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**Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting
Summary of Action Items and Discussions
Dec. 14, 2010
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Kentucky**

Attendees

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC):

Brig. Gen. John Heltzel, Doug Hindman, Valerie Hudson, Robert Miller and Craig Williams

Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB):

Johnnie Allen, Kevin Atkins, Howard Baker, David Bengel, Robert Blythe, Jeff Brubaker, Brig. Gen. John Heltzel, Jeanne Hibberd, Doug Hindman, Terry House, Valerie Hudson, Robert Miller, Geoff Reed, Carl Richards, Col. Brian Rogers, Mark Seely, Craig Williams and Todd Williams

Media Attendees:

Lexington Herald-Leader: Greg Kocher

Richmond Register: Bill Robinson

WEKU 88.9 Radio: Stu Johnston

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) X-ray Assessment Public Meeting
- Madison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Update
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Update
- CAC/CDCAB Site Tour Discussion
- Systemization Video
- Economic Development Working Group (EDWG) Meeting Recap

Meeting Summary Structure

This meeting summary is not intended to be a verbatim record of conversations, but instead will provide an overview of the discussions and next steps committed to by the government and various members of the CAC and CDCAB. Key action items identified in the meeting and a synopsis of the major questions and comments discussed during the various updates are noted below. Copies of slides and handouts presented during the meeting can be obtained from the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office (ORO) at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Action Items

Action Item: Craig Williams will poll the CAC/CDCAB members for interest in another BGCAPP technical presentation.

Responsible Entity: Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair.

Timeline: Prior to March 8, 2011.

Action Item: Craig Williams would like to set up tours of the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) and BGCAPP for incoming Richmond and Berea elected officials in the spring.

Responsible Entity: ORO.

Timeline: March 8, 2011.

Action Item: Jeanne Hibberd requested a site tour for EDWG members.

Responsible Entity: ORO.

Timeline: March 8, 2011.

Action Item: Doug Hindman requested a breakdown of the manual workforce diversity information.

Responsible Entity: Mark Seely, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass project manager.

Timeline: March 8, 2011.

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions – Chris Higginbotham, ORO, Outreach Manager

Chris Higginbotham welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted the following action items from the Sept. 8 CAC/CDCAB meeting:

Action Item	Steps Taken	Date/Status
Breakdown of employee diversity statistics and greater detail about local hires	Included in Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass update	Dec. 14
Poll CAC/CDCAB members	Complete; Systemization	Dec. 14

to see if there is desire for a Blue Grass-Specific Equipment briefing	Video served as this update	
Request for a CAC/CDCAB site tour	Complete; tour provided	Nov. 30

Opening Remarks – Doug Hindman, CAC Chair, and Craig Williams, CDCAB Co-Chair

Doug Hindman welcomed everyone and said it was a pleasure to work with such a dedicated, committed group.

Williams said he was pleased with the turnout and that Judge-Executive Kent Clark had hoped to be there but had other commitments.

Key Updates

KDEP X-ray Assessment Open Forum – Todd Williams, Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA), Director of Risk Management and Bill Lunsford, KDEP Acting Supervisor of the BGAD Section of the Division of Waste Management

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Todd Williams began by noting this KDEP event (in conjunction with the CAC/CDCAB meeting) was a public meeting, not a hearing, where the public could gather information and ask questions about the subject. He provided information about the X-ray work plan, which has been developed to direct the assessment of a sample of mustard (H) projectiles currently stored at BGCA. The plan sets forth that 32 rounds will be taken from each of the three igloos that house non-leaking H projectiles, for a total of 96 rounds. Those rounds will be overpacked and delivered to the igloo where the 79 leaker H projectiles are stored in overpacks and all will be put through a non-invasive X-ray process. This process will assess the presence of a heel, or solidified H, and will attempt to determine the approximate percentage of solidified H in each projectile. The rounds will be randomly selected to ensure a representative sample of the stockpile. T. Williams said the goal is to move the munitions during cooler weather, when the H is subject to temperature solidification, and assess them in warmer weather, when the non-heel H is liquefied.

