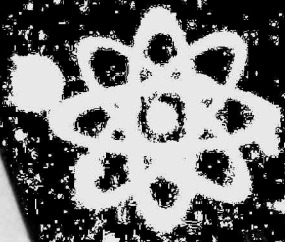


AEC



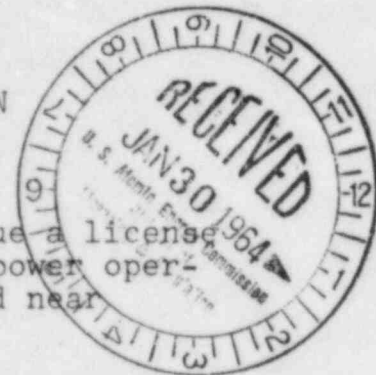
UNITED STATES  
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

No. G-21  
Tel. 973-3335 or  
973-3446

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Wednesday, January 29, 1964)

AEC PROPOSES TO LICENSE INITIAL OPERATION  
OF PATHFINDER ATOMIC POWER PLANT

The Atomic Energy Commission proposes to issue a license to Northern States Power Company for initial low power operation of the Pathfinder Atomic Power Plant located near Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



Under the license, the company would be authorized to begin loading nuclear fuel into the boiling water reactor and to operate the facility at a power level not in excess of one thermal megawatt. No electricity would be generated at this low power.

Ultimate full rated electrical capacity of the reactor with nuclear superheating would be 58,500 net electrical kilowatts. Saturated steam, formed in the boiling region of the reactor core, will be recirculated to flow through a superheater region of the same reactor core and will be converted to superheated steam before going to the turbine-generator for conversion to electrical energy. The higher temperatures of superheated steam will result in increased turbine efficiency. The reactor was designed and built by Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company.

The Commission's Division of Licensing and Regulation has reviewed the application for provisional operating license filed by Northern States Power Company and has concluded that there is reasonable assurance that the reactor can be operated as proposed by the company at power levels not in excess of one thermal megawatt without endangering the health and safety of the public.

A copy of the application and of the report of the Commission's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards are available for inspection in AEC's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street NW, Washington, D. C. Copies of an analysis prepared by the Division of Licensing and Regulation summarizing the

(more)

safety considerations will be available at the Public Document Room or by writing to the Director, Division of licensing and Regulation, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C. 20545.

Petitions to intervene or requests for public hearing may be filed with the Secretary, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C. 20545, within 30 days after publication of notice in the Federal Register on January 30, 1964.

1/29/64