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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EURATOM TO CONTRIBUTE \$5 MILLION TO DUTCH NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22 -- The European Atomic Energy Community will contribute up to \$5 million to the construction and operating costs of a 50-MWe boiling-water experimental power reactor to be built by the N. V. Samenwerkende Electriciteits Productiebedrijven (S.E.P.) of Arnhem, Netherlands, the Euratom Commission announced today in Brussels.

The contract between Euratom and S.E.P. has been given the go-ahead by the various Dutch electricity enterprises involved in the project. It is expected to be signed in the near future.

Total cost of the S.E.P. plant is estimated at \$25 million. The S.E.P. reactor will be equipped with extensive in-core instrumentation, in order to obtain more detailed information on fission process in a power reactor than is now available.

In return for the Euratom aid, S.E.P. will make available to Euratom information obtained during the preparatory construction and operation of the plant. Euratom may also assign its own engineers or personnel from Community enterprises to the project.

The cooperation between Euratom and the Dutch project is based on the belief that nuclear energy will play an increasingly important role in the Community as it develops into a source of low-cost power, and that industry -- both the construction and electricity sectors -- should acquire experience in the nuclear power field.