

### **Speak with Cemig**

Speak with Cemig is the main channel between the Company and the consumer  
Page 4

### **Jaú Project**

Technicians train at course  
Page 6

### **Fish stocking season**

Cemig begins fish stocking this year.  
45,000 fry are expected to be released in the State's rivers.  
Page 7

## **COMPANY**

**Foto:** Council Members debate tariffs

**Company receives award**

In February Cemig received the 2007 Belmiro Siqueira Administration Award in the Good Corporate Citizen category from the Regional Administration Council of Minas Gerais – CRA/MG.

Present at the ceremony to deliver the trophy and certificate on xx at the CRA/MG headquarters were Corporate Sustainability – SE superintendent Luiz Augusto Barcellos Almeida and control and management analyst Elizabeth Aparecida Costa Almeida from the Transmission and Generation Management Systems Integration Management Office – GG/IS. According to her, the Company deserves this award because it conducts innumerable sustainability programs, in an honest and ethical manner, always respecting the characteristics of each community and bringing not only energy, but educational opportunities as well.

#### Award

The Belmiro Siqueira Administration Award was created in 1988 and, since then, professionals and companies have been honored for outstanding contributions to the growth of Administration.

According to the contest publication, private organizations that engage in Social and Good Citizen corporate activities are eligible to be recognized as Good Corporate Citizens. As a company that also possesses private capital, Cemig fulfilled these requirements and, added to the results of the social impacts demonstrated in the 2007 social balance sheet, was able to win the award.

#### **67<sup>th</sup> Ordinary meeting of the Consumer Council**

Last December 6<sup>th</sup>, the Cemig Consumer Council held its 67<sup>th</sup> ordinary meeting at the Cemig head office in Belo Horizonte.

According to commercial agent Antonieta Dias Oliveira from the Marketing and Client Relations Coordination Management Office – RC/RM, the methodology for applying adjustments to the tariffs in the electric sector and the participation of the council in the revision were discussed at the meeting. “The councilors reiterated the relevant role of the Consumer Council in the definition of a fairer tariff and, consequently, the need to know the rules of the electric sector model”, affirms Antonieta Dias Oliveira.

The meeting also covered the *Projeto Evolução* (Evolution Project), the new Cemig Client Management System – SGC and featured presentations and clarifications about customer services and atypical situations of Speak with Cemig.

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## COMPANY

**Foto:** Substation celebrates 20 years...

**Foto:** ...and serves, mainly, Southern Minas Gerais

### **Itutinga Substation turns 20**

The Itutinga Substation – SE turned 20 years old in October of last year. It entered into commercial operation in 1987 with the goal of improving the energy supply in Southern Minas Gerais and features an installed capacity of 450 MVA.

The Substation serves the Southern Minas Gerais region, mainly the cities of Lavras, Três Corações, Minduri and São João Del Rei. According to substation operations technician Lindebergue Vieira Santos do Nascimento from the South-eastern Transmission Management Office – AT/SE, the Itutinga Substation is an important source of energy for the region, due to its interface with Furnas. “In addition, it is an important reestablishment corridor for the Interconnected System”, he explains.

#### Location

The substation is located five kilometers from the city of Itutinga, along the side of the BR-265 highway, at km 306. It is installed over an area of 23,000 m<sup>2</sup>, with 463 m<sup>2</sup> being covered by constructed facilities, 8,216 m<sup>2</sup> by lawn and gardens and 6,360 m<sup>2</sup> by a patio.

According to Lindebergue do Nascimento, there was no official celebration of this anniversary, because he is the only employee at the installation.

In addition, the substation is still undergoing the process of being linked into the Integrated Management System – SIG.

### **R&D Projects are approved by Aneel**

Cemig is investing approximately R\$ 19 million in 73 research and development – R&D projects. The projects are integrated into the 2005/2006 R&D Program run by Cemig and the *Agência Nacional de Energia Elétrica* (National Electric Energy Agency) – Aneel, approved by the agency last month.

