PROJECT CASE STUDY / FEDERAL · DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Install Fence Basewide

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California

NAVFAC Southwest · In-Line as Prime Contractor



Completed perimeter security fence — 9-gauge domestic fabric, three-wire 45° barbed arms, Mojave Desert.

CLIENT

U.S. Department of the Navy — NAVFAC Southwest

IN-LINE ROLE

Prime contractor, direct to the Government

CONTRACT

N62473-15-C-2204

AWARDED

17 June 2015 · $447,057

PERFORMANCE PERIOD

90 calendar days

PLACED IN SERVICE

15 October 2015 — the contract date

THE PROJECT

The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms is the largest Marine Corps installation in the United States — 1,102 square miles of Mojave Desert where Marines train with live fire before they deploy.

The Navy needed perimeter and facility security fence installed across that base: the main perimeter run from Gate 13 to the south end of the installation, plus the Leatherneck substation and Condor Terrace. They put it out as a negotiated Request for Proposal through NAVFAC Southwest.

In-Line was not a subcontractor on this job. **In-Line was the prime** — holding the contract directly with the Department of the Navy, carrying the performance and payment bonds, staffing the Site Safety and Health Officer and the Contractor Quality Control Manager, and answering to the Contracting Officer for every requirement in the contract.

WHY IT WAS HARD

Ninety days, in the Mojave, in summer

Award came 17 June 2015. Work had to begin within fifteen calendar days and finish within ninety. That put the entire build in a Mojave July, August and September. There is no crew housing near that fence line — In-Line put four men in hotels for sixty-five days and ran three crew trucks, a water wagon for dust control, and a skid steer with an auger out to the line every morning.

Buy American, with no exceptions

The solicitation prohibited foreign end products outright, and the contract carried a **DO-C2 national defense priority rating** — meaning In-Line's material orders took precedence over commercial orders and had to be certified for national defense use. Every line on the bill of materials had to be domestic and documented: 4,350 feet of 9-gauge fabric, 384 line posts, 419 barbed arms, 13 rolls of four-point barbed wire, right down to 5,610 hog rings.

An endangered species living in the work zone

The Mojave desert tortoise is a federally threatened species, and the fence line runs straight through its habitat. Before a single post hole was dug, In-Line ran pre-construction environmental training for the crew, commissioned tortoise survey reports at eight separate sites, and kept biological monitoring on site throughout. **Eleven tortoise passages were built into the fence** so the animals could keep moving through terrain the fence now crossed.

Flash flood country

Desert washes carry enormous water volume in minutes. Where the alignment crossed flood zones, standard fence would have been torn out in the first storm: In-Line set 3-1/2" x 14' posts on 48" x 16" footings at 4,000 PSI and installed two flash flood gates designed to release under water load rather than destroy the fence line.

Everything fabricated, not ordered

The pipe gate systems — frames, hinge posts, locking devices, gate keepers, government lock enclosures — were fabricated in In-Line's own shop, trucked to the galvanizer for hot-dip coating, and trucked back out to the base for installation.



Running four-point barbed wire on the barbed arms — the perimeter line from Gate 13 heading south.

WHAT IN-LINE DELIVERED

- **Perimeter security fence** — 4,350 LF of 9-gauge domestic chain link fabric, 384 line posts, terminal, corner, end and pull posts, with 419 three-wire 45° barbed arms and four-point barbed wire throughout.
- **Facility fencing** at the Leatherneck substation and Condor Terrace.
- **Hot-dip galvanized pipe gate systems** — shop fabricated, including locking devices and enclosures sized for government locks.
- **Eleven desert tortoise passages** and full biological compliance: pre-construction training, survey reports at eight sites, and monitoring throughout the work.

- **Two flash flood gates** and deep 4,000 PSI footings in the wash crossings.
- **43 aluminum warning signs** at 100-foot intervals along the completed line.
- **Prime contractor responsibilities in full** — performance and payment bonds at the full contract sum, dedicated SSHO and CQM, quality control testing, dig permits, laydown and delivery route approvals, emergency route plans, NEPA closeout, and a certified waste disposal report.

SCOPE AT A GLANCE

Perimeter security fence | Barbed arm / barbed wire | Hot-dip galvanized pipe gates | Flash flood gates | Desert tortoise passages | Substation fencing | Warning signage | NEPA closeout

THE RESULT

NONE
Construction deficiencies (DD 1354)

15 Oct 2015
Placed in service — the contract date

$447,057
Awarded, and final

On **DD Form 1354, Transfer and Acceptance of DoD Real Property**, the Government recorded the fence placed in service on **15 October 2015** — the exact contract completion date set at award, four months earlier. Final cost: **$447,057.06**, the awarded amount to the penny.

Block 26 of that form is titled *Construction Deficiencies*. The Navy wrote one word in it: **NONE**.

Ninety days in a Mojave summer. Buy American on every part. A threatened species in the work zone. Delivered on the contract date, at the contract price, with zero deficiencies on the Government's own acceptance form. That is the standard.

WHY AGENCIES AWARD IN-LINE DIRECTLY

Most fence contractors work behind a prime. In-Line holds federal construction contracts in its own name — bonded, cleared, and accountable to the Contracting Officer without a general contractor in between.

- **We carry the whole contract.** Bonds, SSHO, CQM, quality control, submittal register, environmental compliance, closeout documentation. No prime to hide behind and none needed.
- **Buy American and DPAS are routine.** Domestic sourcing documented line by line, priority-rated purchase orders, certified for national defense use.
- **Environmental compliance is part of the build.** Threatened species protocols, biological monitoring, NEPA closeout, certified waste disposal — planned into the schedule, not bolted on when someone catches it.
- **We finish on the contract date.** Remote site, extreme heat, no local labor pool — the crew goes and stays until it is done.
- **We are certified, bonded, signatory, and safe.** DBE · SBE · SLBE · SB · HUBZone · SBA 8(a). Union affiliated, Local 89 & Local 12. CSLB C-13, C-51, C-32. Bonded through Old Republic Surety, rated A+ XV. **EMR 0.68.**

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