amended policies governing treatment practices in an effort to be consistent" with Breuning's research findings.

As for "conclusions regarding others," the panel commends Breuning's former colleague Sprague for bringing the matter to NIMH's attention but questions his judgment in "uncritically" including Breuning's publications in his progress reports, and expressed concern at his "failure to adequately oversee" the subcontract with Pittsburgh.

The report also says the University of Illinois, which conducted an early investigation, "failed to conduct a thorough" one. The University of Pittsburgh, which had to be repeatedly prodded by NIMH to expand the scope of its investigation, finally came up with a thorough one after Breuning left. The panel says "if the initial University of Pittsburgh investigating committees had been given a more comprehensive charge, significant time would have been saved."

The report will not be released and possible sanctions considered until comments have been received and the final version has been reviewed by the director of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration, NIMH's parent agency. ■

CONSTANCE HOLDEN

CERN Panel Backs New Accelerator

Geneva

Following President Ronald Reagan's recent decision to support the construction of the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC), a committee consisting of representatives of 14 member states of the European Laboratory for Particle Physics (CERN) has voiced its support for the construction of a smaller European machine that would carry out experiments in a lower—but still comparable—energy range at a fraction of the cost.

For several years, European physicists have been pointing out that proton-proton collisions at energies slightly below those planned for the SSC could be achieved by the addition of a superconducting proton collider on top of the magnets currently being installed in the 27-kilometer-circumference tunnel that has been built to house the Large Electron-Positron Collider (LEP) (*Science*, 24 May 1985, p. 968).

Meeting in Geneva last month, the committee, known formally as the Committee of Council, agreed that the construction of an additional superconducting ring should be "seriously considered as a next step in the exploration of the microcosmos." The committee added that the resulting hadron collider would be "an essential step forward" since, even though the planned energy range of 7 to 9 TeV per beam was lower than the 20 TeV planned for the SSC, it covered an energy range where interesting new phenomena should occur.

Detailed technical and financial specifications of the new accelerator, which would be able to use many of the existing facilities at CERN, are currently being studied by a committee set up by the council in June 1985 under the chairmanship of Carlo Rubbia to look at the long-term future of the laboratory.

Recent studies have shown that 10-tesla dipole bending magnets could be used to achieve collision energies of 17 TeV with what is described as a "respectable" collision rate, and tentative plans have been discussed for establishing a European magnet development program to work toward this goal.

CERN director Herwig Schopper said last week that the decision by the Committee of Council to endorse a close study of the project represented an important step in a process that is now expected to lead to a definite proposal being put forward to the European member governments. While welcoming President Reagan's decision on the SSC as "a recognition of the importance of the field" he added that "if Europe does not do anything, it is in danger of being left behind."

Schopper said that, from a technical point of view, it would be possible to construct the new superconducting ring at the same time that measures are being taken to upgrade the LEP ring, which it is currently hoped to do in the early 1990s. Making use of existing facilities, in particular the LEP tunnel, could mean that the costs of the collider would be one-third to one-fifth those of the SSC.

Politically, however, much will depend on the report of a separate committee established by the member governments last year to look at the potential consequences of Britain's threatened withdrawal from CERN. Furthermore, signs are beginning to emerge that Britain is not the only major CERN contributor faced with a major spending squeeze on high energy physics.

Cutbacks in France's research budget are reported to be threatening the Atomic Energy Commission's Department of Elementary Particle Physics with having to withdraw from several international experiments—including those planned for the proton-electron collider HERA in Hamburg, for which France has already contracted to finance the superconducting magnets at a cost of $11.5 million. ■ DAVID DICKSON

A $2.5-Billion Acid Rain Plan

The Reagan Administration is proposing that the federal government spend $2.5 billion over the next 5 years to demonstrate technologies for controlling sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions from coal-burning power plants. The President's proposal comes in the wake of complaints from the Canadian government that the White House was not living up to its January 1986 pledge to spend $5 billion to clean up pollution that is thought to be the cause of acid rain in Canada.

The aim of the program, says Energy Secretary John Herrington, is to move "the nation toward a new generation of more efficient, economical options" for controlling pollution related to the combustion of coal. The program is not meant to break new ground on the research front, says Herrington, just demonstrate the feasibility of "new" technologies, which officials have yet to identify.

The demonstrations could include advanced methods for treating coal prior to combustion, improved combustion methods, and post-combustion cleanup. The first projects would be selected in April 1988. Utilities and industry sponsors of the selected projects would be required to match federal subsidies.

Under the Administration's plan, $150 million allocated to projects in the department's ongoing "Clean Coal Technology" program would be credited toward this new demonstration initiative. Another $350 million remaining in the Clean Coal Technology Reserve Fund for the second phase of the original program would be diverted to the President's new effort for use next year. The Administration also would ask Congress for an advance appropriation of $500 million in FY 1989 funds. This would enable the Department of Energy (DOE) to make contractual commitments in 1988 for a total of $850 million. The plan assumes that the nation's next President, who takes office in January of 1989, will agree to spend $1.5 billion more on the demonstration program between 1990 and 1992.

In making its decisions, DOE is expected to consider those technologies that produce the largest reductions of sulfur and nitrogen at the lowest cost. At the President's request, Herrington is forming a panel to advise him on the selection of projects. He has promised that it will be a broad-based group that includes representatives from federal agencies, the Canadian government, and the public. ■ MARK CRAWFORD