As each Project has been running for at least two years, each program cycle includes continuing projects, with approximately 50% of the proposals being new ones each year.

According to Technology Management – TE/TN manager Luiz Carlos Leal Cherchiglia, Cemig is always at the vanguard of the energy sector in terms of technological innovation, concerning itself not only with the moment at hand, but with an eye on the future, with those issues that will impact electric energy utilities in 15 or 20 years. The volume of investments is proportional to Annual Net Operational Revenues – ROL, that, in turn, are derived from electric energy tariffs. In accordance with the legislation that regulates the Brazilian electric sector, this proportion is 0.2% for distributors and 0.4% for generation and transmission companies.

“The process of selecting projects for the Research and Development Program involves various steps and criteria, which are undertaken over the course of each year. The proposals must produce synergy with the business, alignment with the strategy, adherence to the processes and applicability”, he notes. Later, the proposals are analyzed by the Cemig Technology Strategy Management Committee – CoGET, utilizing the Technology Strategy Management methodology and pre-established selection and prioritization criteria.

## SERVICE

**Foto:** Speak with Cemig benefits from 431 service personnel

### **Speak with Cemig: consumer relationship channel**

Speak with Cemig is the main relationship channel between Cemig and its clients and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at the 116 toll-free telephone number. According to Client Relations Center – RC/RC manager Humberto Donisete de Faria, Speak with Cemig is an invaluable channel for the population, in view of the fact that it represents access to the Company for clients, allowing them to request emergency and commercial services. “In addition to complying with the Resolution from the National Electric Energy Agency – Aneel, the channel represents a savings for the Company, considering that the cost of this service would be much higher if it were offered through the agencies. This channel unites comfort and convenience, since the client does not need to travel to an agency to solve their problem. The great challenge is to maintain this gain in productivity aligned with the quality of the service”, he explains.

Certified in NBR ISO 9001:2000, which demonstrates Cemig’s concern for the quality of the services rendered, the constant monitoring of Speak with Cemig service also results in continuous improvements in client satisfaction indices.

“The service is structured with technological and human resources in order to meet the demands of clients throughout the Cemig concession area”, notes Humberto Donisete. According to him, the center currently has 431 personnel receiving an average of 70,000 calls on a typical day, with the capacity to handle 100,000 calls on an atypical day resulting from adverse weather conditions.

#### Team

Speak with Cemig has a team of 54 of its own employees dedicated to controlling the service process. It also enjoys the services of a contracted call Center that has 1,100 service personnel and 50 service supervisors.

The team of own employees is divided into sub-processes focused on the quality of the service rendered by the contracted company and on the performance of the service provided.

#### Operations

The Center acts as a link between the client and the other areas of the Company. As soon as the client makes contact and states their request, the service agent identifies

the client in the service systems, utilizing the procedures and request registry in the system. This same system is utilized by the Distribution Operation Centers – CODs that send the request to a specific team in the field.

“In 2007 we had a real increase in the number of service personnel - PAS at the contracted company. The number increased from 216 in 2006 to 431 PAS in 2007. This increase was due to the preparations for the implementation of the *Project Evolução* (Evolution Project)”, says Humberto Donisete.

According to him, the perspective for this year is to invest in the retraining and training the service personnel, as well as in improvements to working conditions.

## COMMUNITY

**Foto:** Residents receive a heat recuperator

**Foto:** Equipment is installed in the house of a resident

### Conviver Project benefits low income consumers

In Just one year of existence, the *Projeto Conviver* (Conviver Project) – Energy to Live Better, conducted by Cemig in partnership with the Cooperation for the Development of Human Dwellings – CDM, a Non-Governmental Organization, has guaranteed 52,000 low income clients in the Metropolitan Belo Horizonte Region access to electric energy and the other Cemig services in an efficient, safe manner and with an energy bill that is accessible to all. In addition to reducing wastage, the program also normalizes illegal connections, thus reducing the risk of accidents involving the network.

