



NRC Publications Archive Archives des publications du CNRC

Gosstroy, the USSR State Committee for Construction
Hutcheon, N. B.

For the publisher's version, please access the DOI link below./ Pour consulter la version de l'éditeur, utilisez le lien DOI ci-dessous.

Publisher's version / Version de l'éditeur:

<https://doi.org/10.4224/20338335>

Technical Note (National Research Council of Canada. Division of Building Research), 1967-11-01

NRC Publications Record / Notice d'Archives des publications de CNRC:

<https://nrc-publications.canada.ca/eng/view/object/?id=7f57fce7-ecd6-4b66-83f5-640fd9f2f186>

<https://publications-cnrc.canada.ca/fra/voir/objet/?id=7f57fce7-ecd6-4b66-83f5-640fd9f2f186>

Access and use of this website and the material on it are subject to the Terms and Conditions set forth at

<https://nrc-publications.canada.ca/eng/copyright>

READ THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING THIS WEBSITE.

L'accès à ce site Web et l'utilisation de son contenu sont assujettis aux conditions présentées dans le site

<https://publications-cnrc.canada.ca/fra/droits>

LISEZ CES CONDITIONS ATTENTIVEMENT AVANT D'UTILISER CE SITE WEB.

Questions? Contact the NRC Publications Archive team at

PublicationsArchive-ArchivesPublications@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca. If you wish to email the authors directly, please see the first page of the publication for their contact information.

Vous avez des questions? Nous pouvons vous aider. Pour communiquer directement avec un auteur, consultez la première page de la revue dans laquelle son article a été publié afin de trouver ses coordonnées. Si vous n'arrivez pas à les repérer, communiquez avec nous à PublicationsArchive-ArchivesPublications@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca.





NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

DIVISION OF BUILDING RESEARCH

No.

510

TECHNICAL NOTE

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION

PREPARED BY N.B. Hutcheon

CHECKED BY

APPROVED BY

DATE November 1967

PREPARED FOR LIMITED DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT Gosstroy, the USSR State Committee for Construction

One complicating factor in the exchange of scientific and technical information between the USSR and Canada is the need to understand the system and the organization of activities in the country providing the information. This is particularly important in the field of construction since it is often necessary to consider the source of information and to know the responsibilities of the various agencies involved in research, design and construction. Many pieces of information are only of value when they can be related through such background knowledge.

The need for improved understanding on both sides was made very evident in the course of a recent tour of Canada by Gosstroy officials. Fortunately, there was the opportunity to obtain verbally and through translation from one member of the delegation, a brief description of the organization of construction in the USSR and the role of Gosstroy. This is now set out because of its obvious value in exchanging and assessing information even though it has not been checked and may not be completely accurate. It was said that a more complete description of Gosstroy had been published in a recent (before September 1967) issue of *Ekonomika Stroitel'stva*. The author, it is

RA

believed, was Mr. I.I. Ischenko who also provided the information now set out.

It was established at the outset that the discussion would relate only to those ministries or agencies having an interest in construction. A group of four ministries having a major interest in construction was first described as follows:

A. Ministry of Transport Construction

(DBR has already heard of the work of this Ministry through visitors from the USSR.) This Ministry has responsibility for all major construction for highways, railways, tunnels, bridges, harbours and communication.

B. Ministry for Energy and Electrification

This Ministry is responsible for both hydro and thermal power generation and for construction and operation.

C. Gas Ministry

This Ministry is responsible not only for drilling but also for oil and gas pipelines.

D. Ministry of Equipment

This Ministry is responsible for the construction of specialized plant and equipment, including process equipment, chemical plant, steel plant, electrical plant equipment, textile machinery, materials handling and equipment for automation. It is not responsible for operation. It also designs and constructs complicated special foundations such as those involving caissons. It has associated with it an Institute of Foundation Design.

Another group of four ministries having responsibilities for public buildings were described as follows:

1. Ministry for Village Construction

Little information was provided on this Ministry except that it was responsible for construction including homes as well as such buildings as storage elevators.

2. Ministry of Construction

This Ministry was said to operate in special territories but its areas of responsibilities were not set out.

3. Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry

This Ministry, as the name implies, was said to be responsible for the construction of buildings and plants involved in all heavy industry including mineral processing for all but two or three metals.

4. Ministry of Industrial Construction

It was then explained that the Ministries itemized as 2, 3, and 4 are assigned areas in which their interests predominate and that they do all the construction in those particular areas. Ministries designated as A, B, and C operate independently of any assigned area anywhere, with D, the Ministry of Equipment, cooperating as its particular services are required.

Each of the above Ministries is responsible only to the Council of Ministers. There are other ministries concerned with industrial operations. The allocation of resources and the overall integration of activity in the USSR is arranged and integrated through Gossplan.

It was explained that proposals for construction will normally originate at the project or operational level. Such a proposal is then fed into the budgeting stream for the Ministry and ultimately to Gossplan where it is considered in the overall context. If it is approved, Gossplan then makes the necessary arrangements between the construction ministry which will carry out the work and the officers at the local level.

In 1950 the special organization known as Gosstroy was established. The name has been translated officially as State Committee for Construction. Gosstroy is a kind of large technical committee which operates between Gossplan and the execution of construction on the ground. It has the responsibility to establish codes or norms in design and construction. It appears

also to be concerned with the assessment of the resources required for a particular construction job and for the planning of construction. Gosstroy, it was said, becomes the signing authority for Gosplan in the arrangements which are made between the particular construction ministry and the project officials on the ground. Presumably in doing this, Gosstroy can make clear the standards or norms to be followed and the construction ministry must then work to these norms. Gosstroy has no authority to intervene directly with ministries but it can bring influence to bear upon any project through the Council of Ministers and the particular ministry involved.

Gosstroy checks plans and reports and may even carry on design particularly if the work involved is special. It was said that if the project was less than fifty million dollars, the ministry at interest could assume responsibility for design, but if more than this amount, the Council of Ministers must establish who will carry out the design. Gosstroy has Institutes for Design attached to it.

Gosstroy apparently also has some responsibility for community planning. The local Town Council must establish the town plan according to norms or standards established by the Committee on Structure and Architecture of Gosstroy. This Committee must then check the plans and may make suggestions for changes. Gosstroy also has teaching, research and information dissemination responsibilities and has in all more than 50,000 employees.