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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EURATOM TO CONSTRUCT NEW \$20 MILLION TEST REACTOR IN ITALY

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 16 -- The Commission of the European Atomic Energy Community has decided on the construction of a 25-MW test reactor, ESSOR (essai ORGEL), at the Ispra research center located in Italy, northwest of Milan.

Work on the new \$20 million to \$25 million reactor will start in 1963, and it is expected to be in full operation for research in 1965.

ESSOR, a specific test reactor, will be used for study of a wide range of heavy-water reactors, particularly those of the ORGEL type, using natural uranium as fuel, organic liquids as coolants, and heavy water as moderators. This reactor string, so far little studied, is one of the main subjects of Euratom's research program. Under its second five-year research program (1963-67) \$57 million has been allocated to the ORGEL project. ORGEL is the primary project under study at Ispra, the largest of Euratom's four research establishments.