

PERSPECTIVES OF EXPLOITATION OF THERMAL WATERS IN YUGOSLAVIA IN THE FUNCTION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1JOVANOVIĆ, LARISSA and 2STOJADINOVIĆ DUŠAN 1University of Business
BK, 2Institute for Development of Water Resources, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Petrol crises caused an intensive search of alternative sources and forms of energy. Deficit of conventional energofluids in Yugoslavia require serious efforts to create a program of exploitation of alternative energy sources. Geothermal energy represents an important energetic source for the countries with poor thermal resources (petrol, coal, gas). It can become the basis for economic development. In this paper we present the possibilities of effective exploitation of thermal and geothermal waters in Yugoslavia. Favourable geological and geotectonic conditions produced large number of hydrothermal systems with sources of thermal and thermomineral waters (about 470 sources; half of them with surface temperature over 20 °C). In present moment these geothermal resources (550 million tons of equivalent liquid fuel) are not being exploited. Thermal water is marginally used for warming of hothouses, farms, factories and spas (health centers) (Vranjska banja, Kuršumlija, Nishka banja, Sijarinska banja). Thermomineral and thermal sources in health resorts in Yugoslavia represent a natural resources with large possibilities for the development of tourism, balneotourism, agriculture and other economic activities. The exploitation of geothermal resources for the needs of warming, balneotherapy and agriculture is of great importance for the future economic development of Yugoslavia. Intensive exploitation of thermomineral and thermal waters must become one of the important goals of economical development in Yugoslavia.