

Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station Begins Commercial Operation

J-POWER Completes Modernization Work at 60-Year-Old Hydroelectric Power Station

Electric Power Development Co., Ltd. (J-POWER, headquartered in Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Hitoshi Kanno) has completed the modernization (renovations) of the main facilities, including the water turbine and generators, at Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station (Unuma City, Niigata Prefecture). Modernization work began on April 19, 2023 and the station commenced commercial operation today.

Having operated for over 60 years since its initial startup in 1958, Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station underwent modernization work to update its aging main facilities, including the water turbine and generators.

This modernization work increased the power output by 700 kW from 1,500 kW to 2,200 kW through the installation of a new water turbine runner (developed inhouse)¹ and an increase in the maximum water intake.

The modernization work also included introducing the satellite broadband communication service Starlink Business² in October 2023. The site now boasts a high-speed, high-capacity network (where previously cellular signals were unavailable), enabling more efficient construction.

J-POWER has implemented modernization work at eight power stations, with Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station being the sixth such project. Building on its experience and track record in developing and operating hydroelectric power stations throughout Japan, the J-POWER Group will continue to expand its renewable energy business to achieve carbon neutrality, as stated in [J-POWER BLUE MISSION 2050](#).



Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station
(full view)



Installation of new water turbine runner for
Unit 2

1. [J-POWER to Introduce New Inhouse-Developed Water Turbines \(First Water Turbine Designed by an Electric Power Company in Japan\)](#) (announced September 16, 2021)
2. [Using Starlink Satellite Broadband, J-POWER and KDDI Will Test High-Speed, High-Capacity Communications in Mountains to Ensure a Stable Power Supply](#) (announced October 26, 2023)

(1) Outline of Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station

Location	Uonuma City, Niigata Prefecture, Japan
Capacity	2,200 kW (combined output of Unit 1 and Unit 2)
Maximum water consumption	8.6 m ³ /s
Dam	Hiraishi Intake Dam (crest length: 38.5 m, height: 11 m)
Start of operations	February 1958

(2) Location

