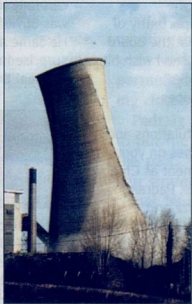
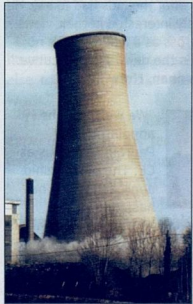


Down it goes: Ferbane cooling tower bites the dust



THE remaining cooling tower at the ESB Power Station in Ferbane in County Offaly was demolished on Saturday 23rd February last. The 87metre high tower served to cool water when the power station was in operation.

A team from a specialist company with wide experience of cooling tower demolition carried out the operation.

The cooling tower was forty years old and constructed of reinforced concrete. Demolition was necessary because the tower is no longer required. In addition the reinforced concrete in the tower was not in good condition and spalling was occurring. Spalling occurs when moisture gets inside the concrete and begins to attack the reinforcing bars, leading to deterioration of the structure.

The tower was hyperbolic in shape and rose to 90m above ground level with a diameter measuring 56m at its base.

The specialist contractors who carried out the demolition have demolished in excess of one hundred such structures across Ireland and the UK.