

United States Steel Corporation.

71 Broadway, New York,

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

August 14, 1925.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East 19th St.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

As requested yesterday, we have made copies of the following from Volume I relating to the Neville Island project, namely:

Pages I and II - Preface.

Page XIV - Letter from Secretary Baker to Judge Gary.

Page XV - Letter from Judge Gary to Secretary Baker.

Page XVII - Extract of letter from Assistant Secretary Crowell to Judge Gary.

Page LXIV - Form of letter from Mr. Oursler to various contractors regarding cancellation of orders.

These copies are enclosed.

We are also procuring a copy of the general drawing showing the proposed plant, suitable for copying for the magazine or book.

Very truly yours,



Secretary to Judge Gary.

Enclosures.

able, activities beginning May 13, 1918, and the first general study plan produced June 3rd, 1918. The site selected was on Neville Island, in the Ohio River, about six miles below Pittsburgh. Rapid progress was made in clearing the site, and the general plan studies were promptly prepared, and Final General Plan was approved July 29th, 1918, at a meeting in the office of the Chairman of the Corporation, at which there were present: Hon. E.H. Gary, Chairman, J.A. Farrell, President; Benedict Crowell, Assistant Secretary of War; Lt. Col. R. P. Lamont, representing Samuel McRoberts, Colonel Ordnance Department, N.A., with Ordnance Department staff officers; and the General Committee of the United States Steel Corporation, and the administrative officials of the United States Steel Corporation Ordnance Department. The approved plan, copy attached #44 - bears fac-simile of signatures, as below.

COPY

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington

April 27, 1918.

Judge L. H. Gary,
Chairman of the Board, United States Steel Corporation,
71 Broadway,
New York City.

Dear Judge Gary:

* * * * *

The agreement is perfectly satisfactory from my point of view and I am sending it to the Ordnance Department and instructing them to prepare the contract along these lines and to make it as brief as possible. It will then be submitted to you and I hope will be signed without delay.

I do not know how to thank you for your help in this matter and will not try to do so, but you must know what a relief it is to have the Steel Corporation undertake this work.

COPY

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION

New York

Chairman's Office

April 25th, 1918.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

After reading your letter of the 20th instant, and hearing what First Assistant Secretary Crowell had to say on the subject, we have decided ~~that~~ that there is an obligation on the part of the Steel Corporation to undertake the building of the manufacturing plant contemplated, although we had hoped to avoid making a departure from our lines of policy as heretofore projected.

We have dictated a draft of proposed contract between the Government and ourselves, which will be written up and mailed to you tomorrow. It is intended to be simple, though explicit and comprehensive.

There are two essentials to which I referred in conversation with Assistant Secretary Crowell.

1. The contract should be executed at the earliest convenient date, for it no time is to be lost work should be commenced without delay.
2. To prevent interruptions and delays the Corporation must have a free hand if the work is to be done as well and as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

E. H. GARY

Chairman.

Hon. Newton D. Baker,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D.C.

COPY

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
NEW YORK

MEMORANDUM

November 8th, 1918.

Suggested form of letter to be written by Mr. Oursler to the various contractors relating to the proposed Neville Island ordnance plant:

"Dear Sir:

The Secretary of War of the United States has decided, and therefore has notified the United States Steel Corporation, that the conditions which determined originally the size and capacity of the proposed Neville Island gun plant had changed so materially, both as to reduction in requirements and amount of funds available, that it now seems advisable to modify greatly the plans and specifications for that plant, and has requested us to ascertain and furnish a statement of the liabilities that must be discharged by the Government on the basis of discontinuing all work.

Therefore, you are requested to promptly furnish a sworn statement of the claim, if any, which you have on the basis of the cancellation of your contract or order dated , and your reasons in detail for making the claim. It should be accompanied with a detailed and accurate statement showing the work done and the money expended by you on the contract up to date. It will be necessary to subject for careful inspection your books and accounts for purposes of verification.

Yours truly,"

E.H.C.