

hydro-electric power engineering industry is not understood. For instance, comparison of hydro-electric and thermo-electric power plants with regard to their profitability has always been made on the basis of expenditures of only one agency, namely, the Ministry of Power Engineering and Electrification of the USSR. At the same time, expenditures for the development of fuel resources, transportation, environmental protection, and the need for an inflow of labour resources were ignored or not fully taken into account. As a result of such a one-sided approach, the building of hydro-electric power plants has decelerated, and many construction industry enterprises have lost their hydro-technical specialization.

"Leap-frogging" in the financing of constructions has also had its effect. Thus, during the building of the Sayano-Shushensk Hydro-Electric Power Plant, the plan for construction output was continuously being increased while the construction was using up the allocated financial resources. But as soon as the required momentum was built up, cuts in the plan were made. It seemed that everyone was only concerned that the hydraulic turbines be put into operation, while energy output was an insignificant matter. As a result, power units were put into operation while the dam was not completely built, and with reduced water head, so that the Plant still delivers much less energy than it could.

The same situation is now being repeated on the Kureisk Boguchansk, and Katunsk Hydro-Electric Power Plants, where targets are being exceeded the restrictions on financing continue. This means that the plants will be under construction for a long time -- for up to 25 years. And this means that the use of oil, coal, gas will increase, that labour