By the end of January, Conviver had distributed 156,000 light bulbs, 3,000 showerheads with heat recuperators and 1,400 refrigerators to 11 *aglomerados* (semi-urbanized slums). The objective is to reduce wastage through actions that raise awareness (changes in habits) and through the use of efficient equipment (light bulbs, refrigerators, electric showerheads) that assist in the reduction of energy consumption, making the energy bill compatible with the payment capacity of these clients.

Izabel Cristina Gomes da Silva, a resident of the *Aglomerado Santa Lúcia*, beneficiary of a heat recuperator, says that the Cemig initiative is very good. “There’s no way to explain it. The Company is concerned for the low income families. Now, with the heat recuperator, I expect to realize a very significant energy savings”, she notes.

In this stage, the project benefits 52,000 families that live in 11 different sites: the *Aglomerado da Serra* (central-southern region), the *Aglomerado Santa Lúcia* (central-southern region), Ventosa (western region), Cabana Pai Tomaz (western region), Morro das Perdas (western region), Landi (Ribeirão das Neves), Apolônia (Venda Nova), Vila Cemig (Barreiro), Vila Vista Alegre (western region), Alto Vera Cruz (eastern region) and the Conjunto Felicidade (northern region)

All the families that live in these communities are receiving visits from community relations agents, selected together with the communities, that, in addition to distributing equipment, register families and answer their questions. They also work to provide solution for some of the more frequent problems the residents have regarding the energy bill, such as negotiated debt settlements, exemption from the ICMS (a type of

tax) for those who consume up to 90 kWh/month, normalization of illegal connections, registration for the right to social tariffs and energy savings tips.

Kelly Iapucque, a Conviver agent since the Project began, says enthusiastically that she has received feedback from the residents that have already received the equipment donated by the Company. "All of them appreciate and notice the difference in consumption and in the size of the bill, which is very big", she emphasizes.

## Minas Gerais

The Conviver Project will attend approximately 300,000 residences in the next five years throughout the State. The majority of these residences, approximately 250,000, are located in the Metropolitan Belo Horizonte Region. The rest are located in the interior of the State, in the municipalities of Montes Claros, Uberlândia, Juiz de Fora, Governador Valadares, São João Del Rei, Campina Verde and Araçuaí, among others.

In the first stage, conducted in communities in Belo Horizonte and Ribeirão das Neves, R\$ 21.5 million are being spent.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

**Foto:** The release of *Jaú* fry has been part of the project

**Foto:** *Jaú* fry for the preservation of the species

**Foto:** The course seeks the development of the techniques

### **The Company conducts fish stocking activities for the preservation of the *Jaú***

In January Cemig took an important step towards the preservation of the *Jaú* (South American Catfish), a species of large fish that can reach a weight of 150 kilograms, which is threatened with extinction in the Rios Grande and Paranaíba river basins. A series of activities that are part of the *Jaú* Project were successfully conducted at the Volta Grande Environmental Development and Fish Culture Station in Conceição das Alagoas in the Triângulo Mineiro region.

The work began with the selection of females and reproduction activities. Next, 150 fry were released into the Quebranzol River, a tributary of the Nova Ponte Plant reservoir, which enjoys the protection of riparian vegetation and is ideal for these fish stocking techniques. Later, fish stocking activities were undertaken at Córrego Buriti, at the Volta Grande Plant with the release of 200 fish. The last *Jaú* fish stocking exercise had been conducted in 2006. Another one hundred fry will be used to conduct experiments on *Jaú* feeding habits.

#### The Project

The Project was created at the end of 2005 with the objective of learning about the initial stages of life of this species, its feeding habits and reproductive process in order to adopt adequate preservation measures. The research, undertaken in partnership with the *Universidade Federal de Lavras, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais* and *Universidade Federal do Triângulo Mineiro*, helps to determine the conditions necessary for artificial reproduction and the identification of eggs and larvae of the species in nature, thereby facilitating the preservation of natural *Jaú* spawning sites.

