

EGYPT

PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR INCREASED ELECTRICITY GENERATION

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[Article: "An Additional 4800 Megawatts of Electricity Generated"]

[Text] Minister of Electricity and Energy Engineer Mahir Abazah announced that the ministry's second 5-year plan (1987-92) aims to increase generation capacity by building new stations with a capacity of 4800 megawatts, as well as complete the process of replacing and renovating old stations so that they operate at their original capacity. In addition, natural gas and coal will be relied upon in generation operations in order to minimize the use of oil.

The minister of electricity said that the plan provides for completing the modernization and development of the electrical station at the High Dam in order to raise its operational efficiency and increase the energy generated by 5 percent.

The minister indicated that operating certain electric power units in the new stations that are to be built will result in an increase of 600 megawatts over the electric power produced in the first 5-year plan, which added 4200 megawatts. This is an increase equal to the electricity generated during the previous 20 years in implementing the first plan.

He said that new electric transformer stations will be built with a total capacity of 16,870 megavolt-amperes, compared to transformer stations established during the first 5-year plan, which had a capacity of 332 megavolt-amperes.

He added that the second 5-year plan to increase electric power generation depends first and foremost on utilizing the natural gas found in Egyptian fields to run power stations. Similarly, coal-fired stations will be built in order to minimize the use of oil in the electric power stations, given its importance as a source of hard currency.

The minister of electricity said that the plan provides for the construction of five giant stations in Damietta, northern Upper Egypt, 'Uyun Musa in Sinai, and Sidi Karir on the northern coast (each with a capacity of 1200 megawatts) and a station in al-Za'faranah on the Red Sea coast with a capacity of 2400 megawatts. Existing stations will also be expanded with the addition of 200-

megawatt units to the power stations in 'Ataqah, Abu-Qir, Damanhur, North and West Cairo, and a 600-megawatt unit in the South Cairo station.

The minister added that the plan provides for the construction of two new stations in al-'Arish and Marsa Matruh with a capacity of 60 megawatts, in addition to diesel units with a total capacity of 300 megawatts to feed areas remote from the central power grid.

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