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PERFORMANCE OF USSR ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS IN 1953

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

ELECTRIC POWER OUTPUT

The Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry USSR completed the 1953 plan for electric power output on 26 December 1953.(1) In the first half 1953, the electric power stations of this ministry were fulfilling the state plan for electric power output 101.9 percent.(2) Electric power output in 1953 was 113 percent of the 1952 output.(3) In 1952, 117 billion kilowatt-hours of electric power were produced in the USSR.(4) Planned 1953 output of electric power in the USSR was 133 billion kilowatt-hours.(2)

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Compared with 1952, capital investment in electric power stations increased in 1953. However, the plan for capital investment and growth of industrial capacity for the national economy as a whole was not fulfilled in 1953 and the amount of underfulfillment by the Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry USSR, among others, was quite large.(3)

COST OF PRODUCTION

Directives of the 19th Party Congress provide that costs in industrial production in 1951-1955 be reduced 25 percent. Savings obtained by lowering the cost of production are to be applied to construction of new factories and plants and to lowering wholesale and retail prices. At the Fifth Session of the Supreme Soviet USSR, G. M. Malenkov pointed out the necessity for reducing costs by reducing expenditures for raw materials, fuel, and wages per unit of output.

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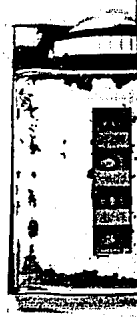

In 1946-1953, the Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry USSR has reduced the average cost of one kilowatt-hour by approximately one third. In 1953 alone, there was a saving of about 300 million rubles over planned reduction in the cost of electric power and heat. This saving was achieved by exceeding the planned output of power, by conserving hundreds of thousands of tons of standard fuel and tens of millions of kilowatt-hours of electric power in excess of the plan, and by reducing personnel.

Despite the leading enterprises which exceed the plan for reducing the cost of power, many electric power stations and power systems are not fulfilling the plan, including the Rostovenergo, Karagandaenergo, and Yarenergo Electropower stations.

From year to year, electric power stations of the ministry have systematically reduced the ratio of fuel consumed in the production of electric power. (5) In 1952, the average consumption of standard fuel per kilowatt-hour was 519 grams.(4) In 1953, the ratio of fuel to output of electric power was reduced 1.9 percent in the electric power stations of the ministry.(3) In 1954, the average ratio for the ministry will be 500 grams per kilowatt-hour and 175 kilograms per mgk [megacalorie], i. e., approximately 15 percent lower than in 1940.

Despite the electric power stations which have achieved close to optimum ratios in fuel consumption (Kashirskaya and Stalinogorskaya GRES of Mosenergo, SuGRES (Sredneural'skaya GRES) of Sverdlovenergo, etc.), many stations are guilty of excessive fuel consumption. Shterovskaya, Kurakhovskaya, Stalingradskaya, Karagandinskaya, Nesvetayevskaya, and other GRES consume an excessive amount of fuel as a result of unsatisfactory operation and increased breakdowns of equipment. The ratio of fuel consumption is high at Dneprodzerzhinskaya GRES, the electric power stations of Litovenergo, Latvenergo, Belorussenergo, and others.

There has been a general reduction in the ratio of fuel consumption at the ministry electric power stations which operate on peat, but Shaturskaya GRES of Mosenergo has not made any such reduction. A number of electric power stations (Nizhne-Turinskaya GRES, Shchekinskaya GRES, Novoufimskaya and Novokuybyshevskaya TETs, and others) are approaching the planned ratio of fuel consumption at an intolerably slow rate.

A number of electric power stations (Sumgaitskaya TETs, Groznenskaya TETs, Krasnodarskaya GRES, and others) which operate on mazut have reduced the cost of fuel by increased use of the cheaper sulfurous mazut. Electric power stations which operate on peat are increasing the use of milled peat, which is cheaper than lump peat. Electric power stations which operate on coal must increase consumption of low-grade and cheaper brands of coal -- culms, screenings, and intermediate products.

The weighing and proper inspection of all fuel delivered to electric power stations must be carried out 100 percent. A number of electric power stations have tried to reduce the cost of fuel by completely emptying the cars when they are unloaded, by reducing losses of fuel in the storage areas and in loading and unloading, by proper storing of fuel, by waging a campaign to avoid spontaneous combustion of fuel, by seeing that cars do not stand idle, and by increasing the use of machinery in loading and unloading. Reduction of interoblast hauling of peat and fuller utilization of rolling stock should be added to these steps.

Particular attention must be paid to devising and implementing measures to reduce consumption of electric power by the electric power stations themselves. Instead of a systematic reduction in consumption of electric power for their own needs, there has been a considerable increase.

In 1953, the majority of electric power stations and power systems did not fulfill the planned norms which had been established for them; they allowed the cost of power to increase by excessive consumption of electric power for their own needs. This increase can be partially justified by the increased proportion of high-pressure equipment in the boiler rooms and by the increase in technical equipment. There is also inadequate attention by the personnel of the electric power stations (primarily the engineers and technicians) to devising and implementing measures for reducing their own electric power consumption.

One way of greatly lowering the cost of power is to reduce losses in the power lines. Although the average norm of losses for the ministry has been reduced (in 1953, it was approximately 14 percent less than in 1940), losses are exceptionally large in some power systems (Litovenergo, Kaliningradenergo, L'vovskiy EK [Electric Power Combine], Bashkirenergo, and others).

The personnel of some central heating systems are not paying proper attention to reducing losses of heat in the systems. Losses are large in the Kiyevenergo and Lenenergo heating systems.

Other ways to reduce the cost of power are to increase labor efficiency and reduce the personnel in power enterprises. Mechanization of time-consuming processes and use of automatic equipment should reduce considerably the number of personnel per 1,000 kilowatts of installed capacity. However, there have been no such results, especially of repair personnel.

Centralization of repairs has not yet yielded tangible reductions in repair personnel, since there have been no significant changes in repair techniques.

Existing prices ought to be revised for centralized capital repairs of electric power station equipment by repair organizations of Soyuzenergoremont (All-Union Electric Power Repair Trust) and by repair plants of the power systems. It is not normal to have tens of millions of rubles' profit on the balance sheets of the enterprises of Soyuzenergoremont. This profit is a result of an increase in the prices for capital repair of electric power station equipment.(5)

SOURCES

1. Moscow, Izvestiya, 31 Dec 53

2. Tallin, Sovetskaya Estoniya, 29 Aug 53

3. Izvestiya, 31 Jan 54

4. Moscow, Elektricheskiye Stantsii, No 1, Jan 53

5. Moscow, Energetik, No 7, Dec 53

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