



Water diversion for micro-hydro system

Even small dams can have a significant impact both downstream and upstream as they are a break-point in the water system. It is therefore more usual, and more acceptable to the consenting authorities, to temporarily divert a portion of the main water flow into the micro-hydro generator. The water is returned downstream, and there is no block in movement up or down stream.

In general, the amount of water used for the micro-hydro system should be no more than 50% of the minimum seasonal flow rate of the water source.

© BRANZ 2007