The activities were undertaken during the species' spawning period, between the months of October and March. By mastering the reproductive techniques, the goal is to guarantee an annual production of 5,000 fry. According to environmental analyst João

Lopes, it is expected that, at the current pace, the station will reach this level of production in two years.

### Aneel Financing

Beginning this year, the Project will be financed with resources from the Cemig Research and Development Program, approved by the National Electric Energy Agency – Aneel, in the amount of approximately R\$ 500,000 over four years. According to João Lopes, these resources will allow for greater technical support and the purchase of equipment for research on larviculture, reproduction and feeding habits.

### Course leads researchers to the Três Marias Fish Culture Station

The Três Marias Hydrobiology and Fish Culture Station hosted technicians from various institutions from January 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, as part of the fish culture course being held through a partnership between Cemig and the *Companhia de Desenvolvimento dos Vales do São Francisco e Parnaíba* (São Francisco and Parnaíba Valleys Development Company) – Codevasf. The classes, which have been held annually since 1996, were monitored by representatives from various institutions, with the greatest recorded interest in enrolments since its conception.

At Três Marias, the course seeks to develop the technical abilities of researchers, students, fish culture technicians and biologists. Representatives from the *Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais*, *Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais*, *Fundação Zoobotânica de Belo Horizonte* (Belo Horizonte Zoo-botanical Foundation), *Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro* and *Universidade de São Paulo*, as well as professionals from Cemig, took part in the event.

Environmental analyst Maria Edith Rolla from the Transmission and Generation Environmental Management Office – ES/AM delivered a lecture warning about the risks resulting from golden Mussel, an invasive species of mollusk. “The Mussel is an organism that filters everything in the water, competing with fish and with the algae that are important to them in the tanks of fish culture technicians”, she explains.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

**Foto:** Participants during the release of fry

**Foto:** Fish Stocking in the Jequitinhonha River

### **With a historic record, the fish stocking season begins**

Cemig began the annual fish release season in Minas Gerais hydrographic basins with the first fish stocking activities in the Triângulo Mineiro region. In the first half of this year, 29 events are scheduled in 24 municipalities in the Rio Grande Basin, with the release of almost 45,000 fry, with further expansion planned for the Volta Grande Environmental Development and Fish Culture Station agenda. Beginning next month, events featuring the participation of the communities will be reinitiated.

#### Balance

Last year was a noteworthy period for the fish stocking activities conducted by Cemig in Rivers in Minas Gerais. Compared with the previous year, there were increases in community participation, the number of fry released and the biomass produced, with the latter reaching a quantity of approximately 34 tonnes, the largest annual production since fry release activities were begun by the company over 30 years ago.

Since 2003, Cemig has given priority to the release of larger and larger specimens, which have a greater chance of survival than smaller fry, thereby increasing the efficiency of the fish stocking activities. At the Volta Grande Station alone, 15 tonnes of fish were produced and released at 35 riverside municipalities, including 10.7 tonnes of *Piracanjuba*, a species of fish which is threatened with extinction in the Rio Grande Basin and which is being reintroduced thanks to a specific Cemig program.

The number of fry released, almost 810,000, was also the largest number in the last five years. In relation to the previous year, when 445,000 fish were released, there was an increase of 81.5%. A large portion of these fish, 324,000 fry produced at the Três Marias Hydrobiology and Fish Culture Station, in partnership with the São Francisco and Parnaíba Valleys Development Company – Codevasf, were destined for the São Francisco River Basin. Last year, a new species was included in the fish stocking activities: the *Pirá* (Sand Tilefish) – a symbol of the São Francisco and the only large sized fish threatened with extinction in the basin.

In order to guarantee the necessary production of the fry and opportunities for income generation, a partnership system has been established between Cemig and rural

producers. Through this partnership, Cemig provides technical assistance and supplies eggs and, in exchange, receives 50% of the fish produced in the tanks on the farms. Last year, the partnership guaranteed over half of the fry production of the Itutinga Environmental Station in the Campodas Vertentes region.

