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OPERATION GEESTHACHT

A unique power plant is being built in Geesthacht on the Elbe near Hamburg. It is the biggest "building-site as sand" in the world. But we are sure that the 60 million Dmark installation is not being built "on sand".

The Geesthacht power plant is most significant for the power supply during peak periods of industrial consumption.

More than 2 1/2 million cubic metres of sand are being moved. The storage lake will have a capacity of 3,3 million cubic metres of water. The macadam machines are working full speed.

The water of the Elbe is pumped through three mighty pipes up into the storage lake during the night hours. The same water returns via the pipes to an electric power generator during the peak hours of power consumption, i.e. in the early morning time.

The installation, therefore, is based on a most simple idea: alternating current cannot be stored. But by means of the stored water power current can always be made available as required during peak hours.

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