

ABSEIL ACCESS LTD

Reference Project

Geotechnical – Rock Fall Protection

Location: Cobb Hydro Powerstation.
Golden Bay

Date: Feb 2009

Client: TrustPower

Consultant: Tonkin & Taylor

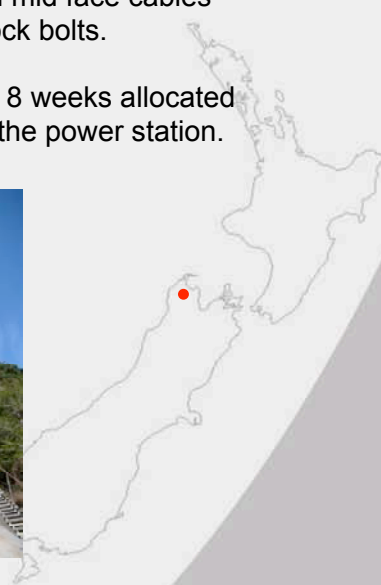
A series of small blocky cliffs hang directly over the penstock as it enters the Cobb station powerhouse. A release of rock from these cliffs could rupture the penstock carrying water at 60bar.

This contract involved the installation of 19 tensioned rock bolts, rock fall protection nets and a catch fence. The design was by Tonkin and Taylor, Wellington. Abseil Access Ltd won the competitive tender for the contract.

The sandstone rock is compact with quartz veins. The 75mm holes were drilled up to 6.5m into this hard rock with a cliff face wagon drill. The location of each of the bolts coincided with blocks isolated by jointing. Rock bolts were pre-tensioned to 40kN.

The netting on the bluff and catch fence is Maccaferri galvanised PVC coated double twist covering an area of 300sqm. Additional 19mm galvanised mid face cables provide extra strength between the rock bolts.

The project was completed within the 8 weeks allocated with no disruption to the operation of the power station.



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