The participation of the community has also been a constant feature, mainly following the launch of the Peixe Vivo Program, through which actions are undertaken to preserve the ichthyofauna in the hydrographic basins where Cemig has plants. Last November, the first fish stocking activity was undertaken in the Jequitinhonha River since the beginning of operations at the Irapé Plant in August, 2006.

The last two events held at Três Marias brought together approximately 1,500 people, including students, riverside residents and representatives from various authorities, including mayors in the region, the Cemig executive officers and the Minister from the Special Aquiculture and Fishery Department, Altemir Gregolin. Throughout the year, approximately 10,000 people participated in 140 events in 70 municipalities.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **INFOVIAS COLUMN**

#### **Infovias network expansion project**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, the Infovias Company began the process of acquiring the equipment, materials and services necessary for the expansion of its network in regions potential for the Cemig market and demands.

According to Engineering manager Wanderley Maia Filho (see photo), the Multiservice Integrated System Project – SIM will have partial support from the optical plant and existing access sites and that will make it possible to expand coverage to 43 new municipalities, in addition to the 22 currently being served, by means of the construction of high capacity radio links.

#### **Project**

“The SIM Project is part of the Cemig Group telecommunications business strategy and is consistent with the implementation of a new generation network for the rendering of high speed voice and data corporate services in Minas Gerais”, explains Wanderley.

With this network, Infovias will be able, within two years, to replace all of the existing Cemig telephony system, offering its users modern functionality that will make it possible to improve operational and administrative processes, as well as a reduction in telephony costs for the Company.

Other services such videoconferencing, voice over IP, video surveillance, data transmission, telemetry and automation may be provided by the network in order to meet Cemig's demands throughout the State.

This network will also allow Infovias to begin to supply new telecommunications services directly to the corporate market, in addition to supplying capacity to operators, which, currently, constitutes its business model.

#### **Daylight Savings Time reduces energy consumption**

The 2007/2008 Daylight Savings Time ended at midnight on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The measure, which began at midnight on October 14<sup>th</sup> of last year, covered the States of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Paraná, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Goiás, Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul and the Distrito Federal.

The North-eastern States did not participate, together with the Northern region, because the Ministry of Mining and Energy – MME determined that the benefits would be very small for these regions.

In total, Daylight Savings Time lasted for 126 days, 14 days longer than last summer.

#### At Cemig

In Cemig's concession area, according to prior assessments, it is expected that there would be a reduction in maximum demand, that is to say, the daily peak load that occurs from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., of 3.2%, corresponding to 240 MW, equivalent to:

generation at full load of almost two plants the size of the Igarapé Thermal Plant (131 MW) or

the generation of four generators at the Três Marias Hydroelectric Plant, also at full load (66 MW each) or

30% of the peak load of the entire Triângulo Mineiro region, with 66 municipalities, or

12.6% of the peak load of the Metropolitan Belo Horizonte Region (34 municipalities) or

The peak demand of a city with 640,000 inhabitants.

#### Consumption

In terms of consumption, an energy savings of 0.5% is expected, which represents 32 MW on average or 96,000 MWh during the entire Daylight Savings Time period. These savings are enough to supply, for one month, two cities the size of Sete Lagoas or Uberaba, which together have an estimated population of 510,000 inhabitants.

For residential consumers, the savings are realized through the reduced use of artificial lighting, the reduction of which can reach up to 5% of monthly energy consumption.

#### Objectives

The main objective of Daylight Savings Time is the reduction in maximum demand in the National Interconnected System – SIN at peak hours. With this reduction, there is a measure of relief for the generation, transmission and distribution systems, thereby increasing operative safety and reliability, as this reduces the load on the entire electric system at peak hours, improving the control conditions, especially in emergency situations.

According to operations engineer Wilson Fernandes Lage of the Transmission and Generation Operation Management Office – PO/GT, this reduction occurs in the part of

the year in which the system is, in an overall manner, submitted to more critical operational conditions due to atmospheric discharges. "It also provides better supply conditions in terms of service continuity and quality to the various areas of the system", he explains.

