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**Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting
Summary of Action Items and Discussions
June 13, 2012
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Ky.**

Attendees

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC):
Doug Hindman, Diane Kerby, Mark Klaas (for John Heltzel), Robert Miller and Craig Williams

Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB): Dan Bayens, Jeff Brubaker, Kent Clark, Regina Crawford, Doug Hindman, Terry House, Tim Hubbard, Scott Jackson, Sheila Johnson (for Lt. Col. Steven Basso), Steve Karcher, Diane Kerby, Mark Klaas (for John Heltzel), Darcy Maupin, Tom McKinney, Carl Palmer, Chester Powell, Carl Richards, George Shuplinkov (for Col. Brian Rogers) and Craig Williams

Media Attendees:

Lexington Herald-Leader: Greg Kocher

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) Program Comments
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Update
- Chemical Weapons Convention – An Update

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: Distribute forecast of economic impact information for life of BGCAPP project.

Responsible Entity: Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair.

Timeline: Sept. 12, 2012.

Action Item: Provide information on the time taken for workers to get to safe refuge on the BGCAPP site from the May 23 Chemical Accident or Incident Response and Assistance exercise.

Responsible Entity: Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP site project manager (SPM).

Timeline: Sept. 12, 2012.

Action Item: Provide public comments received on the Colorado Explosive Destruction Technologies (EDT) Environmental Assessment (EA) to CAC/CDCAB chairs.

Responsible Entity: Conrad Whyne, ACWA Program Executive Officer (PEO).

Timeline: Upon public release of comments/responses if deemed permissible by the National Environmental Protection Administration (NEPA) process.

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 March 13 CAC/CDCAB meeting:

Action Item	Steps Taken	Date/Status
Distribute forecast of economic impact information for life of BGCAPP project.	Craig Williams will distribute shortly.	June 13, 2012
CAC/CDCAB to choose a date, May 3 or 8, for a tour of the BGCAPP construction site.	The tour was scheduled for and held on May 8, 2012.	May 8, 2012

Opening Remarks – Doug Hindman, CAC Chair; Kent Clark and Craig Williams, CDCAB Co-Chairs

Hindman welcomed members and attendees, and thanked project personnel for the hospitality shown during the group's recent tour. He said CAC/CDCAB members were invited to the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program's (CSEPP) annual conference in Colorado, and Carl Palmer and Terry House will attend and report back to the group.

Williams also welcomed members. He said the turnout was great for the recent CAC/CDCAB site tour, and attendees were impressed with the complexity and rapidness of progress on the project. Williams then said the Berea and Richmond mayors and the Madison County Judge-Executive are trying to coordinate a site tour for elected officials of the three local governments. He noted he recently met with Rep. Ben Chandler's (D-Ky.) legislative director and discussed Economic Development Working Group (EDWG) efforts with her, and said there was positive news from the Economic Workforce Investment office concerning a proposal to launch the economic development study the EDWG would like to initiate in the area. Williams then said Carl Richards would also be going to the CSEPP conference, thanked Conrad Whyne for his attendance at the CAC/CDCAB meeting and mentioned an article in *The Richmond Register* about the upcoming Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Kent Clark mentioned that Williams recently gave the Madison County Fiscal Court an in-depth and formal report on the project and thanked everyone for their CAC/CDCAB attendance.

Williams then introduced Elizabeth Crowe, Kentucky Environmental Foundation and Chemical Weapons Working Group member, who chaperoned two students from Kentucky and two from Colorado at the Green Cross Summit in Rio de Janeiro. The students planned to present information about living in a community affected by the presence of chemical weapons, and share positive examples of how the community and government have worked together to accomplish a common goal.

Key Updates

ACWA Comments – Conrad Whyne, ACWA, PEO

ACWA PEO Conrad Whyne discussed background of the ACWA Nunn-McCurdy process and said the new budget and schedule generated by that process takes the whole program into account and allows for uncertainties such as first-time design and construction of equipment, modifications to process equipment, and hiring and training of sufficient qualified personnel. Whyne noted the ACWA program is fully funded through

the Acquisitions Program Baseline and the presidential budget for FY2013 was fully met when it was sent to Capitol Hill. He said the Department of Defense (DoD) is fully committed to 100 percent destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile while ensuring worker and public safety as well as complete transparency.

