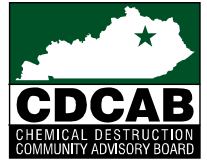




Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization
Citizens' Advisory Commission

Doug Hindman
Craig Williams
Co-Chairs

Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board
P.O. Box 449
Richmond, KY 40476
kentucky.cac2016@gmail.com



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 7, 2023
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Kentucky**

Attendees

CAC:

Harry Moberly, Dustin Heiser (for Jeremy Slinker), David Stipes (online), April Webb (for Tammi Hudson) and Craig Williams

CDCAB:

Col. Brett Ayvazian, Dr. Candace Coyle, Dustin Heiser (for Jeremy Slinker), Jeanne Marie Hibberd, Ron Hink, Leslie Kaylor, Tara Long (online), Lt. Col. Tyler McKee, Harry Moberly, Stephanie Nelson (for U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell), Stacey Shane (for Steve Bullard), Mica Sims (for U.S. Sen. Rand Paul), David Stipes (online), Judge Executive Reagan Taylor, April Webb (for Tammi Hudson) and Craig Williams

Media:

WBON-TV: Michael Watkins and Gage Hill

WDKY-TV: Vasi Prokos

WEKU-FM: Stu Johnson

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Remarks from the Deputy Program Executive Officer, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA)
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Project Update

- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) Permitting Updates
- Economic Development Working Group Update

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 documents 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 Item

Action Item: Provide a line item on the schedule to indicate the facility closure timeline.

Responsible Entity: Sarah Marko, communications manager, ORO

Timeline: By Sept. 6, 2023

Action Item: Report the amount of money spent with Kentucky companies by the Other Transactional Authority.

Responsible Entity: Sarah Marko, communications manager, ORO

Timeline: By Sept. 6, 2023

Action Item: Provide information about Industry Day at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD).

Responsible Entity: William Ritter, public affairs officer, BGAD

Timeline: Before June 27, 2023

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions – Sarah Marko, Communications Manager, ORO

Marko performed a roll call, welcomed the attendees, provided livestreaming information and reviewed the meeting agenda.

Opening Remarks – Craig Williams, Co-Chair, CAC/CDCAB

Williams welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He said Doug Hindman's condition continues to improve and Hindman is determined to attend the Oct. 11 BGCAPP End of Destruction Operations event. Williams also said he met with the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Threat Reduction and Arms Control earlier

that morning and took part in a media event preparing for the destruction of the last munitions.

Status of Outstanding Action Items

Marko then noted the following action item from the March 1, 2023, CAC/CDCAB meeting:

Action Item	Steps Taken	Date/Status
Report the approximate number of hydrolysate shipments remaining to be transported to Texas.	Ron Hink, project manager, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG), included the information in the BGCAPP update.	Complete.

Key Updates

Remarks from the Deputy Program Executive Officer – Dr. James Watson, Deputy Program Executive Officer, ACWA

Watson stated that Michael Abaie, program executive officer, ACWA, extends his regrets for not being able to attend the meeting, but said Abaie is excited about the program's status. He stressed that safety remains the top priority as both BGCAPP and the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant close in on the destruction of the last U.S. chemical weapons. Watson provided an update on the supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) study status and said it is in peer review. Watson stated that Heritage Environmental Services is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the EPA to serve as a government sponsor for the company to potentially use SCWO. Williams noted that as the community liaison on the issue, he has stressed the community is acceptable for the SCWO system to become a testing site for simulant material, but the community does not want to become a large-scale repository for hazardous materials.

BGCAPP Project Update – Dr. Candace Coyle, Site Project Manager, BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, Project Manager, BPBG

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

Coyle welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Coyle said four years ago, workers at BGCAPP destroyed the first mustard projectile and since then, four of the five munition types have been destroyed. She said as of the meeting date, more than

88% of the GB M55 rockets have been destroyed with only about 5,800 rockets remaining.

Hink said as the destruction of the last weapons is getting closer, workers and administrators are focusing more on safety to avoid getting distracted by celebrating the numbers. Among other things, shifts are taking frequent pauses to emphasize safety issues. As a result of the workers' diligence and dedication, Hink said the safety and lost-time injury numbers remain lower than people working in financial institutions and retail businesses. He thanked the workers for recognizing the need to stay safe until the end of the mission.

BGCAPP's daily average destruction rate remains above projections, according to Hink, and even with age and expected wear and tear beginning to take a toll on some equipment, workers have been able to make repairs and safely keep production levels high.

Hink said crews had encountered a leaking rocket in the main plant. He said the leaker posed no danger to the workforce, community or environment. Coyle noted the fact the leaker delayed operations for less than two days was a testament to the training and skill of the BGCAPP workers.

Hink and Coyle said the overpacked rocket motors created by the leaker, and any others generated at BGCAPP, will be destroyed in the SDC 2000. She noted a pilot study done a year earlier on the destruction of non-contaminated rocket motors at BGAD determined the motors were not compatible with destruction in the BGAD destruction chamber, so they were sent to Anniston for destruction.

In other updates, she said the Department of the Army Inspector General completed a visit in April. She said it was a successful visit with few findings involved. It was the first visit since early 2020.

Hink said hydrolysate shipments continue to Texas. He stated 211 shipments have been completed and 72 shipments remain. He reminded the group that during closure, additional hydrolysate will be generated through flushing of pipes and systems. He said rocket motor shipments continue to Alabama for destruction in the Anniston Army Depot Static Detonation Chamber (SDC). He said 123 shipments have completed so far and 17 shipments remain. Anniston destroyed the last rocket motor for the VX rocket motor campaign April 12, Hink said.