Bill Lunsford discussed public involvement with the permitting process, giving information about the public meeting, public notice, fact sheet, mailing lists and administrative record. He said he did not think an X-ray assessment had been done at the depot before,

but it has been conducted at other sites and with the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program.

Robert Miller asked how precisely the X-ray assessment could measure the amount of solidified agent in the projectiles. T. Williams said there is no defined percentage, but analysts will be able to tell if the fill is solid or liquid, and how much liquid would drain away from the solid when the projectile is flipped. He noted leaker munitions would not be flipped. Miller asked if this process has a good track record, and T. Williams said as far as he knew, it did. Miller then asked what amount of solidification would justify the use of an Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT), and who would make that decision. Ralph Collins said 70 to 95 percent solids are possible in these lots, based on information from the Tooele project, which has a number of the same lots of H as BGCAPP. Collins said the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program (ACWA) would make the decision. Collins explained that more heel in the projectile means a longer process to flush the weapon out in the destruction process, lengthening the H schedule. If the H was less than 70 to 95 percent, ACWA would assess the effect on the schedule and make a decision based on that information.

C. Williams asked why Tooele is still using EDT and Collins said it was for projectiles with stuck-burster issues. (Note: Tooele began processing projectiles by removing the burster and draining the agent. The drained agent was to be incinerated in a Liquid Incinerator while the projectile body and any residual agent heel would be processed in a Metal Parts Incinerator. When high solidification of mustard was discovered, they changed their process and stopped trying to drain the agent. Instead they placed the full projectile in the Metal Parts Incinerator where the agent was destroyed and the projectile body decontaminated in one step. If they encountered a stuck burster, they overpacked the round and set it aside to be processed through EDT at a later date because the incinerator is not designed to handle explosives.) C. Williams asked if the X-ray process would be able to determine if projectiles have stuck bursters. Collins replied the X-ray would not identify those issues. Jeff Brubaker defined the stuck-burster issue as stemming from one of two situations: one, that varnish or other rust-prohibitive substance was used on the bursters during assembly, which could have caused the bursters to stick; or two, that heat exposure during past storage could cause them to stick.

C. Williams said worker safety should take priority. He asked if the burster issue should be factored into the EDT decision-making process. Brubaker said he expects burster difficulties, based on the relationship between BGAD's rounds and those at Tooele. He noted ACWA did not want to take rounds apart before the destruction process. C. Williams asked if ACWA was looking for additional justification to use an alternative method of destruction. Brubaker said yes, as along with the processing slowdown, there is only one projectile draining system and it would require more maintenance and unclogging of strainers as well as creating more waste water and other downstream issues in trying to process solidified H projectiles.

Jeanne Hibberd then asked if all of Blue Grass' projectiles have the same lot numbers as Tooele's and if the assessment was only selecting from those, or from all lots. Brubaker replied 65 percent have the same lot numbers, and they would select from all lots.

Miller asked if the project was expecting to see that all of the projectiles have some degree of solidification. Brubaker replied affirmatively.

Terry House asked what would happen if all of the mustard was solidified, and Brubaker replied the program would take that data and evaluate options — either modify the plant design or use an EDT. He said at least two other demilitarization sites were proceeding with the use of EDTs to process problem rounds. C. Williams noted there would be a lot of data from the Anniston and Tooele facilities available before Blue Grass needed to make a decision.

Carl Richards asked if the assessment would be carried out on a normal schedule, or a special schedule like Operation *Swift Solution*. T. Williams replied that the selection, overpacking and movement of the selected projectiles would be on a normal schedule and take place during a four week period in the Feb - March timeframe. The actual X-ray assessment would be Monday through Saturday with 10-hour workdays. He estimated about 25 days to complete the assessment process in the May - Jun timeframe.

House asked if anything else is looming on the horizon that could have the potential to affect the project schedule, and Brubaker replied that he didn't anticipate any significant issues with the other munitions. Johnnie Allen noted there would be no burster anomalies with the nerve-agent projectiles, as they have no bursters.

