

RusHydro Probe Launched

By The Moscow Times

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Moscow-based investigators have launched a criminal case into alleged embezzlement at Russia's national hydroelectric power company, Rushydro, the Interior Ministry said Saturday.

"On the orders of the President of the Russian Federation, the Interior Ministry's economic security and anti-corruption unit has launched an investigation into embezzlement at Rushydro. A criminal case has been opened on suspicion of large-scale embezzlement," the Interior Ministry said.

The case relates to embezzlement of cash intended for construction work at hydroelectric installations, particularly the company's Zagorsky GAES-2 facility, the ministry said, adding documents and other evidence had been seized after searches had been carried out at Roshydro offices.

The ministry said in February, when it first announced it was investigating the case, that the amount of money involved could be up to 1 billion rubles (\$30 million).

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