

their inclusion in the legislation would help ensure their continuing interest and cooperation.

The deadline in H.R. 15990 for submitting proposals by March 1, 1969, appears to us to be unrealistic, and we would like to suggest that in any legislation the deadline should allow at least a year following its enactment.

In making a comparison between H.R. 15990 and the Prouty bill, however, we would prefer the brief statement in H.R. 15990 providing authority to investigate, conduct research, and propose remedial action as compared with the checklist of matters to be considered in any study under the Prouty bill. We see no necessity for a checklist in view of the necessity for a comprehensive study that would be required in any case.

The Associated General Contractors has been long interested in dealing with the seasonality problem in construction, and our organization has continued its research to the best of its abilities and has encouraged its members to utilize the ingenuity and technology to the extent of the state of the art.

For example, in northern areas it is a common practice to do construction work in cold weather in building operations by the use of various types of temporary enclosures along with temporary portable heaters. But, as far as heavy and highway construction is concerned, general conditions in these types of construction are not adaptable to this kind of solution.

An unsolved problem in all types of construction is the difficulty in pouring concrete in cold weather and, in some areas like Arizona, in hot weather. Solving these problems will, of course, require additional research and development, which I am sure will eventually come.

We have observed that there are opportunities for Government itself to take some initiative by way of scheduling the award of construction contracts to help alleviate seasonality problems. Proper attention to the scheduling of contracts should make it possible for the Government to schedule construction work during off-seasons of the year. We believe the fact that your committee is holding these hearings should have a beneficial effect in this respect.

I would add that appropriations legislation can also be a limiting factor in what contracting agencies can do by way of scheduling the award of construction contracts.

We would like to make another observation that the Government's engineering requirements are sometimes more strict in ruling out cold-weather construction than necessary. While there is room for improvement on the part of administrative agencies, we, of course, realize no relief can be expected in many phases of this problem until we can get new technological developments that would allow the same quality of the product under extreme weather conditions.

I would also comment on the limitation of H.R. 15990 to the subject of "Seasonality" as it might be interpreted to indicate cold weather. I would like to suggest that inclement weather as well as hot weather may be as great an impact upon reducing construction working time as cold weather, and we would hope that all such factors would be included within the scope of any seasonality study.

Finally, I would like to mention an additional factor that reduces the total construction worktime which is probably not within the