

Multiconsult signs services contract for Albania's Devoll hydroelectric projects

Norwegian engineering and design firm Multiconsult has signed a contract with Devoll Hydropower Sh.A. to develop two hydroelectric plants in Albania.

Devoll Hydropower Sh.A — wholly-owned by Norway's Statkraft since March 2013 — is currently constructing the Banje and Moglice projects, both of which are located along the Devoll River about 70 km east of Albania's capital city.

The two-part contract includes one component for providing staff, with the other for consulting services.

"In terms of the contract staff, Multiconsult has a duty to provide qualified personnel to the customer on site, supported by their offices in Norway," project manager Richard Duncumb said. " These contract staff form part of the customer's team, and are working in areas like supervision of the construction of the Moglice dam, including above-ground slope stability, geological surveys and supervision of tunneling in the area around the dam."

Meanwhile, the consulting component of the deal calls for Multiconsult to provide services for both projects — mostly related to the plants' dams and engineering for other associated structures.

Statkraft said Banje should be completed by the end of this year, with Moglice to be finished in 2018. Statkraft will own and operate the plants until it transfers them to the Albanian government at the end of a concession period of unspecified length.

HydroWorld.com reported that Statkraft had award a contract worth about US\$132.6 million to Alstom in July 2013 supply six Francis turbine generator units for the projects.

Also included in the order were hydraulic steelworks such as gates, penstocks, stop logs and trashracks. Alstom said the equipment will be primarily manufactured in Alstom's Spain and Turkey factories.

source: hydroworld.com