

agency of the State government in its behalf, shall submit to the General Assembly preliminary plans and outline specifications therefor, as to the size, type of construction and arrangement of the building or buildings included in the project, and as to the sufficiency of the proposed appropriation to pay the full cost thereof. (Emphasis Supplied) "

As noted, §10 refers to "preliminary plans and outline specifications" being submitted to the General Assembly, whereas new § 25F speaks in terms of "final plans and specifications" being submitted pursuant to section 10. If the effect of this inconsistency is to require that the life-cycle energy cost estimate accompany the preliminary plans provided for in section 10, the requirement is incapable of implementation according to the Department of General Services. The Department has advised me that this type of estimate cannot be made based upon preliminary plans and outline specifications. On the other hand, if the effect is to require that a submission to the General Assembly await the preparation of final plans and specifications, upon which a life-cycle energy cost estimate can be determined, the entire capital budgeting process will be thrown into disarray.

The second problem concerns the effect of new sections 25C and 25D on projects already approved by the General Assembly, but not yet under contract, and those that will be submitted for consideration in the 1978 session.

Section 25D provides for standards to be adopted by March 1, 1978, which will govern the determination of life-cycle cost estimate. There is no possible way that the required estimates could be submitted to the 1978 session of the General Assembly if the standards by which those estimates are to be determined are not adopted until March 1978. The net effect may be to preclude any capital projects being considered at the 1978 session.

This dilemma may also pertain to projects already approved by the General Assembly, but which are not ready for contracting by July 1, 1978. In those instances, the projects would have to be delayed until the required estimates, based on the standards, are prepared.

I have instructed the Department of General Services to begin work on the development of the standards provided for in the bill, and will attempt to assure implementation of the bill to the maximum extent possible by Executive action in order to avoid unnecessary delays in making its provisions effective. The concerns that I