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Chair

Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board
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Reagan Taylor
Craig Williams
Co-Chairs

**Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting
Summary of Action Items and Discussions
June 12, 2019
Eastern Kentucky University (EKU)
Richmond, Kentucky**

Attendees

CAC: Dale Burton (for Jon Maybriar), Doug Hindman, Harry Moberly and George Ridings

CDCAB: Dale Burton (for Jon Maybriar), Chuck Cash, Candace Coyle, Jim Davis, Tatum Dale (for U.S. Rep. Andy Barr's office), Judy Greene-Baker, Dustin Heiser, Jeanne Hibberd, Doug Hindman, Ron Hink, Leslie Kaylor, Tara Long, Lt. Col. Rodney McCutcheon, Harry Moberly, Stephanie Nelson (for U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell's office), George Ridings, George Shuplinkov (for Col. Joseph Kurz), Reagan Taylor and Ethan Witt

Media Attendees:

The Richmond Register: Taylor Six

WBON-TV: Lance Gaither

WEKU-FM: Stu Johnson

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Introduction of Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Site Project Manager (SPM)
- BGCAPP Project Update
- Madison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)/Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) Update
- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) Permitting Updates

Meeting Summary Structure

This meeting summary is not intended to be a verbatim record of conversations; instead, it will provide an overview of the discussions and action items of government representatives 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

None.

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions – Sarah Marko, Manager, ORO

Marko welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted the following action items from the March 13, 2019, CAC/CDCAB meeting:

Action Item	Steps Taken	Date/Status
Provide CAC/CDCAB with numbers of employees working on the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) versus in Richmond.	Information provided in BGCAPP Update presentation, Slide 10.	Complete.
Provide CAC/CDCAB the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) tonnage of mustard agent.	Information provided in BGCAPP Update presentation, Slide 15.	Complete.
Provide CAC/CDCAB the schedule between start of operations and start of supercritical water oxidation (SCWO).	Information provided by Marko: The soonest the SCWO system can start is approximately three months after main plant begins chemical weapons destruction operations.	Complete.
Provide CAC/CDCAB the perimeter monitoring station locations.	Information provided in meeting information packet.	Complete.

Provide the calculation on how much agent hydrolysate will be processed through SCWO and how much agent through the Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) from the average residual expected in the drained rocket warheads.	Information provided by Marko: Due to the variability of the stockpile, it is very difficult to make this exact calculation.	Complete.
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Opening Remarks – Doug Hindman, Chair, CAC, and Reagan Taylor, Co-Chair, CDCAB

Taylor welcomed attendees and Hindman said it was a good news/bad news day, due to the start of chemical weapons destruction but Craig Williams could not be in attendance at the meeting due to medical issues.

Key Updates

Introduction of BGCAPP SPM – Michael Abaie, Program Executive Officer, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA)

Abaie noted Williams had contacted him to let Abaie know he was in the hospital and would not be able to make it to the meeting. Abaie told the group he and Dr. Candace Coyle, the new BGCAPP SPM, visited Williams earlier in the day. Abaie then introduced Coyle and said they had worked together for many years. He provided information on her background and qualifications and noted they share the same focus on safety and transparency. Abaie then said Jeff Brubaker, former BGCAPP SPM, will be staying on as a technical advisor focused on the rocket processing changes. Coyle said she was excited to be in Kentucky and part of the Blue Grass mission and gave some background about herself. She said she looks forward to continuing to engage with the community and also holds the ACWA priorities of openness and transparency. Coyle said for her, it's not just about the workforce, it's about the environment and community and making sure it's all safe coming to the end of this program and looks forward to working with the group to get rid of the chemical weapons stockpile in Kentucky.

BGCAPP Project Update – Dr. Candace Coyle, SPM, BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, Project Manager, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass

Slides of this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Coyle noted the BGCAPP Start of Agent Operations (SAO) event video played at the opening of the meeting and showed a slide covering the May 29 SAO event. Hink said the plant had started operations in the SDC and showed photographs of the process. He noted the gear worn by the workers was different than normal because of a ring at the bottom of the first projectile that needed to be removed and they were uncertain of what it was composed of, so the workers added protective gear to ensure their safety. Hink then provided a main plant update and said it is on track to start operations in late 2019. He said the Metal Parts Treater (MPT) surrogate testing is ongoing and going very well. Coyle discussed the environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed action to augment the processing capabilities of the main plant with a second SDC and said the EA has been conducted and a draft Finding of No Significant Impact prepared. She noted the public comment period closure date of June 17. Coyle said ACWA commissioned the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) to perform a study to establish metrics to show the SCWO system performance goals and the report is online and accessible by the public. She said NASEM identified non-technical factors that may impact the project, one of which was safety. Coyle said BGCAPP is already commissioning a safety assessment, which should be released to ACWA mid-September and to the public by the end of September. Coyle said a highlight was the focus on the SCWO trains and reactors and possible risks from anything going into the system, so they are looking at the integrated, holistic system. She looks forward to working with the CAC/CDCAB to develop the performance metrics. Hink discussed safety and said the plant's safety standing compares to that of a financial institution, like working for a bank. Hink noted the project makes an effort to buy locally. He gave the number of employees working at the site as 952 and at the Richmond Mall Office as 276. Coyle provided the economic forecast for personnel and payroll through the closure of the project. She said Williams stated he will brief on the Economic Impact Working Group (EIWG) next time and they are moving forward with planning activities. Abaie noted the EIWG is working closely with Bechtel National Inc., which is doing a great job putting ideas on the table. Hink provided workforce diversity and minority information and said the big challenge is in the number of people who do not self-report their information. He then discussed past and upcoming recruiting efforts. Coyle gave a Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant update, discussed their outage for hydrolysate weeping from a tank, and said that would be tracked as a lesson learned for BGCAPP.

