PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE, ASSEMBLED CHEMICAL WEAPONS ALTERNATIVES (PEO ACWA)

Overview

PEO ACWA, headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, is a U.S. Department of Defense-managed Major Defense Acquisition Program tasked with the safe and environmentally compliant destruction of the remaining 10% of the original U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. Located respectively at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot in Pueblo, Colorado and the Blue Grass Army Depot near Richmond, Kentucky, PEO ACWA’s destruction facilities are the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) and Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP). Both sites are actively destroying chemical weapons and current destruction data can be found on the PEO ACWA website. Additionally, PEO ACWA maintains a supporting field office on the Anniston Army Depot in Anniston, Alabama. Stockpile destruction operations will be completed by the Dec. 31, 2023, Congressionally-mandated destruction deadline.

CONNECT WITH ACWA

For PEO ACWA news and information, visit our website at www.peoacwa.army.mil. For an overview of the program, watch the U.S. Chemical Weapons Destruction 2019 video on the ACWA YouTube channel.

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ANNISTON FIELD OFFICE
Location: Anniston Army Depot, Alabama
Technology: Static Detonation Chamber

A PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION
PCAPP Overview

PCAPP is destroying 2,613 U.S. tons of the blister agent mustard stored in artillery projectiles and mortar rounds at the Pueblo Chemical Depot using neutralization followed by biotreatment or an Explosive Destruction Technology. In 2003, PEO ACWA selected the Bechtel Pueblo Team as the systems contractor responsible for the design, construction, systemization testing, pilot testing, operation and closure of the pilot plant. As of July 17, 2019, PCAPP is considered a fully operational facility after reaching milestones that mark the end of pilot testing. Operations will conclude by Dec. 31, 2023.

For more information and a snapshot of recent activities at PCAPP, please watch the following video:

- [Colorado Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2019 Year in Review](#)

PCAPP Explosive Destruction Technology

The Static Detonation Chamber was selected and is being permitted to destroy problematic munitions unsuited for processing by the main plant’s automated disassembly systems. In 2019, assembly of three Static Detonation Chamber units began at the plant and are scheduled to begin operations in 2020. The Explosive Destruction System, another form of explosive destruction technology, destroyed problematic munitions in Pueblo from 2015 to 2018.

For more information on SDC, please watch the following video:

- [Static Detonation Chamber: How it Works](#)

BGCAPP Overview

BGCAPP is destroying 523 U.S. tons of the nerve agents VX and GB, or Sarin, and mustard agent stored in rockets and projectiles using neutralization followed by supercritical water oxidation or an Explosive Destruction Technology. In 2003, the Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass team was awarded a systems contract to design, construct, systemize, pilot test, operate and close the facility. The main plant, where nerve agent munitions are being destroyed, began pilot testing on Jan. 17, 2020. Operations will conclude by Dec. 31, 2023.

For more information and a snapshot of recent activities at BGCAPP, please watch the following video:

- [Kentucky Chemical Weapons Destruction: 2019 Year in Review](#)

BGCAPP Explosive Destruction Technology

An X-ray assessment of the Blue Grass mustard stockpile confirmed the solidification of agent in a number of projectiles, rendering them unsuitable for automated processing in the main plant. Static Detonation Chamber technology was selected to destroy all of the mustard projectiles, as well as two 3-gallon Department of Transportation bottles containing mustard agent. Static Detonation Chambers will also process drained rocket warheads and overpacked rockets from the nerve agent stockpile to augment main plant destruction in Kentucky once necessary permits are approved. Destruction of chemical munitions by the Static Detonation Chamber began on June 7, 2019.

For additional information on Static Detonation Chamber, please watch the following video:

- [Static Detonation Chamber Increases Workforce Safety](#)