Another result of Daylight Savings Time is that there is less use of artificial lighting, leading to reduced energy consumption, mainly in the residential and commercial consumer classes.

## TECHNOLOGY

**Foto:** Spatial localization allows the study of aspects of areas

### Tool against fraud

The GeoPerdas tool, developed by the Commercial Losses Management Team from the Central Distribution Revenue Protection Management Office – DC/RE, with the collaboration of the Information Technology and Telecommunications Superintendence – TI, will facilitate actions against fraud in the Metropolitan Belo Horizonte Region. The application of geoprocessing allows for an improved perception of the reality of losses, and thus constitutes an important tool in the planning of future educational activities, benefiting consumers and the operations and maintenance sectors of the Company and assisting in the expansion of the market. By means of the spatial localization of loss concentration, it is possible to study the cultural and social aspects of the areas most affected by this phenomenon and understand its influence on the behavior of the market.

In a context of economic stability, even losses on the order of 1 to 3% may affect in a significant manner the results of electric utility companies and other public services. This is the case for Cemig, which has a low percentage of losses but, in absolute terms, loses a significant quantity of energy, which results in a loss of financial resources.

The work conducted by the Cemig revenue protection teams, however, helps to recover part of this energy loss through irregularities, inhibiting its growth and expanding the Company's revenues, with the normalization of illegal connections at consumer units.

Among non-technical losses, that is, those that do not result from the inherent functioning of the electric network equipment, the most significant are those losses resulting from the theft of energy, whether by metering fraud, detouring of the energy prior to reaching the meter or clandestine energy connections. These frauds result in increased costs for honest clients, who end up paying for the energy the Company loses.

According to commercial processes agent and DC/RE Commercial Loss Management Team supervisor José Delbert Ferreira, it will be possible, thanks to the GeoPerdas tool, to obtain a spatial view of the regions with the greatest recovery potential by understanding better the commercial losses in the Minas Gerais market and by identifying trends in this phenomenon. In addition, the largest consumers are monitored, the quantity of services not rendered due to an inability to locate an address is reduced and there is an increase in the rate of successful inspections.

“The implementation of the georeferencing of commercial losses contributes to quicker action in terms of the verification of irregularities, reducing the quantity of complaints from clients”, says DC/RE commercial process agent Ana Carolina de Souza Ferreira.

### **Tool for electricians is standardized**

A NE tool (see photo) will facilitate the work of electricians and improve services for Cemig consumers. It is a clamp for the grounding of fuse switches, conceived by the team from Governador Valadares Services and Commercial Relations Management Office – DL/GO and by the Distribution Asset Engineering Management Office – EGG/EA.

The clamp is a removable part that allows the grounding of fuse switches during the replacement of transformers in the energized medium voltage network. “When we replaced a transformer, we had to turn off the medium voltage circuit, because the protected conductor did not allow for grounding and consumers were left without energy during the operation”, explains DL/GO distribution field services maintenance technician Marcos Antonio France.

The tool, which is light and low cost, has already been tested and mechanically approved by teams from the Commercialization and Distribution Executive Office – DID. It may be installed with the help of a rod, from a distance, contributing to the safety of the electricians. According to EGG/EA maintenance and operation planning engineer Helios Domingo’s Carvel, the equipment is being acquired and will be implemented in all DID field service management offices during the course of this year.

## COMMUNITY

**Foto:** Archaeological Museum: artefacts collected during the construction of the Aimorés Plant

### Museums preserve the history of Aimorés

In October, the Aimorés Consortium inaugurated the *Núcleo Museológico de Arqueologia de Aimorés* (Aimorés Archaeology Museological Center). It consists of three museums, built in the cities of Itueta, Aimorés and Resplendor in the Rio Doce Valley. The center contains artefacts collected by archaeologists during the construction of the hydroelectric plant.

