Cut Off Wall Karkheh Dam, Iran



Client: Iranian Water and Power Development Company (IWPC)

Main Contractor: Sepasad Engineering Co.

Scope of Works: Construction of 40,000 m² cut off wall (First Phase)

Construction Period: March 1997 to March 1998



The Karkheh River Reservoir is designed to provide electricity and agricultural water for the area of Khusistan.

The key aspect of the scheme is an earthfill dam with clay core, which will have a creast length of some 3,000 m and a maximum height of about 100 m.

A cut off wall was designed to prevent seepage of water below the central clay core

of the dam. The excavation of the cut off wall was done using Bauers trench cutter technology BC 30.

An excavation depth reached to about 80 m and thickness of the wall varied between 800 m and 1,000 mm.

The ground consisted predominently of very thick stratum of conglomerates in a cohesive matrix interbedded with layers of mudstone.

