

**Back Brief, Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) Meeting
April 27 2011, Avondale, CO**

With approximately 26 people attending (including 10 local citizens), CAC Chair Irene Kornelly opened the meeting by announcing that with recent passage of a federal budget by Congress, appropriations for PCAPP appeared to be on track.

Dr. Tom Hopkins, Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Treaties and Threat Reduction, briefed the CAC on Nun-McCurdy Actions related to the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program. Hopkins noted that the PCAPP program would be allowed to move forward despite the recent breach. CAC Chair Irene Kornelly and Vice Chair Terry Hart thanked Dr. Hopkins for taking time to personally come out to brief local citizens on the issue. Lt. Col. Robert Wittig, U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) commander, debuted a video about the PCD mission entitled "Safe and Secure." PCAPP Acting Site Project Manager Walton Levi and Bechtel Project Manager Doug Omichinski, provided an updated on construction activities at PCAPP. Scott Susman, head of Systems Engineering and Operations for ACWA provided an overview of recent activities with the CAC's Design Options Working Group as it relates to Explosive Destruction Technologies (EDT) and the Environmental Assessment currently being prepared in support of EDT activities at the PCAPP site. PCAPP Public Affairs Specialist Tom Schultz provided an overview of public outreach activities for the past six months. That presentation was followed by updates on regulatory issues by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), during which Manager, Hazardous Waste Permitting Unit Solid and Hazardous Waste Program Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division, CDPHE Doug Knappe lauded LTC Wittig's efforts to enhance the working relationship between PCD and his organization.

Citizens' Advisory Commission's (CAC) Meeting
Olde Towne Carriage House
07/27/11

Attendees: CAC – Terry Hart, Doug Knappe (sitting in for Joe Schieffelin) Irene Kornelly, John Thatcher and Ross Vincent; Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) – Jeannine Natterman; Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD)/Bechtel Pueblo Team Workforce – 14; Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program – Carl Ballinger and Lisa Shorter; Federal Emergency Management Agency – Doug Becvar, Cheryl Layman and Susan Sawyer,; Citizens – five; Media – John Norton (*The Pueblo Chieftain*); PCD Reuse Authority – Russell DeSalvo.

Legislation: Irene Kornelly, CAC chair, reported that the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives have passed the funding bill for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP), however, because of a \$2.7 million difference in dollar amounts, the bill will have to go back to conference committee before being signed by the president.

Pat Steranka, PCD treaty compliance officer, provided a brief overview of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Kevin Blose, PCD civilian executive, provided an update on the depot. He noted that the depot had experienced problems in several buildings with their cooling systems and some electrical problems. Blose also explained that some gaskets around the rear access doors of G block igloos were deteriorating. It was still unknown as to why these seals were having problems, but they will be replaced. Blose was asked if any of the buildings on the PCAPP site were having HVAC problems and Blose stated that none were.

Bruce Huenefeld, PCAPP site project manager showed a slide on project funding. He added that he was continuing to be impressed by the quality of the workforce.

Doug Omichinski, Bechtel project manager, gave an overview of current staffing levels and how those levels will change as the project finishes with construction and moves into the systemization phase. Omichinski also discussed project safety and acquisition awards status.

Doug Knappe, manager, Hazardous Waste Permitting Unit Solid and Hazardous Waste Program Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division, CDPHE, stated that the state health department continued to have productive meetings with PCD personnel during the past month as they discussed emergency preparedness procedures. He added the CDPHE is also reviewing operations metrics for PCAPP.

Kornelly closed the meeting by noting that Dr. Tom Hopkins and Conrad Whyne will be in Pueblo on Aug. 18 to meet with the county commissioners and the CAC. Kornelly said that the initial plan was to meet with the CAC at the outreach office but because of open meeting laws, the meeting will have to be advertised and a larger meeting location will have to be pursued.

Meeting closed at 6:40 p.m.

Citizens' Advisory Commission's (CAC) Meeting
District Attorney's Conference Room
08/18/11

Attendees: Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program – Conrad Whyne; Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program – Carl Ballinger; CAC – Terry Hart, Irene Kornelly, Ross Vincent; Citizens – three; Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) – Jeannine Natterman; Federal Emergency Management Agency – Cheryl Layman; Media – John Norton (*The Pueblo Chieftain*); Office of the Secretary of Defense – Dr. Tom Hopkins; Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD)/Bechtel Pueblo Team Workforce – eight; PCD Reuse Authority – Russell DeSalvo.