According to archaeologist and Project coordinator Alenice Baeta, it is a pioneering model in integrated museums, with expositions that complement each other. The rescued artifacts are fragments of pre-colonial ceramic utensils, the majority of Tupi-Guarani origin. There are also objects of polished shards of stone, chipped and with signs of use.

#### Social importance

For Transmission and Generation Enterprises in Consortia Superintendence – ES engineer and Aimorés Implementation director Antonio Carlos Borges Batista, the center represents the permanence of the objects found in their original location. “This provides the community with better knowledge of the civilizations that inhabited the Rio Doce Valley and adds a lot to the attractiveness of local tourism”, affirms Antonio Carlos Batista.

With the Project, guided by the *Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico e Artístico Nacional* (National Artistic and Historical Heritage Institute) – Iphan, “the Aimorés Hydroelectric consortium has provided a good example of commitment to and respect for the history and memory of a region”, concludes Alenice.

## EFFICIENTIA NEWS

A performance contract has been signed with Horizonte Têxtil for the implementation of an energy efficiency project at its unit in Pará de Minas in the Western region of Minas Gerais with the goal of improving the economy of the lighting system. In its initial phase,

the project has benefited from an energy audit focused on the obsolete and inefficient equipment that comprises the system.

The project calls for the replacement of 449 sets of obsolete 245-W lighting fixtures with 694 new sets of 118-W mirrored lighting fixtures, installed with the latest generation of light bulbs and electronic reactors, which will reduce demand by 28.11 kW at both peak hours and off-peak hours and, approximately, 242.9 MWh of annual consumption.

The coordinator of the Project, Marcos Leporate, explains that the Horizonte Têxtil company is part of the VDL Group, a prominent mining conglomerate that has been in the market since 1973 and that stands out as one of the principal textile companies in the Brazil with a broad line of products that are, for the most part, made of 100% cotton. The company's main market is clothing production, which represents 60% of its production.

Today, the production capacity of Horizonte Têxtil is approximately 24 million linear meters per year. The company sells its products both in Brazil and abroad.

The company exports to countries such as Uruguay, Colombia, Paraguay, Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Chile and Peru.

10 Cemig Notícias | Jan/Feb | 2008

## **ECONOMICS**

**Foto:** The Gafanhoto Plant has its first license of the year

### **Gafanhoto has Operational License**

The Gafanhoto Hydroelectric Plant obtained the first Operational License in corrective character in 2008. During the four years the license is valid, the plant has to meet some conditions, such as recovering the vegetation around the reservoir and installing a water/oil separation box.

“After the license expires, the Company has to produce an Environmental Performance Assessment Report – Rada, which shows the fulfillment of the conditions in order to obtain renewal of the license”, explains environmental analyst Rodrigo Avendanha from the Transmission and Generation Environmental Management Office – ES/AM.

## **The plant**

The Gafanhoto Hydroelectric Plant is located on the Pará River, upstream from the São Francisco River in the municipality of Divinópolis in the central-western region of the State. Inaugurated in 1946, it represents one of the pioneering acts of intervention by the State in the production of electric energy in Minas Gerais, along with the benefits from Pai Joaquim and Santa Marta, also developed through initiatives of the government of Benedito Valadares.

Gafanhoto was constructed with the goal of supplying energy to the *Cidade Industrial* (an industrial park) in Contagem. The *Cidade Industrial* with its respective energy system was idealized by engineer Israel Pinheiro da Silva, Secretary of State for the Department of Agriculture in the Valadares government until 1942.

In July 1952, the generation, transformation, transmission and distribution system of the Gafanhoto plant came under the control of the recently created Cemig.

## **GASMIG COLUMN**

### **Abegás is aligned with the guaranteed supply of energy**

The *Associação Brasileira das Empresas Distribuidoras de Gás Canalizado* (Brazilian Association of Natural Gas Pipeline Distributors) – Abegás is totally aligned with the signals from the federal government regarding the guaranteed supply of electric energy, but understands that this must be done without the disarticulation of the conventional natural gas market. This statement was given at the 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, held in Tiradentes, at the end of last year.

