

**Table 12.3. Hydropower Capacity Estimates By Continent, Based on Large Dam Technology**

Continent	Capacity in 2001		Maximum theoretical potential	Technically possible	Economically possible
	GWe	TWh/yr	TWh/yr	TWh/yr	TWh/yr
North America	154	743.2	6,150	2,700	>1,500
South America	99	471.0	7,400	3,000	>2,000
Africa	21	59.3	10,120	1,150	>200
Europe	210	646.9	5,000	2,500	>1,000
Asia	157	555.0	16,500	5,000	>2,500
Oceania *	13	42.4	1,000	300	>100
<b>Total world</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>2,518</b>	<b>46,170</b>	<b>14,650</b>	<b>&gt;7,300</b>

Sources: World Energy Council (2001), International Commission on Large Dams, ICOLD (2001), World Commission on Dams (2002), and Moreira and Poole (1993).

\* includes Australia and New Zealand