

VERMONT PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY AUTHORITY 40 MW ELECTRICAL POWER PEAKING PLANT

SWANTON, VT

THE CHALLENGE

The owner-furnished Electrical Service Building was found to significantly exceed the budget and impact the project schedule. The Pizzagalli team needed to quickly find an alternative that would allow the project to stay on schedule and within budget.

THE SOLUTION

Evaluate, design, and construct a field-erected control room to take the place of the planned prefabricated building within the constraints of the highly regulated project.

DESCRIPTION

The Electrical Service Building (ESB) is the brains of the plant, a complicated control room that receives a code to automatically start the generators from a remote ISO-NE operator located in Massachusetts. Without the ESB, the plant cannot function.

The ESB was intended to be owner-furnished and built remotely as a complete unit with the panels installed and completely wired and all programming and logic tested, making it "plug and play" ready upon arrival. When the owner received the estimates, the lead time was longer than the entire project schedule and the cost significantly exceeded the budget allowance, making the concept impossible. Pizzagalli worked with two engineering companies to procure the needed components, purchase a prefabricated building, mount and wire all panels and control cabinets, and load and test the programming without impacting the overall schedule or original budget.



The project was completed on time, providing an additional 40 MW of available generating capacity to satisfy the gap in available electricity for peak loading and backup needs. Since going online, the generators have been called into service several times, providing uninterrupted power to the people and businesses of northern Vermont.