The participants (see photo), who were hosted by Gasmig, approved the Tiradentes Letter, in which was restated the importance of this market, represented by 1.5 million vehicular natural gas (VNG) clients, 1.3 million residential consumers, 1,400 VNG stations and 2,400 industrial facilities.

The main suggestion put forth by the entity in order for the Country to have the necessary energy availability, without prejudicing the supply of natural gas, is to convert the thermoelectric plants to use diesel oil or fuel. The leaders of the association understand that, as the majority of thermoelectric plants are located outside of urban centers, the environmental impact would be less than that resulting from emissions from industrial facilities and vehicles, in the event that these consumers stopped using natural gas.

## CULTURE

### Cemig Art Gallery inaugurates the “*Viola de Minas*” exposition

On February 12th, Cemig opened the *Viola de Minas* (Minas Gerais Viola) exposition of collector, Cláudio Alexandrino da Silva. The show is part of the *Prata da Casa da Gremig* (Gremig Family Silver) project, which brings together, every year at the Cemig Art Gallery, the works of Company employees and their families.

*Viola de Minas* brings together approximately 50 instruments, both old and new. The oldest is about 100 years old and the newest was made in 2007. “My intention is to tell a little about the history of violas and of Minas Gerais through the collection”, says the musician. According to Cláudio, the instruments are well-used and made of materials such as bone, ebony, ivory and mother-of-pearl. “The majority of the pieces are historical. I consider the violas to be works of art”, he affirms.

In addition to bringing his own instruments, Cláudio will perform a tribute to Minas Gerais viola player and luthier Zé Côco do Riachão, with two violas and a rebec, which is a type of artistic violin, fabricated by the viola player who was known as “Beethoven of the *Sertão*”.

Currently, Cláudio performs professionally in a band, touring various expositions and shows in a conciliated manner with his work at Cemig as an energy distribution technician. The violas have been shown in Brasília, Ouro Preto, Timóteo and Conselheiro Lafaiete.

### Talent Contest

The Cemig Art Gallery Curator Council determined which artists would be part of the exposition calendar this year. Eight artists from Minas Gerais were chosen to show their work, out of 126 competitors in the 17<sup>th</sup> Talent contest.

According to Cemig Art Gallery coordinator Paulo Tarso Rezende Tobias, the works submitted were of a very high level of quality, which made it difficult to select the eight that are to be shown. In addition to these expositions, four more are to be held: the *Prata da Casa* collection, a commemorative show for the anniversary of the Company with invitee artist Marco Túlio Resende, a collection of works by the students of Belas Artes and Design de Minas Gerais schools and a commemorative Christmas exposition.

### SHOWS SELECTED FOR 2008:

- 1 *Prata da Casa*, with Cláudio Alexandrino's violas. Period: February 12<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 2 *Gravuras*, by Carlos Murilo Valadares (engraving). Period: February 29<sup>th</sup> to March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 3 *Anjos e Demônios*, by Léo Brizola (photography). Period: March 26<sup>th</sup> to April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 4 *Tempos Modernos*, by Jorge Fonseca (objects). Period: April 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 5 Commemorative exposition for the anniversary of Cemig, with invitee artist Marco Túlio Resende (painting). Period: May 20<sup>th</sup> to June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- 6 *Hiper-Realismo*, by Sérgio Roberto Vaz Ferreira (drawing). Period: June 18<sup>th</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 7 Collection of works by Helder Profeta and Gustavo Maia (painting). Period: July 16<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 8 Collection of works by Samir Lucas and Elton Lúcio (painting). Period: August 13<sup>th</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 9 Piauí, Paulo Laborne (photography). Period: September 10<sup>th</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 10 Collection of works by the students of Belas Artes and Design de Minas Gerais schools, with curatorship by teacher Fátima Pena. Period: October 8<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>.
- 11 *Alguns desenhos para Cy*, by Francisco Magalhães (drawing). Period: November 5<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 12 Commemorative Christmas Exposition. Period: December 3<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>.

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