

July 3, 2001

ACWA PROGRAM UPDATE

This is the 26th update, in a series of updates, provided by PMACWA to enable the Dialogue to stay abreast of the latest information regarding the many activities currently underway.

ENGINEERING DESIGN STUDY (EDS I) –

EDS I Testing –

- **Parsons/Honeywell.** Completed pre-operational inspections of the equipment and procedures for the projectile washout test due for startup in mid-July. Completed modifications to the Continuous Steam Treater (CST) and will restart that testing in mid-July following a local readiness review.
- **General Atomics.** Completed the Supercritical Water Oxidation (SCWO) 500-hour run with M28 hydrolysate/Composition B hydrolysate/dunnage. During the run, operator error caused a breach of the liner. During a normal rinse sequence, the feed was stopped without introducing diluent water to protect the liner. The reactor continued to operate causing the liner to overheat and develop a large hole. The reactor itself was not damaged and the run was able to continue after replacing the liner. Procedural and software changes were made and methods of incorporating interlocks are being investigated to preclude this from happening in the future. Currently preparing for the next 500-hour run with GB hydrolysate and GB hydrolysate simulant.

ENGINEERING DESIGN STUDY (EDS II) –

EDS II Testing -

- A site visit to DPG, CAMDS, and Eco Logic's subcontractor in Salt Lake City was conducted on June 20-21. Representatives included the NRC, CATT, Cost Analysis Improvement Group (CAIG), Army Materiel Systems Analysis Agency (AMSAA), PMCD, SBR Technologies and other PMACWA contractors. The attendees toured the following unit operations:
 - Foster Wheeler SCWO (DPG)
 - General Atomics SCWO (DPG)
 - Eco Logic/El Dorado's Propellant Grinder (Vendor in Salt Lake City)
 - Parsons Continuous Steam Treater (CAMDS)
 - Parsons Projectile Washout System (CAMDS)
- PMACWA has received and reviewed the Technology Provider's Study Plans and has requested additional information and modifications to these plans. Only minor

items remain outstanding. The Study Plans should be finalized and approved by early July.

- In most cases, the Technology Providers, Test Facilities and PMACWA are completing installation and beginning systemization and testing. The majority of testing is scheduled to occur from July through November.
- The current status of each of the EDS II Test Programs is as follows:

AEA Technology. Major upgrades to the 12-kW Silver II plant have been completed. Some delays have been encountered. Systemization has been initiated with water. Systemization with acid is scheduled to begin in early July. The 500-hour tests are now scheduled to begin in late July. Some of the lab scale studies (testing of a hydrocyclone and high shear mixing) have been conducted. The remaining lab scale studies are being installed and/or systemized.

Eco Logic. The Gas Phase Chemical Reduction (GPCR) Analytical Methods Development has begun and is in the middle of testing. The Explosivity, Elastomers, and Metallurgy Trade Studies have also been initiated. The M28 Propellant Grinding System was assembled and tested at the vendor site in May/June with a simulant. It is now being prepared for shipment to the test facility. The Propellant Grinding Tests are now expected to begin in mid August due to some delays from the test facility.

Foster Wheeler. Modifications to the Demonstration II SCWO system are almost complete. Some delays have been encountered. The new reactor, which will allow higher throughput rates and the use of oxygen, was installed. The long term Operability Testing (500-hour runs) is now expected to begin in late July.

Engineering Design Packages (Blue Grass) -

- The Initial EDP was received from the three Blue Grass Technology Providers: AEA Technology/CH2MHill, Eco Logic/Foster Wheeler, and General Atomics.
- PMACWA is scheduling design presentations and reviews with the Technology Providers on their Initial EDP. They are scheduled for mid July with General Atomics and early August with AEA Technology/CH2MHill and Eco Logic/Foster Wheeler.
- The Draft EDP is due on September 28, 2001; and the Final EDP is due on December 3, 2001.

ACQUISITION/PILOTING ACTIVITIES -

Colorado and Kentucky Environmental WIPT -

- A Colorado Environmental Working Integrated Product Team (WIPT) meeting took place 25 June in Pueblo, CO. Meeting minutes for WIPT meetings are available at the Colorado Environmental WIPT web site at: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/PCDWIPT.asp>. The next meeting is scheduled for late August.

- A Kentucky Environmental WIPT meeting has not been held since the last update. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 August in Richmond, KY and will be open to the public.

National Environmental Policy Act/Draft Environmental Impact Statement –

- The ACWA Program Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was published on 11 May. The DEIS examines the potential impacts of the design, construction, and operation of one or more pilot test facilities for assembled chemical weapons destruction technologies at one or more chemical weapons stockpile sites.
- The ACWA Program held a series of public meetings to take comments on the DEIS. Meetings were held in Richmond, KY on May 31; Pueblo, CO on June 6 and 7 in conjunction with PMCD; Pine Bluff, AR on June 12; and Anniston, AL on June 14.
- The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army extended the public comment period for the ACWA Program DEIS by 45 days to August 9, 2001. The extension was granted at the request of citizen groups and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Copies of the DEIS are available at public libraries near the sites under consideration, and at the U.S. Army’s Chemical Demilitarization Program community outreach offices in Anniston, AL; Pine Bluff, AR; Pueblo, CO; and Richmond, KY; as well as in Edgewood, MD; Hermiston, OR; and Tooele, UT. Copies of the Draft EIS are also available at <http://www.pmacwa.org>.

Pueblo Contracting/Acquisition –

- Work is ongoing to modify the Request for Proposals (RFP) from the A/B approach to a systems contractor approach and incorporate performance-based specifications.

Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) Review -

OIPT: Overarching Integrated Product Team

IIPT: Integrating Integrated Product Team

WIPT: Working Integrated Product Team

- A revised schedule for the DAE Review is under consideration due to delays in releasing the Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and to the 45-day extension of the public comment period.
- Mitretek presented a status update of their independent safety assessment to members of the DAE Review WIPTs.
- The Programmatic/Acquisition WIPT met on 26 June to discuss the status of the DAE Review, a proposed timeline to meet an August DAE Review, and the Acquisition Program Baseline.
- The Safety/Environment WIPT is scheduled to meet on 9 July to discuss the status of the EIS schedules, public involvement, and JACADS closure.
- The next Cost/Schedule WIPT meeting will be scheduled for early/mid July to discuss the PMCD and the ACWA life cycle cost estimate (LCCE) methodologies.

- The next IIPT and OIPT meetings have not yet been scheduled.

OTHER

- The Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Acquisition) signed the transmittal letter to the congressional defense committees for the ACWA Supplemental Report to Congress on 28 June. The report will be available on the ACWA website in the near future.
- On May 21, 2001, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Acquisition) designated the Chemical Demilitarization Program as a Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) Program, Acquisition Category (ACAT) 1D. This designation means that all acquisition decisions for the Chemical Demilitarization Program will be made by the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Acquisition) (i.e., the Defense Acquisition Executive).
- A reminder to Dialogue members: travel reimbursement vouchers must be submitted within five working days after completion of travel. Failure to complete travel vouchers in a timely fashion could result in additional travel requests being denied.