



News Release

October 26, 2023
Electric Power Development Co., Ltd.

Using Starlink Satellite Broadband, J-POWER and KDDI Will Test High-Speed, High-Capacity Communications in Mountains to Ensure a Stable Power Supply

Starlink Integration at a Hydroelectric Power Station in a Mountainous Region in Japan

Today, Electric Power Development Co., Ltd. (J-POWER, headquartered in Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Hitoshi Kanno) and KDDI Corporation (KDDI, headquartered in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President, Representative Director, CEO: Makoto Takahashi) announced the launch of tests using KDDI's Starlink Business satellite broadband service.¹ The testing will focus on repowering J-POWER's Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station in mountainous Niigata Prefecture.²

On October 3, J-POWER and KDDI, in collaboration with J-POWER Telecommunication Service Co., Ltd., began verifying the use of Starlink, provided by KDDI for corporations and local governments, and KDDI's Wide Area Virtual Switch network for high-speed, high-capacity communications in a mountainous area. One goal is to verify using advanced maintenance procedures to ensure a consistent power supply.

J-POWER has hydroelectric power stations throughout Japan, many in mountainous regions with no fiber optic or cellular access, so setting up high-speed, high-capacity networks has been a challenge.

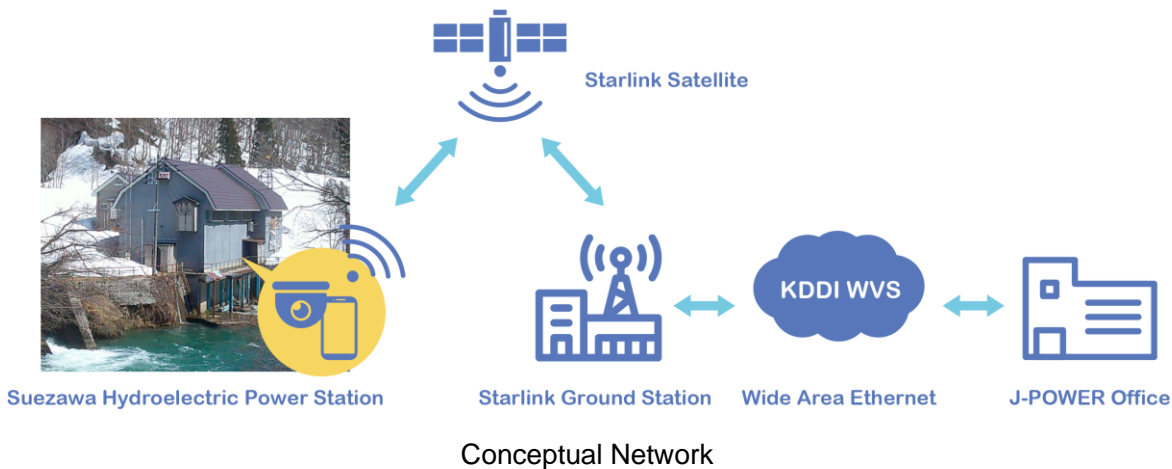
This trial will assess Starlink's large-data applications, such as IT systems, cloud services, and remote monitoring cameras on an internal network. J-POWER will also investigate network connectivity in varied weather conditions as well as long-term operation. The Suezawa Station, located in a heavy snowfall area, will provide a rigorous test for Starlink's performance during snowfall and snow accumulation in winter.

The station's repowering project, including the installation of turbines, will follow this trial. The intention is to use Starlink's communication infrastructure to view the progress of construction using network cameras, transmit data about the station to remote servers after operations begin, and to provide logistical support during inspections.

J-POWER will leverage Starlink's high-speed, large-capacity network for advanced maintenance work as well as ensuring a consistent power supply from hydroelectric power stations in mountainous areas.

KDDI is committed to providing stable and reliable communications—with Starlink and in other

ways—for areas where setting up communications systems has been challenging, such as among mountains, on islands, and in disaster-stricken areas, to support the realization of a sustainable society.



Location:



Notes:

1. Based on the KDDI website: [Starlink Business | Satellite Communication & Satellite Phone/Starlink | For Corporations](#) (Japanese only)
2. Suezawa Hydroelectric Power Station: Modernization Begins (April 21, 2023)