

# buy quiet report

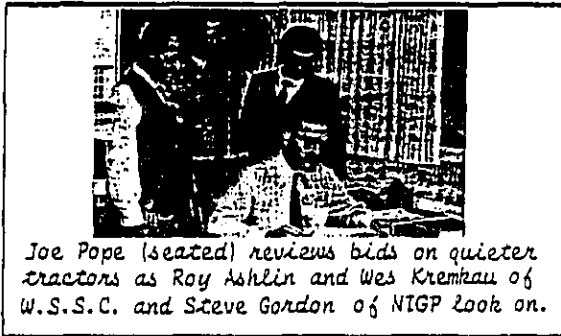
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Joe Pope (seated) reviews bids on quieter tractors as Roy Ashlin and Wes Kremkau of W.S.S.C. and Steve Gordon of NIGP look on.

### Costs No More

## W.S.S.C. Buys Quieter Tractors

"Asking for quieter tractors didn't cost us a cent more, and I'm sure that the folks who live near our work areas are going to be a lot happier," said Joe Pope, CPPO, of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission during a visit to the NIGP office in early January. Mr. Pope, whose  
(cont. on page 12)

## Virginia Contracts for Quieter Mowers

The Commonwealth of Virginia, Division of Purchase and Supply opened bids for rotary power lawn mowers, with various blade sizes and in hand-pushed and self-propelled models, on January 9, 1981. Bids offered on mowers specified in section II of the Virginia invitation were for mowers which met the noise level and other requirements of the NIGP/Buy Quiet suggested specification for quieter lawn mowers. The suggested specification includes a maximum noise level of 86  
(cont. on page 13)

## NIGP Announces Contest for Buy Quiet Scholarships

In order to encourage cities, counties, and other governments to purchase quieter products and services, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc. (NIGP), beginning February 15, 1981, will award a total of \$10,000 credit in NIGP professional development scholarships to the first 10 governmental units to submit documentation that they have earned 12 or more points based on the scoring system described on page 13.

**W.S.S.C. Buys (cont. from page 9)**

employer recently purchased 7 industrial backhoe-loader-tractor combinations, specified that the equipment purchased would have a maximum noise level, when operating, of "81 decibels (A Scale) when measured in accordance with SAE J88b".

WSSC Buyer Roy Ashlin, who worked with Brady Moore of the Mobile Equipment Division to develop the specifications, used Buy Quiet Product Information Supplement No. 7 (for wheel and crawler tractors) to select an appropriate maximum noise level and to word the noise level requirement. The noise level that Ashlin and Moore included in the specification was the median noise level for "wheel loader" type tractors, and not surprisingly nearly half of WSSC's usual bidders were able to offer models that complied with the noise level requirement.

The bid tabulations, with noise level in accordance with SAE J88b, are shown below:

| Company | Amount       | Noise Level (dBA)    |
|---------|--------------|----------------------|
| A       | \$165,782.62 | Does not exceed 81   |
| B       | 180,243.00   | Does not exceed 81   |
| B-alt.  | 200,858.00   | Not provided         |
| C       | 195,064.45   | 77.4                 |
| D       | 195,774.74   | Does not exceed 81   |
| E       | 195,909.00   | 77.4                 |
| F       | 196,893.04   | Does not exceed 81   |
| G       | 201,659.92   | 77.4                 |
| H       | 208,495.00   | Not provided         |
| I       | 213,177.79   | Does not exceed 81   |
| J       | 216,650.00   | Does not exceed 81   |
| K       | 243,331.06   | Not provided         |
| K-alt.  | 218,148.00   | 85 (Does not comply) |
| L       | 223,839.00   | Does not exceed 81   |

According to Mr. Pope, the commission will extend the Buy Quiet concept to their entire range of noisy products. "After this good experience with the tractor, I don't see any reason why we can't go out for quieter models of pavement breakers, air compressors, and other kinds of

tractors. If you have the necessary information, requesting and getting quieter products is easy. NIGP can provide you all the information you need to include realistic noise level requirements in your specification." The demonstration workshop in College Park (NIGP Letter Service Bulletin, September/October/November 1980, p. 10) was the reason Mr. Pope gave for considering "buying quiet" in the first place. If you would like a copy of the specifications used in this purchase, please contact NIGP Headquarters.

**Virginia Contracts (cont. from page 9)**

decibels (A scale), at the operator's ear, based on S.A.E. J1174 "Operator Ear Sound Level Measurement Procedure for Small Engine Powered Equipment."

At this writing, evaluation of the bids received by the Commonwealth has not been completed. Award information will be available soon through the NIGP office.

The State of West Virginia is currently going out for bids on quieter lawn mowers, using the NIGP/Buy Quiet suggested specifications. Information on the West Virginia purchase will also be available soon through the NIGP office.

**"Buy Quiet" Movies Available**

If you have access to a 3/4 inch video cassette player, you can watch the film clips "Buy Quiet I" and "Buy Quiet II" in your office or chapter meeting room.

Buy Quiet I features "loud" and "quieter" models of pile drivers, pavement breakers, and lawn mowers. Buy Quiet II features "loud" and "quieter" models of trash compactor trucks, portable air compressors, and vacuum cleaners.

To borrow these movies, contact NIGP.

