



Second Temporary Authorization Request

The Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA), in collaboration with the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD)/Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) as the permit owner/operator and other partners, has formally submitted a second (separate) Temporary Authorization Request, known as a "TAR," to the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) for Operation *Swift Solution*. ACWA is the Department of Defense organization responsible for destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile stored at BGAD. Operation *Swift Solution* will safely eliminate three deteriorating steel containers and wastes associated with management of these containers currently in storage at BGAD located near Richmond, Ky.

The three deteriorating steel containers planned for destruction have also been commonly referred to as "one-ton containers," or simply "ton containers." They hold a highly corrosive mixture of chemical agent GB and its breakdown products that have occurred over time. One of the containers has leaked in the past and the other containers are showing signs of corrosion.

A first TAR for Operation *Swift Solution* was submitted to KDEP outlining ACWA's plan for destruction operations for the three steel containers stored at BGAD. A process known as the Chemical Agent Transfer System, or CHATS will be used for the operations. To complete Operation *Swift Solution*, a trained team from the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) from Maryland will be deployed to BGAD/BGCA with the CHATS that will be used to drain and neutralize the contents of the steel containers. The steel containers themselves will then be decontaminated, cut, cleaned of any remaining interior residue and recycled. The intent is to ship all generated hazardous wastes off site to a permitted disposal facility within 90 days of the start of operations.

This second (separate) TAR was submitted in response to KDEP's suggestion that BGAD seek permission to amend the existing hazardous waste storage permit to allow BGAD to store certain wastes generated during Operation *Swift Solution* for more than 90 days, if that becomes necessary. (Current federal and state law requires action on removal of such generated wastes within 90 days to prevent waste generators from stockpiling these materials and creating a significant and potentially dangerous hazard.)

It is estimated that the entire operation will produce up to 8,000 gallons of liquid waste from CHATS, the steel container cut-and-clean process, and other waste decontamination activities. The liquid waste will be either shipped off site to a permitted disposal facility within 90 days of generation, or via the second TAR provision stored at BGAD until other treatment and regulatory permitting options are identified. If long term storage becomes necessary, the CHATS liquid waste will be stored in two specially designed large containers (up to 4,600 gallons capacity) known as the isotainers (also known as Eurotainers or ISO containers). The disposal of additional secondary solid wastes and routine personnel decontamination liquid wastes will be managed in accordance with the current BGAD/BGCA chemical storage permit.

ACWA is coordinating Operation *Swift Solution* with the following partners: BGAD, BGCA, the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, ECBC, KDEP and local stakeholders.

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U.S. Army Element, Assembled
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

A PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant
Public Affairs Office at (859) 624-6326 or visit www.pmacwa.army.mil.

