

General NOBLE. The Corps of Engineers.

Mr. HARSHA. Are you not a division of the Department of the Army?

General NOBLE. Yes; but, I do not represent the Secretary.

Mr. BLATNIK. You have to submit these up for concurrence or approval.

General NOBLE. That has not been done, sir. All I have been able to give you in the time we have is the comments of the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. HARSHA. Who all has to approve this other than the corps?

Mr. GURNEE. If the Congress passes this provision, of course, the Secretary of the Army does have the option of making recommendations to the President on whether he should sign the bill; but otherwise no one has to act on it—

Mr. HARSHA. What I am trying to get at: Usually we have Government agencies involved, things like that. We are not confronted with that situation here?

Mr. GURNEE. I do not think so; no, sir.

Mr. HARSHA. Would it be advisable to get the Secretary of the Army's comments before we enact this?

Mr. BLATNIK. Will the gentleman yield?

I will help clarify this point, if I can.

General, let me ask counsel here: I believe, as I understand it, the procedure would be, that this is legislation and this is not a rivers and harbors project. This is authorizing or enabling legislation, which would have to originate in the Congress by a Member. So the proposed language that Mr. Celler put up yesterday, and we worked that to accommodate the safeguards, include the safeguards which you suggested and others which you may have, and this will then be written in precise legal form and produced either as a bill or put into the omnibus bill as legislation.

At that point perhaps it will be possible or desirable to get comments from the Secretary of the Army. We have to do the initiating. And this is not procedural process, when any legislation goes through a committee, not when a project is approved—

Mr. HARSHA. Normally when legislation is introduced, it is referred to agencies that may or may not be involved in the legislation.

Mr. BLATNIK. That is correct.

But we will get that legislation written up and submitted and ask to get their opinions or their comments.

No further questions?

General, we thank you.

Mr. CLAUSEN. May I ask one question?

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Clausen.

Mr. CLAUSEN. Does this have the approval of the State of New York?

General NOBLE. Yes, sir.

Mr. CLAUSEN. And the city?

General NOBLE. They are together on this. And they are sponsoring a nonprofit organization that will do the job.

Mr. GROVER. May I ask a question, please?

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. Grover.

Mr. GROVER. General, it is good to see you. I do know here, General, that you have pointed out that you have had some preliminary indications that you will have no problems with change of velocity and down-