

# research and technology

bulletin published by the commission of the european communities

REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZED

Brussels, 22 September 1969

No. 26

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\*\* THE COMPARTMENTALIZATION OF EUROPEAN EFFORTS with regard to the design of different reactor types has frequently been the target of severe criticism by the Commission of the European Communities (see, for example, the White Paper "Report on the Community's Industrial Policy", or the proposed programme for Euratom's future activities ("Research and Technology" No. 15).

In one sector at least - admittedly the most promising - namely, that of FAST REACTORS (breeders), the Community's industrial companies have endorsed the Commission's proposals.

ANNEX I contains an analysis of recent positions adopted by the European Community Committee of the International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Energy (UNIPEDE), the Union of Industries of the European Community (UNICE) and the Centre européen de l'entreprise publique (CEEP) with the object of PROMOTING A EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY in the fast reactor field.

\*\* The Commission of the European Communities has just approved a PRELIMINARY DRAFT RESEARCH AND INVESTMENT BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1970 and will forward it to the Council of Ministers by the 30 September 1969. This gives details of the financial arrangements for the first year of the multi-annual research programme which the Commission submitted

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to the Council on 25 April 1969 (see "Research and Technology" No. 15) and is now being discussed in the Council.

It will be noted that the Commission proposes devoting part of the potential of the Joint Research Centre to non-nuclear activities as of 1970.

The Commission also proposes that the dissemination of information, the application of radiations and isotopes and coordination activities be transferred to the Operating Budget, which measure will affect a total of 266 staff-members in view of the new top-priority requirements of the Operating Budget.

The staff to be covered by the 1970 research budget thus runs at 2341, which number, when added to the 266 staff-members transferred to the Operating Budget, is only 24 less than the payroll on 31 August 1969.

ANNEX II contains a table giving the detailed breakdown of the proposed Research Budget.

\*\* The Community's SCIENTIFIC POLICY and its industrial implementation, together with the Community's ENERGY POLICY, are to be outlined at Basle on 6 October, the date of the opening of the NUCLEX 69 Exhibition, by the two members of the Commission of the European Communities with special responsibilities for these two sectors, namely, Vice-Presidents Fritz Hellwig and Wilhelm Haferkamp.

The Commission is also setting up an information stand (Hall 5-6, Stand 12), at which all those attending the Nuclex Exhibition can obtain detailed documentation on the activities of the Community.

\*\* The Commission has just published the PROCEEDINGS of the following SYMPOSIA in the Euratom report series:

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- 1) Information meeting on work relating to prestressed concrete pressure vessels and their insulation, Vol. 2 (held at Brussels on 7-8 November 1967), ref. no. EUR-4280;
- 2) Symposium on Two-Phase Flow Dynamics (held at Eindhoven, Netherlands, on 4-9 September 1967), ref. no. EUR-4288, two volumes;
- 3) Symposium on Nuclear Electronics (held at Ispra, Italy, on 6-9 May 1969), ref. no. EUR-4289;
- 4) Meeting of European librarians working in the nuclear field (held at Stresa, Italy, on 24-25 April 1968), ref. no. EUR-4256.

These documents can be obtained from the European Communities' Publications Office, 37 rue Glesener, Luxembourg.

Move towards the creation of an industrial strategy for the  
Community in the fast reactor development field

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The compartmentalization of European efforts with regard to the design of different reactor types has frequently been the target of severe criticism by the Commission of the European Communities (see, for example, the White Paper "Report on the Community's Industrial Policy", or the proposed programme for Euratom's future activities ("Research and Technology" No. 15)).

In one sector at least- admittedly the most promising - namely, that of fast reactors (breeders), the Community's industrial companies have endorsed the Commission's proposals.

The European Community Committee of the International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Energy (UNIPED), made up of the heads of electricity-producing companies in the six countries of the European Community, has just adopted an unequivocal position. In view of the vital importance of breeders for electricity production in the future and of the need to ensure the Community's industrial companies a leading position in the world breeder market, the Committee has expressed the opinion that:

- 1) the prototype to be built on completion of the first two 250-300 MWe prototypes in the Community should be of the maximum possible capacity which is technically and economically feasible (of the order of 1,000 MWe);
- 2) it would not be rational
  - to scatter the European efforts
  - and to build more than one prototype of this kind at the same time.

This inevitably implies the promotion and intensification of scientific, technical and economic exchanges within the Community between those responsible for the 250-300 MWe projects now under way.

For their part, the Communities' utilities have decided to foster the necessary pooling of resources between those of them which could participate jointly in the construction and operation

of this new large prototype, which the Community would be called upon to support by virtue of its fundamental importance to the development of the nuclear industry.

The special committee on nuclear problems of the Union of Industries of the European Community (UNICE) has approved the general position adopted by UNIPÉDE, but feels that the procedures to be adopted should form the subject of subsequent coordination on a Community scale. For its part, the special UNICE committee on nuclear problems decided to promote agreements between its members with the object of achieving the aim in view.

Finally, the Centre européen de l'entreprise publique (CEEP) offered its unqualified support. All this therefore points to a particularly felicitous measure of agreement between the Commission, the utilities and the constructors of nuclear power plants in the Community on the need to concentrate efforts in order to produce a final breeder prototype of as high a capacity as possible, of the order of 1,000 MWe, which could follow on the two 250-300 MWe prototypes now being built.

This agreement is especially welcome since the American industry appears to be girding itself to take up the challenge in the near future and is already setting up groups with this in mind. It has just submitted the specifications for three breeders to the USAEC - one Westinghouse, one General Electric and one Atomic International design.

Although several concurrent projects for 250-300 MWe breeder prototypes are permissible in Europe (the Phénix reactor is now being built by France and the SNR by Germany and the Benelux countries, to which must be added the British Dounreay-2), the construction of more than one initial 1,000 MWe prototype in the Community would amount to a waste of effort and would inevitably perpetuate the present compartmentalization of the market.

PROPOSED EURATOM RESEARCH AND INVESTMENT BUDGET

(for 1970)

Activities	Appropriations (in millions of u.a.)
<b>1) <u>RESEARCH PROGRAMME</u></b>	
<b>I. <u>Contribution to reactor development</u></b>	
Fast reactors	4.531
High-temperature reactors	8.998
Heavy-water reactors	12.215
<b>II. <u>Fuel cycle (plutonium and transplutonic elements)</u></b>	
	4.572
<b>III. <u>Public service activities</u></b>	
Central Bureau for Nuclear Measurements	6.286
CETIS	3.421
Control of fissile materials	0.580
Nuclear plant safety	0.884
Biology and health physics (in the nuclear sector)	7.400
Training and instruction	1.276
High-flux irradiation (HFR and BR-2)	4.159
<b>IV. <u>Basic research</u></b>	
Thermonuclear fusion	8.267
Condensed-state physics and SORA	5.874
<b>V. <u>Non-nuclear fields</u></b>	
Abatement of nuisances	0.829
Information science	1.892
Community Bureau of Standards	2.095
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<b>TOTAL FOR RESEARCH PROGRAMME</b>	<b>73.279</b>
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<b>2) <u>OTHER COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES</u></b>	
Technical assistance to nuclear power plant operators	0.054
Harmonization of technical and safety standards	0.190
Technical and economic studies on the implementation of a coordinated policy for the nuclear industry	0.060
Drafting of target programmes for the Community's energy requirements	0.085