



ENEL: 18 GAS TURBINES PURCHASED FROM GENERAL ELECTRIC AND ANSALDO-SIEMENS FOR ITL 1,500bn

The purchase, made via Enelpower, forms part of investment program worth close on ITL 10,000 billion.

Rome, April 4, 2001 - Enel, via its subsidiary Enelpower (a power plant construction and operating company) has completed the purchase of 18 gas turbines and related equipment to be used in the conversion of a number of thermoelectric plants to combined cycle technology.

The new state-of-the-art gas turbines can generate up to around 250 MW and will enable yields to be increased by between about 40% and 56%. This will result in a significant reduction in both operating costs and the environmental impact of electricity production.

The cost of the operation, which was sealed with the signing of two contracts with General Electric and Ansaldo-Siemens, is approximately ITL 1,500 billion.

The purchase of the 18 gas turbines, 13 from General Electric and 5 from Ansaldo-Siemens, forms part of the large-scale investment program, worth around ITL 10,000 billion, to be undertaken in the electricity generation sector. Such a program underlines the Group's commitment to renewal of the assets used in the core electricity business.

The contracts in question regard the conversion to combined cycle technology of power plants owned by both Enel Produzione and the three Gencos (Eurogen, Elettrogen and Interpower), which are due to be sold in accordance with the requirements of the decree liberalizing the Italian electricity market.

The Managing Director of Enelpower, Luigi Giuffrida, stated: "With this latest order, Enelpower has purchased gas and steam turbines producing a total of around 11,000 MW, in order to boost its activities in both domestic and international markets, and making the company one of the world's leading operators in the power generation sector."