POWER GENERATION

Gulf Ministers have agreed on the concept of an inter-connecting power grid for GCC countries. Total cost of the project is put at \$1.2 billion of which one-third will be borne by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The first phase will link Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. Hydro-Quebec International participated in the GCC grid pre-feasibility study. Most national power systems will require upgrading of the capital stock before implementation of the common grid system. Opportunities exist for H.V. generation and transmission, power-plant trouble-shooting, systems monitoring and consumer services. Large-scale desalination units are usually co-located with power stations in the region and are operated by the same public utility. At the same time, power authorities are aware of the age, inefficiencies and costs of existing power generating facilities. Privatization, including infusions of foreign equity and management systems, is one of the options under active consideration in Kuwait.

3.34 Morocco

This is a sector of steady growth in Morocco. Energy consumption in Morocco averages increases of 4% per year, and 6% to 7% in electricity. The market is estimated at Cdn \$400 million per year.

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

- · Equipment and material for the electrical industry;
- Engineering services, maintenance services for electrical infrastructures and facili ties, training, rationalization of energy consumption, etc.;
- Natural gas:
- Engineering study for the introduction of natural gas to Morocco by way of the Maghreb-Europe gas pipeline (planned for 1995);
- Conversion of industries to natural gas;
- Equipment and services for natural gas transportation.

MAIN COMPETITOR/SUPPLIER COUNTRIES

Currently, main competitors and/or suppliers in this market are France, Benelux, Spain, the U.S.A. and Germany.

FUNDING

This sector requires funding. Some multilateral funding (World Bank, African Development Bank) is available, in particular for the rural electrification program.