

DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
DELEGATION DE LA COMMISSION DES COMMUNAUTES EUROPEENNES
PRESS AND INFORMATION SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

EURATOM LOANS IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD

On the proposal of the Commission of the European Communities, the Council of Ministers has empowered the Commission to raise Euratom loans on one or more financial markets in the nuclear field. The decision taken provides for the process of borrowing and lending, according to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, up to a maximum of 500 million european units of account (Can. \$587,940,000.) for the first operational issue.

This initiative follows a series of proposals by the Commission in order to establish a common energy policy to reduce the dependence on external sources.

A co-operation agreement between the Commission and the European Investment Bank is planned. This co-operation relates to the general policy that should be followed in this field as well as to the co-ordination of the operations on the financial market, the proceedings of the loan requests and their administration.

The Commission already has a number of formal requests for the financing of nuclear power stations in France, Germany, Great Britain and Italy equivalent to an amount of 125 million units of account (Can. \$146,985,000.). Other requests are currently being examined with electricity companies.

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