

Bosnia's biggest power utility Elektroprivreda BiH said on Friday it generated 7,245 gigawatt-hours of electricity in 2016, more than 5 percent up from a year before on the back of record coal production.

The company, 90 percent state-owned and the biggest of Bosnia's three power utilities, EPBiH runs two coal-fired plants and three hydro-power plants with combined capacities of 1,165 megawatts and 517 MW, respectively. It also operates coal mines in Bosnia's autonomous Bosniak-Croat Federation.

EPBiH said that a 10 percent increase in coal production last year to nearly 5 million tonnes contributed to a power output rise of 8.7 percent and almost 6 percent at its Kakanj and Tuzla coal-fired power plants, respectively.

Electricity generation from its hydropower plants amounted to 1,395 GWh down from 1,496 GWh a year before due to low hydro levels, especially last December, EPBiH said in a statement.

Bosnia generates 40 percent of its electricity from hydropower and the rest from coal-fired plants. Unlike other countries in the Balkans that rely on imports to cover much of their demand, it is able to export power due in part to its hydro capacity.

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