Hindman asked if it would be necessary for workers to enter "hot" areas of the facility to deal with stuck bursters. Brubaker replied affirmatively, and said for example, at Tooele, workers would have to go in and overpack the munition to be destroyed later. Hindman asked if that would be a time-consuming and risky process, and Brubaker said it would be.

C. Williams asked if there was any nerve agent in the H leaker igloo, and Allen said no, there is a separate igloo for leaker nerve-agent munitions.

C. Williams questioned if BGCAPP workers would be notified of actions taken under the work plan. Allen replied that standard notification rules apply, and workers would be informed.

C. Williams said the plan called for 1,000 cubic-feet-per-minute fans to be placed on the igloos during the overpacking process and asked if the process would use an ambient-air or fan-induced process. Allen replied it would use straight airflow, but the fans would immediately be turned on in an incident.

Madison County EMA Update – Carl Richards, Madison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Director

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Richards updated the group on the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) and the EMA's activities since his last update. He discussed Madison County flood events and public outreach. He continued with information on exercises and training and the new 800MHz radio system upgrade, saying all first responders and CSEPP counties are on the system, which is ahead of the curve nationally. He concluded by discussing the new tone-alert radios, outdoor sirens and the completed Emergency Operations Center expansion. He said the county would have a reverse-911 automated call-down system in place in the next 30 to 90 days, making it easier to reach residents in an emergency.

C. Williams mentioned that all county agencies are now hooked into the new radio system, which has greater capacity for in-building coverage, and that other national organizations and counties have visited Madison County to learn about the new radio system for their own use. Richards said the National Air and Space Administration, the Air Force, the City of Cleveland and a county in Georgia have already visited to learn about the system. C. Williams noted it as a premier example of how the chemical stockpile will leave a legacy of improvement in the county in broad areas that have nothing to do with chemical weapons.

Miller asked what questions were most often asked by the public regarding the chemical demilitarization program. Richards said most people wonder when it will be finished and why neutralization was chosen. He noted some people are indifferent about learning about the project because they are convinced they won't survive an accident. Miller then asked how CSEPP and EMA members respond to those questions/attitudes. Richards said they cite information provided by the pilot plant and said stakeholders need to understand the whole county will not be affected should something happen with the chemical weapons.

BGCAPP Update – Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP, Site Project Manager (SPM)

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Brubaker gave an update on the BGCAPP project, highlighting the progress made in 2010. He provided a year-end review of pilot plant and program activities from the last twelve months, including the change in ACWA program management from Kevin Flamm to Acting Program Manager Conrad Whyne. He discussed government acceptance of the final pilot plant design packages, Munitions Demilitarization Building (MDB) "mega-pours" and blast wall placements, Blue Grass-Specific Equipment development and placement,

and site construction reaching 25 percent completion. He then mentioned the upcoming arrival of the Enhanced On-Site Containers and noted a few highlights to look forward to in 2011, including the continued installation of structural steel on the MDB, the expected conferring of Star Status in the Voluntary Protection Program upon the project, and the completion of the Supercritical Water Oxidation Processing Building foundation.

There were no questions.

Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Update – Mark Seely, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass, Project Manager

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Mark Seely noted progress since the last CAC/CDCAB meeting. Seely discussed the project's safety record and uptick in craft hiring, saying Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass had hired about 50 more craft workers since the last CAC/CDCAB meeting. He gave expanded information on the diversity of the project workforce and said minority employment at the project was at 13 percent, compared to the commonwealth's minority population level of 11 percent. He said the project was also doing a good job of hiring women, given the comparative percentage of women employed within the engineering field. Seely discussed the project's involvement with small-business vendors, saying Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass holds vendor forums to help vendors understand how to do business with the federal government and has a Mentor for Success program to help assist specific small businesses with their federal government work. He then discussed the testing issues with the Bulk Oxidizer equipment and the path forward. He said it would not affect construction and it would have no impact on operations.

David Bengé asked if an EDT would need additional buildings, and Seely responded yes, possibly a sprung structure or similar building would be necessary to contain the EDT. Bengé then asked how an EDT would affect the existing budget. Seely said it would be additional beyond the baseline budget, but it could help the project save schedule.

Miller asked if an EDT was part of the completed project design, to which Seely replied no, it would be new work.

