

Modifies—

Freeze Lift for Pipeline OK'd

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee approved lifting the land freeze for purposes of building a pipeline access road in the Livengood-Yukon River area.

The 53 miles of access road is required so that construction may begin on the 800 mile long trans-Alaska pipeline.

It was agreed to ask approval

of both House and Senate Interior committees before granting any exceptions to the land freeze. This made this morning's action necessary by the committee for construction of the road to begin.

Last week, Representative John Saylor from Pennsylvania, a ranking minority member on the committee, requested full hearings and Congressman John

Tunney of California also objected to committee approval without hearings.

This week Congressman Pollock urged the committee to forego hearings because of the urgent need to begin construction. He assured the committee all facts had been presented to it.

Mr. Tunney withdrew his objection and all members of the committee present voted to deny the request for hearings. The vote, in fact, gave Secretary Hickel the approval of the committee to lift the land freeze for this purpose.

The Senate Interior committee must also approve the Secretary's request and it is expected to do so tomorrow.