

D. POTASSIUM TOPPING CYCLE

Three characteristics of this system give it second priority:
its potential for efficiencies of 50-55 percent, its potential for

direct combustion of coal in a fluidized bed without atmospheric pollution, and its ability to come into first commercial service in 1980 or 1985, depending on the funding level. The use of alkali metals (as in this system and LMFBR) requires tender, loving care in assembly, operations, and maintenance of the system, and the impact of this care on the economy of system use has not yet been answered.