in the design and location of the lines to its advantage, and it can more efficiently develop its own transmission system and schedule the installation of generation. Suppose, for example, that a utility has a good site for a generating station. The decision as to what size plant to install at the site may depend in part on the proximity of extra high voltage lines. A utility which is not familiar with the plans for regional transmission is at an obvious disadvantage in making the judgment as to how large a plant it should build. (Conversely, of course, those planning the grid are handicapped if they do not know of the utility's plans for the site.) Illustrations of this sort could be spun out at great length. The point is that in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent electric industry, regional planning constantly grows more valuable to the individual utility.

3. The Council and Its Planning Committee

The most active regional planning agency of the electric industry in New England appears to be the Planning Committee of the Electric Coordinating Council of New England. The committee consists of the top engineering personnel of the utilities represented on the Council (Tr. 316; Ex. 6, p. 4).