

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) has an 11-man Board of Directors, including individuals from private industry, public and private power companies and the universities. The company's major plant, the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories, is near Chalk River, Ontario, and a second plant, the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment, is near Pinawa in Manitoba. The company's head office and AECL Commercial Products are in Ottawa. AECL Power Projects in Toronto directs the engineering of power reactors and nuclear-generating stations and operates as consulting nuclear engineers. The design and construction of NPD, the demonstration plant, was carried out by collaboration between AECL, the Canadian General Electric Company Limited and Ontario Hydro. Power Projects, with the assistance of Ontario Hydro, designed and constructed the Douglas Point station. By agreement, Ontario Hydro will purchase the plant when it is in satisfactory operation. The large units of the Pickering station are being built by Ontario Hydro, using Power Projects as consulting nuclear engineers. An Advisory Committee on Atomic Power Development keeps all other utilities fully informed of the progress being made. This body, which was set up by the Federal Government in 1954, meets periodically to assess the economic prospects of nuclear power throughout the country.

Because of the great pace of technological development in nuclear power throughout the world, AECL devotes a major effort to collaboration with many organizations. These include industrial firms and the scientific and engineering departments of universities in Canada and, through foreign government agencies and several international organizations, many technical groups in other countries. For example, the Canadian General Electric Company has designed and constructed WR-1, an organic-cooled experimental reactor, for the Whiteshell Nuclear Research Establishment, on a fixed-price negotiated contract. The Canadian General Electric and Canadian Westinghouse Companies are AECL's chief contractors for fuel-element fabrication, and other work related to Canada's nuclear-power programme is carried out in collaboration with Shawinigan Engineering, Orenda Limited, Dilworth, Secord, Meagher and Associates, Atlas Steel Limited and Montreal Engineering Company Limited. In general, AECL's policy is to stimulate the interest of private industry in the development of nuclear power so that these firms can take over construction of power-plants when the time arrives, leaving AECL free for fundamental studies and developing new reactor ideas. For some years AECL expects to continue a consulting engineering role in the design of nuclear generating stations. AECL also lends general support to the nuclear and related studies of Canadian universities and lets contracts to the universities on specific problems.

To support their activities in this field, both industry and universities need ready access to information. This was one reason why industry set up the Canadian Nuclear Association, a body that has held a highly successful series of annual conferences at which both progress and the prospects for the future are reviewed. A commercially-published magazine, Canadian Nuclear Technology, maintains the flow of general information and opinion. Detailed technical information is available principally from the library of the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories, which lends about 500 items a month from its comprehensive collection of the world's nuclear literature. Information is also distributed from extensive depository collections of the