

Both financial and technical assistance provisions should be for initiation purposes only and each instance of financial assistance should be examined and approved individually.

Prototype plant construction and test operation in one sense represent the culmination of the technological development process. It is here that all of the ideas, knowledge and innovations are integrated into an actual system which then can demonstrate the validity of those inputs, at least as far as this particular actual system is concerned. Not all of the parameters will be validated in full. Problems, difficulties and even inspirations for further research to advance the technology will become apparent. As a proof of the state of the technology, the prototype is indispensable.

The prototype plant will require a period of operation in which the best actual operation and maintenance schedules are developed and tested, system reliability data are obtained and component performance norms are established. Only when these results are available can the hard facts be established for the evaluation of costs and applicability of this particular process and capacity. Financial assistance should cover part of the operating costs in this start-up period. Ownership, operation and maintenance of