

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON: HOW ONE NUCLEAR STATION AVOIDED MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR UNPLANNED OUTAGES

When reliability is non-negotiable, even a single valve can make or break operations. At a major nuclear station, aging analog valve positioners were a growing concern. They were identified as a **Single Point Vulnerability (SPV)** on critical Feedwater Regulating Valves. The risk? A single failure could trigger an unplanned outage lasting up to a week, costing over **\$1 million per day** in lost revenue, and even more during peak summer demand.

A RACE AGAINST THE OUTAGE CLOCK

With no internal craft labor available to address the single point vulnerability and the next scheduled outage 18 months away, the station faced a tough choice: delay critical positioner upgrades or find a partner who could deliver quickly. R.E. Mason stepped in, deploying the **Enhanced Reliability System (ERS)** with **redundant DVC 6200 remote-mounted valve positioners** for both Unit 1 and Unit 2. But it wasn't just about technology. It was about people, our professionals who worked 24/7 through holiday periods, navigating strict qualification requirements and tight timelines to get the job done.

RESULTS THAT SPEAK VOLUMES

Both units restarted on schedule with the new ERS systems in place, dramatically improving valve reliability, stable flow control, and significantly reducing the risk of emergency unplanned outages. The station's engineering team praised the system's performance and the R.E. Mason team's dedication, especially their ability to resolve additional issues during the outage. By enabling these upgrades outside of the normal outage cycle, R.E. Mason helped the station avoid potential losses in the millions and ensured uninterrupted power delivery to the grid.

"R.E. Mason gave us more than just a technical solution, they gave us confidence in our system's future."
- Operations Supervisor

POWERING PEACE OF MIND

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WANT TO AVOID COSTLY DOWNTIME AND BOOST SYSTEM RELIABILITY?

Let's talk about how R.E. Mason can help you stay ahead of failure.

