



RWE's expertise reduces a power station's cold start timeline by half

# CASE STUDY

RWE's business risk assessment of 1,200MW oil/gas fired plant reduced the cold start timeline by half, established the most significant engineering issues affecting the plant's flexibility and influenced the development of new maintenance inspection regimes.



## The need for our expertise

A North American portfolio operator needed to assess the key business risks of its 1,200MW, 2 unit, oil/gas fired power plant in New York state.

RWE was asked to establish the top five engineering issues that affected the operational regime, comment on the proposed capital expenditure plans and deliver improved operational capability from the plant, particularly with respect to start up timelines.

This was set against market conditions and environmental constraints that prevailed in this sensitive geographical area.

## Putting our expertise into action

RWE experts carried out our business risk assessment to identify and quantify the key risks in the power plant operation. Its outcome recommended a way forward to enhance the asset value.

RWE's experts assessed the market based on the data supplied by the customer's traders and asset managers. It was crucial that the assessment combined the customer's detailed 'in house' power plant expertise with that of our specialist engineers. The obtained data was carefully verified and processed using RWE's computer modelling techniques.

This allowed the plant condition to be modelled against three future market-led scenarios and the maintenance spend requirements to be assessed to give the optimum levels of reliability.

RWE established the full operational capability of the plant and, based on that, identified and quantified the risks and costs associated with changing the regime.

## The difference we made

RWE reduced the customer's coldstart timeline by 50% and identified the plant investment scope that would be needed to decrease the hot and warm start timelines. Finally, revised start procedures were produced and delivered to the customer for implementation.

Our experts assessed the top five engineering issues that affected the plant's flexibility and suggested appropriate mitigation strategies. This allowed the customer to refocus its future investment plans, within identified areas.

The assessment enabled RWE to recommend the changes to plant maintenance inspection regimes, following the proposed changes to plant operations.

RWE also presented the customer with options that would ensure maximum financial contribution to its group overall. In particular the emphasis was on optimising the income stream and reviewing the cost stream.

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