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Nenskra HPP: Construction of major Georgian Hydro Power Plant begins



Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili attends the historic ceremony marking the beginning of construction of the Nenskra HPP in Svaneti region, Georgia. Photo by Prime Minister's webpage.

Agenda.ge, 16 Sep 2015 - 17:14, Tbilisi, Georgia

The Government of Georgia is on a path to construct large Hydro Power Plants (HPPs) in Georgia to ensure the country's energy security.

Today construction of the biggest HPP since Georgia gained independence, Nenskra HPP in western mountainous Svaneti region, officially started.

While attending the historic ceremony today, Georgia's Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili stressed the 280 megawatt HPP, worth \$1 billion USD, would play a crucial role for Georgia's energy stability.

” The HPP will be the guarantee that our energy field is more sustainable and safe,” Garibashvili said, noting the energy produced at the HPP would replace imported energy during winter.

The construction phase of the project is due to end sometime in 2021 however the Nenskra HPP will start producing electricity from 2019.

The HPP is expected to annually produce 1.2 billion kilowatts of electricity per hour.

The Nenskra HPP construction will be based on a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) structure, where the investor is obliged to build the HPP, operate it for 35 years then transfer ownership of the HPP to the state.

The Korea Water Resources Corporation (K Water) is one of the project's major investors, while the construction works will be carried out by the Italian industrial group Salini Impregilo.

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