

A2A Competes in Ancillary Services Market with OpFlex Solutions



Achieved **60 MW** per GT Min load level

Produced **>300** hours electricity since late November

Able to **compete** in ancillary services market

Challenge

A2A, the largest Italian multi-utility company, needed to find a way create more competitive operations at it's Lombardia site. Additionally, they were evaluating the economics of reopening their Chivasso plant. However, operating in a region with significant competition meant that any decision on Chivasso would have to be supported by compelling improvements in operating KPIs. Achieving the lowest emissions compliant load level was key to this customer competing successfully in the ancillary services market space — particularly in their location.

Solution

By working closely with A2A traders, engineers, and production team, GE proved that the capability of the Chivasso power plant could be improved to succeed in the Italian ancillary market space.

The solution for A2A involved installing OpFlex advanced controls software to upgrade nine 9FA gas turbines at four combined-cycle power plants in Lombardia in northern Italy. At A2A's Chivasso plant, GE will also upgrade two 9FA gas turbines with its Dry Low NOx 2.6+ combustion technology.

Results

OpFlex Advanced Controls solution was installed in conjunction with DLN2.6+ and achieved a 65MW per GT minimum load level — the best in the 9FA fleet.

OpFlex Fast Ramp solution enabled load ramping at up to ± 50 MW/min, 2.5 times the normal rate, permitting A2A participation in regulating reserve market.

This power block has now produced over 300 hours of electricity since coming back online in November 2015, essentially proving capabilities to compete in the ancillary services market.

