



Ocean thermal gradient as a generator of electricity. OTEC power plant

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The OTEC (Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion) is a power plant that uses the thermal gradient of the sea water between the surface and a depth of about 700 meters. It works by supplying the heat to a steam machine, for evaporation, with sea water from the surface and cold, to condense the steam, with deep sea water.

The energy generated by the power plant OTEC can be transferred to the electric power grid, another use is to desalinate seawater.

During the twentieth century in some countries experimental power plants to produce electricity or obtaining drinking water they were installed. On the Mexico's coast itself this thermal gradient, as it is located in tropical seas it occurs, so it has possibilities of installing OTEC power plant type.

In this paper one type OTEC power plant operation is represented in most of its components.