

**April 29, 2009**

**Permitting Working Group:**

Attendees: CDPHE - Joe Schieffelin, Doug Knappe, Lisa Woodward, Jeannine Natterman, Hannah Dubois (with the Attorney's General office), and Danny Lutz. CAC - Irene Kornelly, Ross Vincent, and Terry Hart. CDC - Terry Tincher and Joseph Padayhag. Elected Officials - Shanna Farmer with U.S. Rep. John Salazar's office. PCD/BPT Workforce - 12. Citizens - two. No media.

The PWG session began with a comprehensive overview of hydrolysate and biotreatment by Bechtel's Pat Timm. Vincent voiced concerns that the CAC was not briefed on *all* of the procurement options related to the Brine Reduction System (BRS), adding it was his understanding that Timm's presentation was going to focus on the various biotreatment technologies. Timm said that his goal was simply to overview the general process and to not promote any specific vendor nor their technology.

CDPHE's Doug Knappe then took the floor and immediately noted concerns related to the recent leaker found at PCD. Knappe said it was possible that agent was leaking from the igloos into the environment, adding that mustard is an extreme carcinogen. Knappe said that the CDPHE would like to see weekly monitoring of the igloos. PCD's Kathryn Cain stated that it was beyond the purview of the PWG and the CAC to discuss stockpile monitoring noting that chem demil is the focus of the CAC. Terry Hart disagreed saying the CAC sees storage and demil as a whole package. There was additional disagreement between Cain and CDPHE reps regarding the primary purpose of the compliance order and lawsuit.

**Citizens' Advisory Commission Meeting:**

Attendees: CDPHE - Same as above. CAC - Same as above plus John Thatcher and Jeff Chostner. CDC - same as above. Elected Officials - Dwight Gardner, Area Director for U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet. PCD/BPT Workforce - 18. Media - John Norton, Reporter, Pueblo Chieftain.

The issue of increased monitoring, first came up after the CDC's presentation to the CAC. Vincent asked what were the lower detection limits of the monitoring equipment and asked how reliable was the equipment. Padayhag explained that the equipment is so sensitive that it can be thrown off by other contaminants such as pesticides and fumes from nearby sawmills. He added that minicams are the state of the art and the best available technology. Vincent asked to see all of the reports the CDC has on monitoring at other demil sites. Thatcher asked about the CDC's current monitoring efforts at PCD. Tincher said the CDC is not involved with storage monitoring. Knappe questioned the minicams ability to measure low levels of agent i.e. can they go low enough?

Moving ahead to Doug Knappe's section of the CAC meeting, Knappe stated (twice) that mustard was an extreme carcinogen and he was concerned about leaks and releases during storage. He claimed that PCD was not following RCRA's storage procedures and was out of compliance. Knappe noted that PCAPP's plans show that the plant will meet the RCRA standards due to its rigorous design and operating procedures. Knappe said that PCD needed to do the same with their engineering controls. Knappe said he did agree that the Army is indeed using the best monitoring technology available. Knappe went on to say that because the air in the igloos vents out twice per day, that PCD should be monitoring more frequently.

Hart asked if CDPHE was evaluating PCD's and PCAPP's various waste plans and monitoring controls. Knappe said that the state was almost done with these reviews. Hart replied that the

CAC too, was concerned about leakers and monitoring. He encouraged a dialogue between PCD and CDPHE on this issue, adding that he would like to see a discussion on this at the may PWG and CAC meetings. Knappe said the state could certainly do that.

Possible implications - although no article appeared in today's paper on the monitoring issue, it is possible the one will appear over the next few days. Norton tends to not sensationalize PCAPP/PCD issues and does an accurate and comprehensive job at his reporting on demil. However, should Knappe's and Hart's statements find their way into an article it could result in safety concerns with workers at PCD, the PCAPP site, and in the PSB. Thus, this issue has the potential to have serious negative consequences on both PCD and PCAPP. Because the issue primarily relates to storage, it is beyond the ORO's scope to be involved in this topic. None-the-less, the ORO staff stands ready to support PCD as directed by ACWA HQ. We should also keep in mind, that with next week's CSEPP exercise, the notion of a possible agent release will very much be present in the media and in the minds of key stakeholders.

**Permitting Working Group meeting:**

May 27, 2009

I was a bit late for the PWG meeting yesterday, as I was at the post rehearsing for the EC visit. According to Renee Martinez, the first 30 minutes of the PWG involved Irene Kornelly reviewing the Anniston trip and it was very positive.

I arrived just as Doug Knappe was beginning his briefing (attached). As Doug proceeded, Kevin Blose asked numerous questions regarding the CDPHE lawsuit and compliance order. Doug Knappe and David Kreutzer with the State AG office, and other CDPHE staffers obliged Kevin. A very open and frank discussion ensued. I would say that Kevin's approach created an atmosphere that was both disarming and cordial. Kreutzer summarized the situation as follows:

- Safe exposure levels to mustard are not yet fully known and CDPHE does not believe that the CDC's/Army's testing methods are accurate (but they are the best currently available).
- CDPHE sees the weapons as hazardous waste, thus their storage should follow the same requirements as any other facility. This was determined in 2006 and the Army did not appeal this decision.
- The State would like to see more frequent monitoring of the igloos and testing to lower levels.

Irene suggested that it would help the PWG and the CAC to have better understanding of the various monitoring systems currently being used by the Army and ACWA and asked that this be provided at the September PWG. Chris Hambric proposed that this be a joint effort with both PCD and PCAPP participating.

**Citizens' Advisory Commission meeting:**

May 27, 2009

The CAC meeting had an overall positive tone, with Kornelly once again giving praise for the Anniston/LPMD trip. Jeff Chostner joined her adding that he learned a lot and was quite impressed.

The CAC held elections with Kornelly and Terry Hart remaining in their current roles as Chair and Vice-Chair.

Dick Ayen and Doug Medville with the NRC provided an overview of their EDT research. Their presentation ran approximately one hour and was well received. Ross Vincent said that he was surprised that the EDT would be used to process leakers and damaged munitions. He thought it would only be used to destroy contaminated energetics. Gary Anderson explained that the EDT would be used for both.

Anderson gave a presentation on the recent hydrolysate decision, acceleration, and funding. CAC members and other attendees were pleased, with several commenting that the community had received what it wanted. Others stated that they were happy to see the funding would allow PCAPP to meet the 2017 deadline. Vincent questioned a bullet in Gary's slide that stated off-site shipment of hydrolysate would remain an option should problems occur. Vincent asked what could possibly go wrong? Anderson noted that PCAPP was a pilot plant and like all other chem demil facilities, it would experience surprises. Paul Henry added it was more important to destroy the stockpile rather than stop operations indefinitely should problems with the hydrolysate and biotreatment occur. They adequately diffused the concerns voiced by Vincent.

The June CAC and PWG have been canceled. The next CAC is July 29 in Boone.