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**Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission and  
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board Meeting  
Summary of Action Items and Discussions  
June 11, 2014  
Eastern Kentucky University (EKU)  
Richmond, Ky.**

**Attendees**

**Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC):** Doug Hindman, Mark Klaas, Harry Moberly, April Webb (for Tony Hatton) and Craig Williams

**Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB):** David Benge, Jeff Brubaker, Joe Elliott, Lt. Col. Christopher Grice, Doug Hindman, Terry House, Leslie Kaylor, Mark Klaas, Bryan Makinen, Darcy Maupin, Ramesh Melarkode (for Col. Lee Hudson), Harry Moberly, Doug Omichinski, Chester Powell, Carl Richards, Regina Stivers (for Sen. Mitch McConnell's (R-Ky.) office), April Webb (for Tony Hatton) and Craig Williams

**Media Attendees:**

*The Richmond Register:* Bill Robinson (briefly)

**Meeting Synopsis**

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) Rocket Motor Separation Operation Update (RMSO) and Commander's Farewell
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Project Update
- Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PEO ACWA) Funding Update
- Secondary Waste Working Group (SWWG) Updates
- Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) Working Group (EDTWG) Updates

## **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 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**

**Action Item:** Draft and present appreciation letter to RMSO participants.

**Responsible Entity:** Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair.

**Timeline:** By Sept. 16, 2014.

## **Outline of Key Issues and Discussions**

### ***Welcome and Introductions – Sarah Parke, Manager, ORO***

Parke welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted the following action items from the March 12, 2014, CAC/CDCAB meeting:

<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Steps Taken</b>	<b>Date/Status</b>
Schedule a CAC/CDCAB BGCAPP tour, after the RMSO.	CAC/CDCAB members are deciding between July 24, July 31 and Aug. 21.	TBD
Provide EDT permitting and public involvement milestone information to the group.	Allison Respass provided a flow chart before April 14 public meeting.	Complete
Schedule SWWG meetings regarding cyanide.	Williams covered in his briefing.	Complete
SWWG to review National Research Council (NRC) Statement of Task, submit for CAC/CDCAB review and deliver comments to PEO ACWA.	Williams covered in his briefing.	Complete
Incorporation of munitions scrap metal recycling questions into EDTWG	Williams covered in his briefing.	Complete

dialogue with Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG).		
Create a Gantt chart for BGCAPP systemization and operations for emergency preparedness planning decision-making.	Jeff Brubaker provided a chart to Carl Richards and will provide one on EDT shortly.	Complete

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

Hindman welcomed attendees and noted the passing of Dr. Robert Miller, an active, contributing, long-time CAC and CDCAB member. He also noted the upcoming departure of Lt. Col. Christopher Grice to his next assignment.

Williams also noted Miller’s passing and said several members contacted him to say they could not attend this meeting.

**Key Updates**

***BGCA RMSO Update and Commander’s Farewell– Lt. Col. Christopher Grice, Commander, BGCA***

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

Grice opened by remembering Miller. He then said the RMSO process was successful – almost the length of his command, with a year-long process to get the permit approved – and thanked everyone who was a part of that success. He said the RMSO took a little longer than expected, due to inclement weather and a department of the Army BGCA inspection, then gave specifics of the operation, noting 42 of the planned 44 rockets were separated, 23 motors will be sent to the Picatinny Arsenal, 19 will be stored for BGCAPP testing and all of the separated motors will be stored in the Chemical Limited Area until the time comes for their testing. Grice said he was very impressed with the crew, who handled the process effectively and well, and that the motors will be shipped through the Blue Grass Army Depot. Motors were thoroughly tested to ensure no agent contamination. Grice closed by saying the Picatinny-bound motors will be analyzed to see if there are any concerns with the motors in BGCA storage and they will be destroyed at Picatinny after testing is complete.

Williams praised Grice for his communications and relationship with the group. He then recognized two BGCA attendees who were part of the RMSO, Jerry Reeves and Shane

Puckett, for their efforts. Hindman noted they were also part of the crew that does the day-to-day work in the igloos.

David Benge, CDCAB member, asked if the project will have some idea if the motors would be safe enough for the destruction operations, once the test was complete. Grice replied yes, and said the operation was performed by lots (19) and included rockets from igloos with known water infiltration that might have possible humidity damage.

***BGCAPP Project Update – Jeff Brubaker, Site Project Manager, BGCAPP, and Doug Omichinski, Project Manager, BPBG***

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

Brubaker and Omichinski delivered the quarterly project update, focusing mainly on the construction and systemization complete percentages, work commencing on the last four support buildings; testing the input-output of facility systems; 900,000 craft hours remaining on the project; advancement of Utility Building systemization; and successful fall start-up of the boiler system, which will start 24/7 control-room occupation. Brubaker discussed EDT, noting the recent successful 30-percent design completion review, 60-percent review taking place this week, 90-percent review around the end of July and bi-monthly update meetings with the EDTWG. He also noted responses are being formulated to comments received during the 60-day public comment period that closed mid-May and the submittal of the Title V air permit today (June 11). Omichinski said the Laboratory will receive dilute mustard agent to calibrate the monitoring equipment, the agent is much more dilute than surety limits and that the project is working through design changes for cyanide treatment. Brubaker said the NRC will conduct a study on hydrolysate treatment contingency approaches and that a public meeting with the NRC study committee will probably take place in January 2015. Omichinski focused on the project's safety record, its improvement since his arrival and the Voluntary Protection Program recertification process that will take place before the next CAC/CDCAB meeting. He then talked about recent company charitable events. Brubaker thanked Grice and BGCA for the successful RMSO and said the 19 rocket motors reserved for BGCAPP will be used for destruction method confirmatory and shipping container performance testing.

