

SNC Lavalin • CPV St. Charles Combined Cycle Station

Project Description

SNC Lavalin was awarded construction activities by Competitive Power Ventures (CPV) for the completion of the St. Charles Energy Center in Charles County, Waldorf, MD. This project was a greenfield development of a two-on-one 725 megawatt natural gas-fired combined cycle power plant in Charles County, Maryland.

Project Challenges

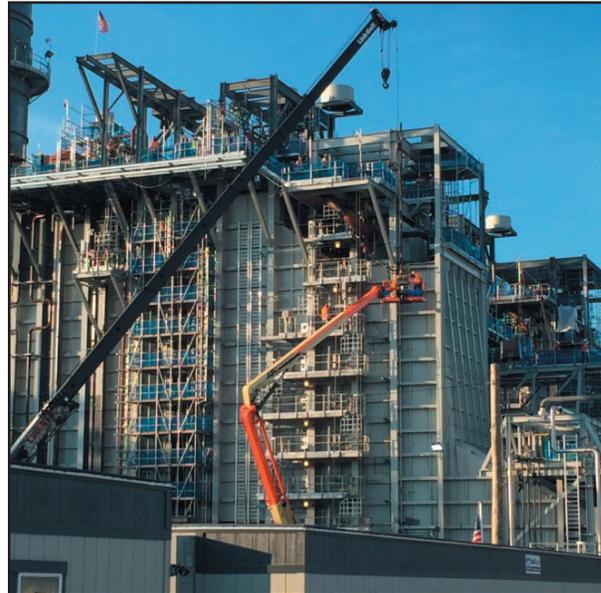
At the start of the project, BHI Energy (BHI) was not the selected supplier on site to perform welding activities. Due to schedule challenges and current vendor performance, SNC Lavalin considered the addition of another specialty welding organization to complete the P91 and P22 large bore pipe welds. The current vendor was experiencing an approximately 50% weld rejection rate, contributing to the delinquent project status.

Response and Approach to This Project

BHI's approach to this Project was to initially mobilize a small "prove it" crew of boilermakers, necessary to complete a small P91 welding scope on the unit's Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG). The team was very successful and this encouraged SNC Lavalin to extend the site reach of BHI to include pipefitter welders on the balance of plant (BOP) piping in addition to the HRSG.

Project Challenges Resolved

BHI continued on site from approximately early April until the end of October, enabling SNC to reach a major milestone of testing to place the unit on line near original schedule. BHI successfully completed over three hundred large bore x-ray pipe welds by projects end with a less than 3% rejection rate.



Construction of the HRSG at St. Charles



First time quality welding of the P21 and P22 pipe welds under controlled preheat.



BHI installation of BOP piping assemblies at St. Charles

Customer Testimonial

SNC Lavalin was pleased by BHI's aggressive nature and "can do" attitude to help bring the unit on line for CPV. Wayne Bullard, SNC Site Manager, stated "The BHI team was very professional and delivered on the promise of First Time Quality".