works. The tunnel will be located at about 7,500 feet above sea level and will carry water of the Southside Canal through a range of hills.

Southside Canal is the principal feeder canal to bring irrigation water from the reservoir to be created by 150-foot-high Vega Dam, now under construction on Plateau Creek by the Bureau of Reclamation. The Collbran Project will provide a full irrigation supply to 2,310 acres and a supplemental water supply to 18,340 acres. In addition, the project will have two small hydroelectric plants of 13,000 kilowatts capacity.

Second low bidder for the tunnel job was the James F. Richards Construction Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota, with an offer of $348,410. Third low was the $352,385 bid of the A. S. Horner Construction Company, Denver, Colorado.

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