Hindman asked if the 82 percent construction-complete figure included EDT. Brubaker replied the figure did not include EDT and EDT will have its own construction-complete figures.

Williams asked when the EDT draft permit will be released. Brubaker said no date has yet been specified for the draft permit release, but he thinks it could possibly be around the end of 2014 or start of 2015.

## ***2015 PEO ACWA Funding Update – Craig Williams, Co-chair, CDCAB***

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

Williams presented language from the 2015 Defense Bill and said the House and Senate versions of the bill were identical and Blue Grass received sufficient funding for this upcoming year. He said the requested Research Development Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) amount of \$575 million and Blue Grass's Military Construction (MILCON) budget is fully funded for 2015 (Pueblo's need for MILCON funds has ended now that their construction is complete), and he is confident funds will be allocated to complete the Blue Grass project. He noted the RDT&E funds will be roughly evenly split between Pueblo and Blue Grass, but can be adjusted for each site's needs.

## ***SWWG Update – Craig Williams, Co-chair, CDCAB***

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

Williams covered several topics in his update:

SWWG: Williams said the group was focused on cyanide treatment and has met several times on this topic. He noted Dr. Paula Maionchi's contributions and assistance to the group, and said the most important information the group received is that no workers will be inside the Supercritical Water Oxidation (SCWO) Processing Building filter press area for any appreciable length of time. Williams said he was very pleased and satisfied with the information on the diminished levels of cyanide and feels the situation is well under control based on the project's confidence in the bench-scale testing and lack of worker presence. He added that the fact the project brought the issue forward to the group and worked with the group was to their credit.

NRC Study: Williams said this study was in response to the question, "What happens if we can't treat the hydrolysate on site but we are still producing hydrolysate in the main plant?" He referenced the committee chair, Dr. Bob Beaudet, and said Beaudet was also involved with the ACWA Dialogue, so he's very familiar with the program. Williams said this study is strictly a contingency plan and noted NRC and Mitretek's research on the off-site shipment of hydrolysate eight to ten years ago, when the decision was made to not do the shipment. He said dialogue between the project, the NRC and the community are now key. Williams then discussed several additional issues and their answers:

- 1) Hydrolysate Storage Area tank leak: Liquid will be caustic but not agent-contaminated and containment contingencies are already in place for this. He feels the measures taken to prevent a spill are more than adequate.
- 2) Filtration and air supply for SCWO and SCWO Control Room: Questions were brought up and addressed and he said the group feels comfortable with the answers.

- 3) Health hazards and worker safety and occupational medicine (How will it be known if something in the process causes worker health issues?): The project has a Health Hazard Assessment regime and he feels very comfortable with that process.
- 4) Scrap metal: It is agent-free and will be recycled. There are administrative regulations that will address its recycling.
- 5) SCWO water recycling: 70 percent of the SCWO effluent water will be recycled as quench water. No water from the SCWO facility will be released to the environment.

***EDTWG Update – Craig Williams, Co-chair, CDCAB***

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

Williams updated the group on the Anniston, Alabama, visit to examine a Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) and asked the trip attendees present to give their thoughts on the tour. Leslie Kaylor said she thought the process was very understandable, she has a good sense of confidence in the Blue Grass process and felt the chances for something to go wrong are minimal. She focused on personal safety issues and environmental controls and was impressed with the redundancy. Kaylor said she has a good deal of confidence that this is the right process for Blue Grass. She said the trip was a glimpse into the future for the Blue Grass plant – that it is important to think now about what will happen when the project is complete. Terry House said the trip brought new perspective for him and in the control room he came to understand that everything will be done in a safe way. He said he appreciates being able to learn from those who have gone before us. Williams then showed a graphic of the EDT site on the BGCAPP footprint; discussed the SDC process and pollution abatement system (PAS), saying the PAS is significant and almost all off-the-shelf, well-understood components; gave EDT project dates and said the permit is the critical element in initiating the schedule and said the group's next opportunity to comment will be when the draft permit is released. He noted the differences between the Anniston and Blue Grass EDT projects: the Blue Grass system will have a steel building instead of a sprung structure, will be a fixed structure and not transportable, is larger and can process more effluent in the same amount of time and will have a tiered cascading air system like in the main plant. The EDT scrap metal will follow the same process as the main plant – it will be cleaned and recycled. Williams relayed that Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) is very pleased with the idea that Blue Grass would be destroying weapons by the end of 2017, the current Congressional end date for all weapons to be destroyed. He said the systems contractor and PEO ACWA personnel have been very communicative and forthcoming, and the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection has been very helpful on this topic. Williams explained Notices of Deficiency to the group and said they are not bad, just a technical term that usually means the regulatory agency needs more information. He said the working group will meet again when the draft permit is released.

Williams said Grice has been an outstanding communicator and expressed his appreciation, which was reiterated by Regina Stivers on behalf of McConnell.

***Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting***

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. at the ECU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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