

## SAFEGUARDS EXTEND TO FUEL PROCESSING

Some time in 1966 Agency safeguards will be applied for the first time to nuclear materials that are under chemical reprocessing. This will take place in the United States when the Nuclear Fuel Services (Inc.) plant near Buffalo, New York State, reprocesses a batch of irradiated fuel elements from the Yankee reactor at Rowe, Massachusetts.

The Yankee power station, which has an electrical capacity of 180 MW, was voluntarily placed under Agency safeguards two years ago by the United States Government. The Agency has the responsibility also to safeguard the fuel from this reactor while it is being chemically reprocessed subsequently. N.F.S. is a privately-owned plant which provides this service for a group of utility companies operating nuclear power stations.

The revised Agency Safeguards System was adopted by the Board in 1965 after consideration by the General Conference. These safeguards relate chiefly only to reactors, but the need to extend them to other facilities has always been foreseen. At its meeting in February 1966 the Board of Governors decided to prepare provisions extending the Agency's Safeguards System to reprocessing plants. It therefore re-established the Working Group set up in February 1964 to review the Agency Safeguards System.

