

Electric grid north korea

In an attempt to address the country's electrical energy needs, the DPRK is placing greater emphasis on the construction and utilization of both hydroelectric and coal-powered, thermal-electric power plants. To date, most of that observed growth has been in the building of hydroelectric dams, principally in the northern provinces, where the terrain is more suitable for such projects.

The pattern of the hydroelectric power stations along the Jangja River bears some resemblance to those along the Chongchon River. They are mostly small-to-medium-sized dams, each with an associated power station, the lone exception being the Jangjagang Power Station Dam, where both the reservoir and dam are significant in size. While most of these power stations and dams were constructed prior to 2009, two are more recent in construction, and one was still under construction as of February 2019.

Moving southwest along the Jangja River, 3 km from Hungju Youth Power Station No. 1, is another hydroelectric dam under construction. The yet-to-be-named dam is located at 40.97926N, 126.5354E. Construction on its generator hall is ongoing, and three turbines are visible within its confines. While imagery coverage of the area is sparse, an image taken in 2013 revealed no signs of construction activity, but subsequent imagery taken in late 2017 and in early 2018 revealed that dam construction was well underway. By February 21, 2019, construction of the generator hall can be seen.

Less than 5 km downstream from the reservoir is the final hydroelectric power station on the river, the Yonha Power Station and dam. Small in size, it was observed under construction in 2003 and was completed sometime between then and 2007, the time of the next available image.



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Web: <https://www.somethingtasty.co.za/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