Hindman queried if an EDT would require blast-containment walls. Seely said it would not.

Hindman asked if the diversity numbers were for non-manual employees, not craft workers. Seely said they were for non-manual employees.

CAC/CDCAB BGCAPP Site Tour Discussion – Craig Williams, CDCAB, Co-Chair

C. Williams said there was record attendance at the Nov. 30 tour, followed the next day by a tour for members of the Madison County Fiscal Court. He said he was working to get Richmond and Berea city governments out to the depot and pilot plant site for tours in the spring, after their new officials are sworn in.

Robert Blythe said this was the first site tour he had been on in many months. He was very pleased to have met an African-American BPBG subcontractor and to have positive, firsthand information about diversity on the project from people who are employed there. Blythe said he remembered all kinds of concerns about the project early on, and he is now very pleased with the process and the information given about it.

C. Williams said he had spoken with a lot of BGCAPP workers and said their positive safety culture is "unreal," saying the workers had never been in a situation where safety was so emphasized.

Blythe said he felt this approach dispels mystery and myth, which has plagued other projects in the past.

Col. Brian Rogers, BGAD commander, encouraged everyone to come out often.

Systemization Video – Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP, SPM

This video is available at the ACWA website at www.pmacwa.army.mil, or at ACWA's YouTube channel, <http://www.youtube.com/usaeacwa>

Brubaker introduced this video, which was developed and produced by the Blue Grass and Pueblo OROs. He described systemization as the process of getting the plant ready to effectively destroy chemical agent. Brubaker said the effort in systemization is critical to successful plant operations, and noted this would be his fourth time to go through the phase. He said the point of the systemization phase is to prepare the procedures, train the people and test the equipment to make sure everything is ready to safely begin operations.

EDWG Meeting Recap – Craig Williams and David Benge, EDWG, Acting Co-Chairs

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

C. Williams said the group is getting a tremendous amount of traction, and everyone is very enthusiastic about it. He appreciates Brubaker and Seely's attendance at the meetings. He reviewed the group's Nov. 17 meeting and said the mission statement now has the goal of ensuring the pilot plant facility is not used for hazardous waste disposal after chemical operations are complete. He discussed expanding the network of

interested parties and using information from the Southern Growth Policies Board's upcoming economic study of Madison County as part of an EDWG study.

Benge said the EDWG has been resurrected as the BGCAPP project is under way, fully funded and "huge for this county." He said the group discussed what kind of economic study it should conduct, how large a region it should study, and look into what kind of industry could take advantage of the workforce that will be here after the project is complete. He said the group wants to study existing talents in the county to see how local workers could be used at the plant. Benge then said there has been some discussion about enlarging the Madison County municipal airport to accommodate military cargo aircraft, which could encourage businesses to form or relocate here. He said March 22 was the date of the next meeting and reviewed the group's action items.

House noted the fiscal "potential harm" that could come when the project is complete and said those effects should be studied. He understands from Seely that Bechtel will help employees find employment beyond this project.

Rogers noted an EDWG member had come from the very successful Ft. Knox revitalization project, and it was very good that he is involved in this. He promised a long-range plan for the depot and said his team would like to have more involvement in the EDWG. Rogers would also like to be involved in the study. He said he was at Picatinny Arsenal and discussed Anniston's ability to use EDT for conventional weapons demilitarization in the future, which made him wonder how to mission every part of this huge and very expensive facility to benefit the depot and the community in the future. He noted the EDWG could learn a lot from the Pine Bluff project, as they are in a similar economic situation as Blue Grass.

Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, CAC Chair, and Craig Williams, CDCAB Co-Chair

Hindman said this had been a very action-packed meeting and reminded members to let him or C. Williams know if they were interested in a particular topic in the future. He thanked everyone for attending.

C. Williams reiterated that the transparency in this program is what makes it work, and he is hopeful the new ACWA program manager will be tutored in the necessity and value of interacting with the community and the transparency of the program. He said he has been reassured at all levels that this will happen. He thanked everyone for attending.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8 at 1:30 p.m. at the Eastern Kentucky University's Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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