Small and medium rivers as well as streams are a largely untapped resource in today’s energy market. Most of the sites, where, normal hydro is very profitable, have already been tapped. Though these sources of hydropower are changing with the ever-increasing costs of electricity specifically and, energy generally. This means that new hydropower sites are becoming economically viable. Traditional hydro requires the tremendous cost and environmental impact of building a dam and possibly flooding an area. Water currents are sources of energy that are untapped because there are few methods of harnessing this resource. While some of this has been improved on in the last ten or so years, there remains a significant untapped resource at our disposal. Alternative Hydro Solutions Ltd. has developed a selection of water current turbines, which plug the gap. The turbines and theory behind them is outlined more clearly on our website shown below. The potential of this market is enormous, and as other methods of harnessing energy become fully utilized, water current turbines will gain new influence. This is already starting to happen, as current sources of power become fully utilized or too expensive to harness especially in remote areas. The expense of the chosen method for harnessing energy has also been a factor for water current turbines as they are not that efficient by definition. Two things have happened though to aid this situation. The price of power generally has gone up, as well as the price of water current turbines coming down. The future looks bright for water current turbines and we look forward to your site-specific inquiry. The speed of the river is the most important variable in determining the placement of the turbine, as well as the rise and fall of the river over the year. An ideal spot for locating a turbine would be in a place where logs or other debris do not pass regularly, though these turbines are under the water somewhat the shaft is not, nor is the mounting platform. For applications with a large difference in seasonal flow heights a floating platform is suggested. As you will see from our website, the speed of the river is the most important variable in determining the placement of the turbine. A slight speed increase is worth far more than an increase in allowable depth or diameter. Please visit our website or drop us a line with any questions you may have.