The ISEA Hydropower Task Force issued a 2009 report that highlights the important role hydropower plays in meeting Idaho’s electricity needs:

- Hydropower is a renewable resource with no carbon emissions, fuel costs, or consumptive water uses.
- Hydropower facilities provide flood control, irrigation and drinking water, and recreation opportunities. However, large-scale hydro developments can have effects to natural river systems and loss of or impacts to fish and wildlife habit.
- There are 114 electricity generating hydropower facilities in Idaho.
- The 114 facilities have a capacity to produce over 3,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity. The five largest are Brownlee (585 MW), Dworshak (400 MW), Hells Canyon (391 MW), Cabinet Gorge (231 MW), and Oxbow (190 MW).
- About 60% of the electricity used in Idaho each year is generated by hydropower.
Idaho has the potential to develop significant new hydropower over the next 20 years. This can be done through:

1. Upgrading current facilities;
2. Utilizing new turbine technology; and
3. Adding generation to existing dams, flow bypasses, and water delivery systems.

Developing these facilities in Idaho can:

1. Provide local employment;
2. Provide additional opportunities for flood control, drinking water, recreation, and irrigation; and
3. Minimize adverse environmental impact.

Total Feasible Hydropower Project Potential

Find the ISEA Task Force Reports:
www.energy.idaho.gov/energyalliance/taskforce.htm