Irene Kornelly, CAC chair, opened the meeting and stated the sole purpose of the session was to learn more about the possible impact of the recent Nunn/McCurdy certification on the ACWA program and specifically the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP). She then introduced Mr. Whyne and Dr. Hopkins.

Hopkins took the floor and provided an historical overview of the Nunn/McCurdy Act. He followed with defining the five areas, which must be certified when a critical breach occurs under the act. Hopkins stated that no major design plans will take place and that hydrolysate will be treated on site. Hopkins stressed that safety would continue to be the top priority and transparency with stakeholders would be maintained.

Hopkins went on to explain that as part of the program certification a new more realistic program cost estimate would be developed as well as a new schedule. A new Acquisition Program Baseline (APB) is due on September 14, and a new baseline schedule would follow.

A discussion followed pertaining to what risks were being considered, that might impact (slow down) the PCAPP project. Whyne said that one area of concern was the munitions washout process and how much time it will take to wash each of 780,000 munitions noting that if it takes one minute to wash out a munition that is one thing. If it takes three minutes, that could add months to the PCAPP schedule.

Terry Hart expressed community concern with meeting the 2017 deadline for completion of demil operations. Hopkins and Whyne agreed that every effort to meet the 2017 deadline would be made, but not if it means sacrificing safety.

Whyne noted that the use of the Army's Explosive Destruction System is back on the table and could be added back into the Environmental Assessment for consideration.

Kornelly asked if Hopkins and/or Whyne would be able to attend the September CAC meeting to review and discuss the new APB. They agreed at least one of them would attend. All three CAC members in attendance expressed gratitude to Whyne and Hopkins for being transparent and making the issue easier to understand.

Meeting closed at 12:00 p.m.

Citizens' Advisory Commission's (CAC) Meeting
Olde Towne Carriage House
10/26/11

Attendees: CAC – Terry Hart, Doug Knappe (covering for Joe Schieffelin), Irene Kornelly and Ross Vincent; Citizens – eight; Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Marion O’Conner and Jeannine Natterman; Elected Officials: U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet’s Pueblo Office – Jennifer Barela; Environmental Protection Agency – Larry Kimmel; Labor Unions - Ron Lenz, business manager for Local 58 of the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters & Service Journeymen and Dean Grinstead, business manager Local 12 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Media – John Norton (*The Pueblo Chieftain*); Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD)/Bechtel Pueblo Team Workforce – 22; PCD Reuse Authority – Russell DeSalvo and Sara Wykoff.

CAC Chair Irene Kornelly opened the session by introducing Conrad Whyne, acting program manager for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program. Whyne stated that he had hoped to report out on a new Acquisition Program Baseline for ACWA but it has yet to be finalized. Whyne added that the ACWA program is continuing to be funded and is marching towards the goal of building the demil plants in Colorado and Kentucky. Whyne then informed the CAC that selection of a new project manager for ACWA has yet to be finalized, adding that he was one of the candidates for the job and was having to keep himself at arm’s length from the process. This led to a discussion with Terry Hart, who voiced a concern regarding the possibility of Whyne being selected for the ACWA program manager and then being dual-hated as he would still run the Chemical Materials Agency (CMA). Hart felt this might work against the law requiring that ACWA be separate from CMA. Hart stressed that he and the CAC felt Whyne was competent and they enjoyed working with him, so this was not a personal issue, rather it was a legal one. Whyne assured the CAC that the laws pertaining to CMA and ACWA would be followed no matter who is selected to run ACWA.

Brian Ramdwar operations branch manager, Bechtel Pueblo Team (BPT) provided an overview of the PCAPP laboratory facility capabilities.

Renee Martinez, outreach specialist, provided the CAC with a summary of PCAPP’s public involvement activities over the past six months.

Civilian Executive Assistant for PCD Kevin Blose gave an update on the depot focusing on the storage and disposal of secondary waste. Blose explained that, although regulators with CDPHE said they would relax regs pertaining to PCD’S hazardous waste storage permit to allow them to store more waste in anticipation of that waste being processed at PCAPP, the depot still has storage space limitations. Blose also said that third parties might raise challenges about the accumulation of stored hazardous material. It was agreed that this issue needed further review and discussion.

