

MARINE CORPS WINS 3 ENERGY MANAGEMENT AWARDS FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

The Marine Corps won three Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Energy and Water Management Awards in 2017 for their exemplary energy programs – two on installations, and one for an expeditionary unit. This award promotes and rewards excellence in the areas of energy and water efficiency, management, technology, and awareness.

MCB Camp Lejeune was recognized in the Large Shore category for its innovative energy management program that reduced energy intensity (amount of energy used per square foot of building) by 13.89% from 2016 to 2017. They did this using groundbreaking energy projects and technologies, including a steam decentralization initiative that replaced five inefficient, outdated steam plants with hundreds of smaller high-efficiency systems that use natural gas. This initiative alone will result in an estimated \$5.7 million in savings per year once fully matured. Over the past five years, MCB Camp Lejeune has also initiated efficient LED lighting upgrades, HVAC and hot water improvements, water fixture upgrades, and awarded a new contract in FY17 to continue to identify efficiency upgrades.

In the Small Shore category, MCSF Blount Island was awarded for its comprehensive approach to managing base energy and water that helped it reduce energy intensity by 17.03% from the previous year. The base is seeing results from a contract it awarded in FY16 to upgrade lighting and convert boilers and hot water equipment over to natural gas. MCSF Blount Island also focuses on education and outreach, driving a Building Energy Monitor (BEM) program to help educate Marines and other installation personnel on ways to reduce energy consumption and waste.

The Marine Corps is changing not only how energy is consumed on installations, but also on the battlefield. 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment (3/11) received an expeditionary unit SECNAV Award for its partnership with the Marine Corps Expeditionary Energy Office (E2O) to innovate new ways to reduce energy waste during operations. 3/11 also partnered with Marine Corps Systems Command to test and experiment new energy management prototypes during training exercises, including a system that uses laser measurements to more accurately determine fuel levels, lithium batteries that reduce fuel use of tactical vehicles, advanced data systems that can predict when fuel needs to be resupplied, and portable solar systems. These innovative technologies successfully reduced energy waste and fuel dependency for 3/11 and can improve operational effectiveness for the entire Marine Corps in the future.

The SECNAV Energy and Water Management awards (along with the five Federal Energy and Water Management Program (FEMP) awards) received by the Marine Corps in 2017 demonstrate the importance the Corps places on more efficient operations – efforts that will help warfighters be more resilient and prepared to support the mission, from bases to battlefield.