Hink said the SDC 2000 is destroying an average of 15 palletized rockets a day. He said the SDC 2000 is processing rockets that the main plant cannot process. He provided information about challenges with the vent path clogging and discussed how workforce members are cleaning out the vent path after a shut down and cool down of the system, which takes time. Coyle stated all overpacked rockets have been destroyed in

the SDC 2000, but additional overpacks may still be generated in the main plant. Once all rockets have been destroyed, the SDC 2000 will go back to processing containerized, drained rocket warheads, she said.

Hink provided an update on the SDC 1200, saying construction is substantially complete and the facility is in start-up, with systems being started up to turn over to operations. He said the SDC 1200 will go into operations in late fall.

Coyle said Earth-Covered Magazine Rocket Operations Contingency demonstrations were completed on time and it has been placed in stand-by mode. She emphasized the system will be available in case of a catastrophic failure in the main plant. She provided information about plans for removing the equipment after all rockets have been destroyed in order for the magazine to return to the purpose of storing containerized, drained rocket warheads. She thanked KDEP staff members for their assistance with environmental permits for the contingency plan.

Hink provided an update on the current schedule, saying the project is forecasting an early completion, potentially as early as mid-July. He said the focus, however, is on completing safely, not early. Coyle provided information on destroying items in the SDC 1200 and 2000 after operations are complete. She noted there is one category not captured in this chart, namely facility closure of the Main Plant as well as the SDCs. She committed to providing that information at the next meeting.

Coyle provided an environmental permitting update by giving information on a public comment period open now through June 19.

Information about closure was also given by Coyle and Hink. Coyle said the project has been providing support for the BGAD feasibility study. She also said closure definitions will be provided during the next Closure Working Group and CAC/CDCAB meetings. Hink said BPBG has hired workforce transition specialists to assist workers with future plans. He said employment numbers remain steady for about the next two years. He said BPBG will hold their first job network event for employees in October. Coyle said Dr. George Lucier, deputy chief scientist, BPBG, met with representatives from KDEP to discuss the fundamentals of main plant closure. Closure plans and discussions are ongoing with KDEP now.

Coyle then provided information on the SCWO study. She said that when the final decision is made about SCWO, the CAC/CDCAB will be kept informed. She understands the community concerns with future use of SCWO at BGAD. Watson added that Heritage Environmental Services is tracking an end-of-June decision about SCWO and are meeting with the EPA.

Hink discussed BPBG economic impact. He said that money spent with Kentucky companies is only for BPBG. He said the numbers do not include money spent by the

Other Transactional Authority that includes CRG Automation, a Kentucky-based company. He said that information can be provided at an upcoming meeting. Williams added that he has been in conversation with CRG about if there are any ways they can be involved with future BGAD missions.

Coyle ended the presentation by providing information about the Honoring Our Commitment: Chemical Weapons Stockpile Destruction Complete in Kentucky event scheduled for Oct. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Armed Forces Reserve Center. She invited all CAC/CDCAB members to attend and celebrate.

Harry Moberly, member, CAC/CDCAB, made a comment about the significant contributions BPBG has made in the community, particularly their support for a mental health unit at Baptist Health Richmond. Williams commented on the closure effort and re-use of the SDC units at BGCAPP and said there is interest in seeing what contributions those units may have to the BGAD mission. He said the U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command is looking at possibilities.

KDEP Permitting Updates – April Webb, Hazardous Waste Branch Manager, KDEP

The handout referenced during this presentation may be obtained by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Webb referenced the handout in the information packet and said they have issued approximately 23 permit modifications since the last meeting. She said they continue to look at open burn/open detonation at BGAD since that is a priority nationally. She said KDEP continues to review BGCAPP closure plan details and noted KDEP has added a new employee to assist with environmental permitting.

Economic Development Working Group Update – Craig Williams, Co-Chair, CDCAB

Williams said the Economic Resiliency Plan study had recently been released and was very thorough. He provided a link to the study (https://bgadd.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Economic-Resiliency-Plan-04.28.23_FINAL-1.pdf) and said the report will help as the community goes forward with economic impact efforts as BGCAPP conducts the closure phase during the next three or four years. He said he is putting together a master list of people who are working on workforce transition. He said many entities are working on this, but it will be good for the different organizations to work together. He said the Bluegrass Area Development District, which coordinated the study, has applied for another grant from the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation to expand on the findings and recommendations. He said they did not use the full amount of grant money originally provided. He said he is looking forward to working with them on developing the grant application.

Col. Brett Ayvazian, commander, BGAD, provided the group with an update on the BGAD feasibility study included by U.S. Rep. Andy Barr in the National Defense Authorization Act. He said the depot is hosting Industry Days at the end of the June to show government and commercial industries the infrastructure and personnel available at the depot. He invited the CAC/CDCAB members to attend. He said it is scheduled for June 27 and 28, but details are being finalized. He said information will be provided as soon as it is available.

Williams expressed appreciation for the community involvement with the feasibility study. He said it is very important for the community and depot to work together.

Moberly commented that the feasibility study and economic impact initiatives are important for the future of the community. He said it is important to thank Williams and Taylor and other officials for their work.

Closing Remarks – Reagan Taylor, Co-Chair, CDCAB, and Dr. James Watson, Deputy Program Executive Officer, ACWA

Taylor thanked everyone for attending. Watson also extended his thanks to CAC/CDCAB members and the larger community. He said without their partnership, this program would not be where it is today.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023, at 1:30 pm at the ECU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.