



## Operating Costs

The annual operating cost of the CNF reactor is \$14.2 million. This includes labour, fuel, electricity, materials and heating costs. Computing, waste storage and design, safety and licensing costs are also added.

Use of newer computer technology for the CNF is expected to reduce costs for further maintenance and support over current NRU expenditures. Also, being a new facility, the CNF will incur less design, safety and licensing support costs than NRU currently requires.

CNF operating costs are estimated to be one-half of the equivalent costs of NRU. The CNF will have reduced operations, maintenance and support staff levels.

Costs for AECL's in-reactor research programs that depend on the CNF are in the order of \$30 million annually. Costs for the Neutron Beam Laboratory will rise to \$8 million annually when a mature program is operating in 2006/2007. Securing operational funds will be the responsibility of the CNF owner/operator, the CANDU Program, and the Beam Laboratory operator, respectively.