NUCLEAR GROUPS TO CO-OPERATE

MOVE TO EFFECT ECONOMIES

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JOINT TENDERS PLANNED FOR NEW POWER STATIONS

By Our Scientific Correspondent

Two of Britain's five nuclear power station construction groups are to collaborate in the building of future nuclear generating stations, it was announced yesterday. Negotiations on the detailed form of operation are still taking place.

The two groups are the Nuclear Power Plant Company (whose members include C. A. Parsons and V. Reynolds) and the AEI Limited of the Nuclear Energy Company. The purpose of the move is to effect economies in research and in tendering costs. A tender can mean an outlay of between £150,000 and £250,000 according to the size of the station.

A joint tender is planned for the Dungeness, Kent, 500 megawatt nuclear power station, based on a common design. A similar procedure will be followed subsequently for the Sizewell, Suffolk, 600 megawatt station.

Tenders for the Dungeness station will be asked for by the Associated Electrical Industries and announced by John Thompson, chairman of the Board of the AEI Limited. And before the General Electric Company, which is to tender, it is expected that they will either have a joint tendering in the design of the construction by the two groups submit their designs. The decision on the design and the tender will be made by the chairman of the AEI Limited.

The announcement was made in reply to the request made by the British Engineering Federation for proposals for the design and construction of a nuclear power station. The Federation noted that the work was of great importance and was concerned with the future of the British nuclear industry.