Three Cummins diesel generator sets provide ‘black-start’ power for one of Australia’s largest gas-fired power stations, recently commissioned on the NSW central coast.

"Due to the complex nature of the project, it was vital that the Cummins team worked closely with both throughout all phases of the project," says Cummins' Colongra project manager David Van Brussel.

Cummins account manager Michael Holzinger and application engineer Dennis Lo developed the design and technical aspects of the black-start system with Alstom's engineering group, while both Lo and Cummins service technician Pat Hickey were instrumental in installing, testing and commissioning with the Alstom team.

"The feature of this power station is its very fast start-up capability of 13 minutes, but this places higher thermal conditions than an equivalent size coal-fired plant, and 85% less NOx emissions per kWh of electricity generated.

"The technical features of the power station, including the black-start capability provided by three Cummins generator sets, will allow Delta to improve regional and state-wide grid reliability in the unlikely event of a system-wide shutdown, and also maintain reliability and state-wide grid restoration in the unlikely event of a system-wide shutdown."