

BOOK REVIEWS

Selection of books for review is based on the editors' opinions regarding possible reader interest and on the availability of the book to the editors. Occasional selections may include books on topics somewhat peripheral to the subject matter ordinarily considered acceptable.



Public Issues of Nuclear Power

Coordinator Herbert S. Isbin
Publisher The University of Minnesota Press
Pages 739
Price \$14.20
Reviewer James B. Smathers

The book, a paperback, is a compilation of some 25 papers, both pro and con, dealing with various aspects of the nuclear power issue. Many of the authors are nationally known, and the papers were originally presented as a series of lectures at the University of Minnesota during the fall of 1974.

While the papers contain nothing new in technical information, the book does collect

in one document a wealth of information on nuclear power, which is presented at a level intended for the general public. The lack of editing preserves the flavor and prejudice of the various authors' treatments but results in a verbose product over 730 pages long.

The book is recommended only for those wishing a single reference compilation of material germane to the public policy concerning nuclear power issue.

J. B. Smathers (PhD, University of Maryland, 1967) is presently professor of nuclear engineering at Texas A&M University. His experience includes eight years in reactor construction and operation and seven years in the biomedical applications of nuclear energy. Smathers is a member of the AIF speakers bureau and routinely speaks to high school groups in the State of Texas concerning the benefits and problems associated with the use of nuclear energy.