THE PROBLEM Although the Municipality of Haarlemmermeer in the Netherlands is the home of Schiphol Airport, the third largest airport in Europe, the primary commercial enterprise in the Municipality is agriculture. Finding alternative sources of energy that will support agriculture as well as the growing urban population has become an important objective for this progressive sustainable community. The regional water control board wanted to know if a hydroelectric plant would be an appropriate source of alternative energy for the Municipality's future growth.

THE CLIENT Rijnland District Water Control Board, Haarlemmermeer, Netherlands

THE SERVICE A feasibility study of energy production and economic return of the proposed hydroelectric facility, using an optimization model

THE SOLUTIONS It was the recommendation of the feasibility study not to install a hydropower facility at this time, as it would provide no economic benefit.

THE OUTLOOK Other sources of alternative energy are being considered. Should the technical, financial, environmental or governance conditions change, this project can contribute to energy system sustainability and resilience for the Haarlemmermeer region and should be reconsidered.