

Project Profile

Inland Empire Energy Center - Sun City, California



Top Grade was recognized as the safest contractor on site for 15 of the 17 months while accumulating over 145,000 man-hours without incident.

Project Background

This GE 800 mega-watt power plant was a research and development prototype launch site with a project value of over \$1B.

Scope of Work

Completed in two phases, Top Grade was responsible for all site work, including:

- Mass grading of 300,000 CY of soil
- 1,500,000 SF of lay down and parking areas
- Re-engineered fill of over 400,000 CY
- Installation of 10,000 LF erosion control measures
- 4,000 LF of 12' fence w/ barbed wire/visual screens
- Excavation for 5,000 LF of 7' diameter water pipe
- Excavation/backfill for 30,000 LF of composite pipe

Phase I of the project included mass grading of over 50 acres utilizing GPS scrapers, blades, dozers, and compactors. In addition, 1,500,000 SF of lay down areas and parking was established. Top Grade developed and managed dust and erosion control for all operations.

Phase II was conducted on a six-acre confined work area with 1,100+ workers and heavy equipment operations. Top Grade provided the civil scope for the congested areas, including composite piping, foundations, lay down areas, structural excavation, and engineered backfill.

Challenges

In addition to the high winds and extreme heat in this desert environment, the biggest challenge was dealing with the confined work space.

Solutions

Because Top Grade was confronted with highly complex and confined areas, it was critical to implement "pre-task" planning.

Top Grade performed difficult backfill of Balance of Plan (BOP) trenches and utilized special equipment to access the confined areas. Many times, excavations had to be performed by hand.

Caution was used at every stage to ensure that field conditions were verified before work was performed, eliminating the potential risk of costly damages.

Facts

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Client:
GE/Calpine

Project Type:
Industrial Power Plant

Location:
Sun City, Calif.

Duration:
August 2005-July 2007

Value:
\$22,000,000