



Pueblo Chemical Agent-  
Destruction Pilot Plant

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## Dignitaries to mark start of chemical weapons destruction at Pueblo Depot

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U.S. ARMY PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT, Colo. – Dignitaries, community leaders and invited guests will gather at the Pueblo Chemical Depot on Sept. 4 to mark the start of chemical weapons destruction operations at the depot. Actual operations are slated to begin later this fall.

The Honorable [Andrew C. Weber](#), Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs, is scheduled to provide the keynote address at the ceremonial event that will formally recognize the United States' resumption of destruction of its remaining chemical weapons stockpiles stored in Colorado and Kentucky.

The [U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity](#) previously eliminated chemical weapons stockpiles at seven U.S. Army installations and in the Pacific, safely destroying 27,473.65 U.S. tons (24,923.68 metric tons) of nerve and blister agents, amounting to 89.75 percent of the Nation's chemical weapons stockpile.

The [Explosive Destruction System](#), or EDS, will begin weapons destruction at the depot by eliminating a small number of munitions which have leaked or have been sampled in the past, and are now safely overpacked. This operation will occur prior to the start of operations at the main facility, the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, or PCAPP, which is slated to begin operating in late 2015. After the main plant begins operations, the EDS will augment it by destroying any munitions which pose a problem to process using the main plant's automated systems. The EDS is expected to destroy about 1,300 munitions or .002 percent of the depot's stockpile of more than 780,000 munitions over the five years it will operate on the installation.

Others offering remarks at the ceremonial event will include Mr. Conrad Whyne, Program Executive Officer, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives; Mr. John Nerger, Executive Deputy to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command; Lt. Col. Michael S. Quinn, Commander, U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot; and Ms. Irene Kornelly, chair, Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission. Mr. Bruce Huenefeld, PCAPP site project manager, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

For additional information on the event, please visit:  
<http://www.peocwa.army.mil/media-toolkit/>

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Destruction**



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