

The water power plant in the river Elliðaá is 90 years old

The power plant *Rafstöðin við Elliðaár* was built about 90 years ago. In 1921 the power plant was mainly for lighting up the streets and houses in the capital of Iceland, Reykjavík. What is so special about this power plant is that it is run by water that comes from the river Elliðaá. Before the power plant started working, the lights in Reykjavík were run by candles and gas. At that time it was the biggest power plant in Iceland.

By the time of 1923 the owners realized that the station wasn't big enough, so they decided to expand the power plant. After the expansion the station was three times bigger. That being said the station now could also make three times more energy from the water.

The average amount of water running through the river is $5.5 \text{ m}^3 / \text{sec}$.

Now, the power plant at the river Elliðaá is not active at the moment. However the Orkuveita Reykjavíkur (The power company that supplies all the power) turns the machines on two times a month just to keep the station working.

In the future the power station will be a museum.



Students from Vatnsendaskóli visiting the power station

Nemendur úr Vatnsendaskóla að heimsækja Rafstöðina.



Students inside the power station.

Nemendur inni í Rafstöðinni við Elliðaá.