

At the edge

Running business in Greenland is in many respects a great challenge. Our main potential is our nature and the natural resources - but geography and nature is simultaneously our greatest challenge.

Greenland is far away from the major markets of the world. The big cities of our neighbouring countries are relatively far away, and the history of Greenland binds our community in the Arctic along with Denmark in Europe. A journey by plane from the capital of Greenland to the Danish capital typically takes six hours. The time difference is four hours on the journey to Denmark, so we experience the Danes saying goodnight when our biological clock tells us it is only seven o'clock.

The sea transport of goods from the south Greenland town Qaqortoq to Aalborg typically takes seven days. This thin lifeline to the outside world places all businesses in Greenland in a bad position in the international markets. The cost of doing business in larger or smaller settlements on a coastline stretching more than 1,500 kilometres from

north to south is obviously high.

The supply of Greenland with energy is also complicated. During these years, the Government of Greenland aims to increase the energy production from renewable energy. If there is a realistic economic potential, we are building hydroelectric power stations, which via high-voltage power cables in an extreme climate and through remote mountainous supply our biggest towns.

The towns Qaqortoq and Narsaq are supplied with energy from the hydro power station Qorlortorsuaq. The energy is transported via high-voltage power cables from the hydro power station over a distance of seventy kilometres to the two towns. The transmission of energy is done via a 60 kilovolt transmission line of 225 pylons.

This photo of the week shows the pylons on their way through the wilderness. You can discover the pylons at the bottom right of the photo. In the background the ice cap is visible.



South Greenland, February 2014