

PALÜ **ECO-FRIENDLY** **HYDROPOWER** **FROM LAGO BIANCO**

Valposchiavo, Graubünden, Switzerland



The Palü pumped-storage power plant is located in Valposchiavo, a valley south of the Bernina pass in the canton Graubünden. Water from the lake Lago Bianco powers two turbines with a total capacity of 10 MW, enough to provide power to 3,000 households.



*Palü provides
zero-emission hydro
power from the Swiss
Canton Graubünden.*

The Palü power plant began operation in 1927 at the uppermost level of hydropower plants in the Valposchiavo valley. The expansion of the lake led to an increase in the reservoir level which resulted in the unique design of the power-plant today. This design sees a single shaft powering both a Pelton and Francis turbine at different levels.

From 2001 to 2016 Palü received the „naturemade star“ quality label for renewable electricity. Palü served as a pilot project for the “naturemade star” certification criteria, and in 2001 was one of the first pumped-storage power plants to receive the quality label. “naturemade star” is mainly used in Switzerland and regarded as Europe’s strictest eco-energy label, meeting the highest international standards.



Image source: Repower

Type of power plant
Pumped-storage power plant

Total capacity
10 MW

Estimated Annual Electricity
Generation
12,100 MWh

Commercial Operation Date
1927

Refurbishment
1998



About the region

Valposchiavo is an Italian-speaking valley in the Swiss canton of Graubünden, reaching from the Bernina Pass to Valtellina in Italy. Its alpine landscape is exceptionally rich in flora and fauna and home to a variety of native animals such as the eagle, chamois, ibex and kingfisher. The world-renowned Rhaetian Railway passes through a varied countryside of mountainous terrain, vineyards and watersheds of this region, the only trilingual canton in Switzerland. In 2008 the railway line through the Albula/Bernina landscape was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offering panoramic views of spectacular nature.

