

J.C.M.P.

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\$1.5b bill for power station

About \$1.5 billion will be spent on construction of China Light and Power Co's Castle Peak "B" power station to meet energy demand up to 1990.

The first contract for the project, covering the foundations, structural steel work and superstructure of the new station, was signed yesterday.

Believed to be the largest awarded for civil works in Hongkong, the contract will be a joint venture between Kumagai Gumi Co Ltd of Japan and its Hongkong subsidiary.

It was signed just one week after the tallest structure in the Hongkong region — the 250-metre chimney at Castle Peak "B" power station — was topped off by the Financial Secretary, Sir John Bremridge.

The power station is being built by Castle Peak Power Co Ltd — owned by China Light and Exxon — to satisfy increased demand for electricity in Kowloon and the New Territories.

Occupying 32 hectares of reclaimed land at Tap Shek Kok, it will house four coal-fired generating units, each of 669 megawatts.

The move by China Light and its partner is being viewed as a confidence-booster to the future of Hongkong.

The contract was signed by Mr M.J. Clancy and Sir Sidney Gordon for Castle Peak Power Co Ltd, and by Mr T. Kumagi and Mr C.P. Yu for Kumagai Gumi.