

BASSLINK Converter Station

Date: 2005

Principal: Siemens

Project Value: \$12M

TASK

Shaw was the main subcontractor to Siemens for site preparation to final completion with detailed earth works associated with construction of the HDVC transmission facility at George Town that links the Tasmanian and Victorian electricity supplies. The project included excavation and preparation of the land in readiness for the civil construction.

The control building, valve hall and transition yard each including air conditioning, heating, fire detection, all electrical works, concrete works, steel structures and cladding, masonry and finishing works and sanitary all formed part of the works.

Shaw installed a number of precast cable trenches across the site, and 22 in-ground concrete pipes, each 2.5m diameter and 25m long, used for oil containment in the event of a spill. The oil is contained so that it can be pumped out, thereby reducing any potential risks to the environment.

CHALLENGES

Each converter station consists of a control building, valve hall including transformer bays, auxiliary buildings, foundations in reinforced concrete for buildings and equipment in switchyard, external works, road and walkways, transition yards.

Approximately 2,000m³ of earth were removed for the pipes to be laid and back filled to specifications. The total earth moved in the 500m x 500m converter site was approximately 25,000m³.

The switchyard work involved the construction of 420 bored concrete piles and pile caps, with holding down bolts set into them for installation of other structures necessary to complete the electrical switchyard.

OUTCOMES

Shaw Contracting completed this project on time and on budget. Shaw's detailed Quality System and exceptionally skilled workforce allowed it to not only meet, but also exceed the very arduous project specification.

