

83. We want to convert (at least in theory) the water that falls through  $h = 500$  m into electrical energy. The problem indicates that in one year, a volume of water equal to  $A\Delta z$  lands in the form of rain on the country, where  $A = 8 \times 10^{12} \text{ m}^2$  and  $\Delta z = 0.75$  m. Multiplying this volume by the density  $\rho = 1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$  leads to

$$m_{\text{total}} = \rho A \Delta z = (1000) (8 \times 10^{12}) (0.75) = 6 \times 10^{15} \text{ kg}$$

for the mass of rainwater. One-third of this “falls” to the ocean, so it is  $m = 2 \times 10^{15} \text{ kg}$  that we want to use in computing the gravitational potential energy  $mgh$  (which will turn into electrical energy during the year). Since a year is equivalent to  $3.2 \times 10^7$  s, we obtain

$$P_{\text{avg}} = \frac{(2 \times 10^{15}) (9.8)(500)}{3.2 \times 10^7} = 3.1 \times 10^{11} \text{ W} .$$