Harry Moberly asked about the status for the second SDC. Abaie said ACWA is in the process of conducting permitting actions and is moving forward with procurement actions. Once the permitting is complete, the goal is to procure it and have it on site within about 15 to 18 months once the order is placed. Abaie said he thinks this will probably be early 2021. Moberly asked if there had been any change of plans and if the order would still be placed. Abaie said it would be placed, that engineering analyses showed the SDC 2000 could handle the nerve agent and full, overpacked rockets and the report has been issued.

Doug Hindman asked when the first mustard projectile was processed. Coyle said June 7 and emphasized safety of the workforce was paramount. She said 30 projectiles had been destroyed as of this morning and the project will provide updates going forward.

Coyle noted the project is going slowly – crawling before walking or running. George Shuplinkov said this was a huge effort led by ACWA that showed that the mission is getting done. He noted it as a historic mark on the Madison County calendar. Coyle said it was an incredible team effort, noted BGCAPP's great partnerships as one team, and said she was pleased to have such a great team.

Process Working Group Update and Economic Impact Working Group Update

Marko said the briefings for these updates are in the attendee packets and to provide her with any questions to be answered at the September meeting, as Williams was not able to attend today's meeting.

Madison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA)/Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) Update – Dustin Heiser, Director, Madison County EMA/CSEPP

Slides of this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Heiser told the group his organization has a fantastic budget for facilities, systems and staff to support BGCAPP and they have been operating 24/7 since May 6. He noted they are using the crawl/walk/run approach as well. Heiser provided some shift staffing numbers. He said representatives currently attend Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) meetings once a week and receive movement agendas daily. Heiser noted the use of checklists to check items and systems across the building each shift and the daily verification of sirens and partner communications. He said the EMA will conduct 200 to 300 exercises this year to make sure people and the community are ready to respond appropriately in case of activation. Heiser said the destruction program has provided a lot of needed items for this jurisdiction. He said the EMA is continually upgrading equipment and supplies in all areas of the county and are looking to the future for sustainability of items and systems after close-out, which begins one day after the last munition is destroyed and is scheduled to take 180 days to complete. Heiser said they are looking at grants and partnerships to help with that. He noted having a lot of inventory and financial functions to close out and said they have already begin preparing for that.

Jeanne Hibberd asked if the EIWG's efforts for future-use options would require EMA support. Heiser said yes, along with the judge-executive's office, the EMA is engaged with that to see what the future will bring.

KDEP Permitting Update – Dale Burton, BGAD Section, KDEP

Burton congratulated the U.S. Army and the entire team for the milestone and said KDEP's focus of the last three months was on preparing the final approvals to enable the Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) facility to proceed. He noted recent actions, including comments on the main plant Human Health Risk Assessment, the Container Storage Facility application, the main plant inspection schedule, rocket motor storage application, the MPT monitoring plan and most recently, the equipment decontamination plan. Burton said KDEP also made a number of approvals to permit modifications, including the approved ramp-up plan for EDT, reject GB munitions to be sent back to storage igloos from the plant and EDT acknowledgement of certification from the Kentucky Emergency Management for emergency response plans for area counties, as well as approval to start EDT operations. He noted approvals for a modification to the treaty sampling permit, EDT waste to be sent to the main plant waste transfer station, higher-than 117 Vapor Screening Level mustard waste to be shipped off-site but retaining a KDEP approval step each time this happens, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act plan for the main plant, construction certification for the main plant excluding SCWO (which is yet to come) and the main plant inspection schedule. They also issued ten main plant and 14 EDT minor permit modifications and are currently reviewing closure plans, the BGCA modification for handling reject munitions from BGCAPP and other Class 1 modifications as they come in. He anticipates a lot of workload coming in for the main plant rocket processing changes. Burton noted April 16 and May 28 inspections related to the construction certification process and said permitting staff has completed all procedures to be able to go on site as needed. He said the department has approval to hire two additional permitting staff and hopes to have them on board in the next two months.

Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, Chair, CAC, and Reagan Taylor, Co-Chair, CDCAB

Taylor thanked attendees for coming to the meeting. Hindman agreed.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. at the ECU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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