PCAPP site project manager Bruce Huenefeld provided the CAC with an update on funding, followed by Bechtel’s deputy project manager Dave Norwood, who provided an update on

construction, acquisitions and staffing. This led to CAC member and County Commissioner Jeff Chostner saying he was, once again, disappointed by the low number of local contracts and local hires. Chostner challenged Norwood and the BPT to improve in both areas. Chostner was joined by business managers for two local unions, who said that as the PCAPP project moved into systemization, URS should look to hire locals as operators before advertising nationally. URS' Jerry Tiller explained that currently about half of the URS workforce in Pueblo were hired locally or regionally. Tiller added that going forward URS would continue to hire experienced workers from baseline sites but would also be hiring locals, who will be trained as operators.

Later in the session a local citizen echoed concerns about contracts being awarded to out of state companies, which meant less money being spent locally and fewer jobs in Colorado. Norwood and Tiller explained that the PCAPP project will be utilizing a significant amount of First-Of-A-Kind equipment and only so many businesses have the capabilities to manufacture such items. Norwood agreed to provide the CAC with explanations as to why certain acquisitions and jobs had to go out of state and how this could change as the project moves towards operations.

The meeting closed at 8:00 p.m.

Citizens' Advisory Commission's (CAC) Meeting
Olde Towne Carriage House
12/07/11

Attendees: Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program (ACWA) – Conrad Whyne, Greg Mohrman, Joe Novad, Jim Richmond, and Scott Susman; CAC – Terry Hart, Irene Kornelly, Jeff Chostner, Joe Schieffelin and Ross Vincent; Citizens – 20; Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program – Carl Ballinger; Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) - Doug Knappe and Jeannine Natterman; Elected Officials: Gloria Gutierrez with U.S. Sen. Mark Udall's Pueblo Office ; Environmental Protection Agency – Larry Kimmel; Media – John Norton (*The Pueblo Chieftain*); Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD)/Bechtel Pueblo Team Workforce – 26; Pueblo City/County Health Department – Heather Maio; PCD Reuse Authority – Russell DeSalvo and Sara Wykoff.

CAC Chair Irene Kornelly opened the session with a slide presentation of her recent trip to the Hague to attend a meeting of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. Kornelly then provided the dates of the CAC meetings for 2012.

Kornelly then invited ACWA program Acting Director Conrad Whyne to address the CAC. Whyne said that it has tentatively been approved to release draft sections of the Explosive Destruction Technology Environmental Assessment to the CAC 30 days early. This early release is pending legal review, but Whyne said he felt confident that he had the authority to release sections early. Whyne said there has been no decision on naming the new ACWA program manager. No questions followed.

A presentation on Control Room Operations was provided by staff of the BPT.

Bechtel Project Manager Doug Omichinski and URS' Jerry Tiller provided an overview on PCAPP acquisitions and hiring practices, which was primarily in response to concerns voiced by CAC member Jeff Chostner at previous CAC sessions. The presentation provided a comprehensive look at how the BPT attempted to hire locally whenever possible, and what issues prevented them from doing so. Additionally, the slides revealed efforts made to utilize local and state vendors whenever possible. The bottom line being that a majority of project dollars were spent in Pueblo and Colorado. Similarly, most of the hiring has been local and regional. Chostner had little of substance to say after the presentations, although he did say he appreciated the dialogue and candor.

Vincent said he was surprised there was no project work agreement for operations. Tiller explained that the agreement was limited to construction. Gutierrez asked if the BPT was working with local higher education institutions to train and recruit for the project. Tiller said the BPT has had conversations with local higher education, but that the BPT is not having them train and recruit. The BPT will do all training in-house and all hiring will be done through the PCAPP web site via on-line application.

Omichinski, PCD Commander LTC Greenhaw, and PCAPP Site Project Manager Bruce Huenefeld then gave a PCAPP Year in Review presentation.

Doug Knappe provided a brief overview of recent CDPHE activities.

Vincent then gave a summary of the Design Options Working Group meeting from earlier in the day.

The meeting closed at 7:30 p.m.