Williams asked about Frank Kendall's role in the ACWA program and Whyne said Kendall was confirmed as Acting Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, and is the approval authority for the start of BGCAPP operations.

BGCAPP Update – Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP, SPM

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

BGCAPP SPM Jeff Brubaker gave a recap of the major activities and accomplishments of the BGCAPP project since the last meeting. He gave a safety update based on the May work pause, noting that no Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recordable injuries occurred in the last month; explained the background behind the action — an increase in safety-related incidents; and discussed the [Heinrich Safety Model](#), which is used by project leadership as part of safety management. He re-emphasized project leadership's commitment to project safety. Brubaker said construction was more than 51 percent complete and noted two new areas of progress: the Hydrolysate Storage Area and the Munitions Demilitarization Building (MDB) filter bank area. He then said the site safe refuge worker protection system, which provides a safe area on the construction site to protect workers in case of a chemical incident/accident, is now tested and complete. The Laboratory Building is 90 percent complete and should be occupied later this summer, and the concrete for the blast-suppression area of the MDB should be complete by the end of July. He mentioned that the installation of the Thermal Oxidizer units closed the 18-month revamp of the failed Bulk Oxidizers. He closed with an Explosive Destruction Technologies update, saying the first step is a NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA), which will take about a year and include a public comment period. Brubaker noted that the NEPA process will not interfere with the existing plant construction schedule. He stressed that no equipment selection or technology decisions can be made until the EA process is complete. He will continue to inform and work with the public during this process, and he will provide a more detailed NEPA schedule at the next CAC/CDCAB meeting.

Robert Miller asked if the uptick in safety incidents could have been related to a change in management style or urgency to complete construction. Brubaker said there was no direct tie to anything they could find, but he did see a pattern of inattention to detail that needed to be addressed. Whyne added that the work pause drove home to employees that safety was more important to management than schedule. Hindman said he appreciated everything the project does for safety, and remarked that it sets the project's safety culture up well for when it will be processing chemical weapons.

Williams asked when the draft EA was expected. Brubaker said either very late this year or early in 2013. Williams asked if the Pueblo EA was closed and if the comments would be available to the group. Whyne said yes, it was closed and that comments/responses would be available if deemed permissible by the NEPA process.

Hindman asked how long it took to get all of the workers into the site's safe refuge. Brubaker said the dry run took about eight minutes but he does not have data from the actual exercise yet. Brubaker committed to providing that number as an action item. He emphasized there were about 600 people on the site, having to move 300-400 meters, with some from different levels of buildings. Hindman was concerned that was too long of a time frame, with the chemical weapons igloos only ¼ mile away. Brubaker said the safe refuge system was designed for an incident inside an igloo, such as in a re-warehousing activity, and not for the scenario of a major release of agent caused by a major internal- or external-driven event such as a lightning strike. Anthony Reed noted the continuing presence of escape hoods around the site.

Miller asked if lightning protection was built into the plant. Brubaker said yes. Whyne said not only was lightning protection built into the site design, but there is lightning detection as well, and construction is halted when lightning is detected near the site.

Williams noted three major improvements made to protect construction workers through the community's working with the government: closing the vents on the GB igloos closest to the site, installing escape hoods around the site and the safe refuge system. He said there was more that could be done that they were still working on, such as the igloo filtration system and the closing of more igloo vents, but he felt major steps have been taken thus far.

Terry House asked if there was a system in place to remove water from the processing facility if a line broke or some other issue led to flooding. Brubaker said there will be sumps and pumps in all processing areas, connected to back-up power, but most of that permanent hardware is not installed yet.

Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Update – Tom McKinney, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass, Project Manager

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

Project Manager Tom McKinney discussed the May work pause in depth, noting that a string of unrelated safety incidents in a short timeframe led to the decision to pause work to reverse the trend. McKinney emphasized that the project wants to maintain a safe, efficient, well-organized construction site where everyone understands roles, responsibilities and expectations. Management looked at safety leadership roles and made changes such as shifting construction foremen to supervisory roles to provide

greater focus on safety expectations for their crews. He shared that make-up days were provided to make up for work time lost during the pause.

McKinney then gave economic, employment and community involvement information. He discussed project workforce involvement in tornado relief and Habitat for Humanity efforts. He gave an update on Blue Grass-Specific Equipment and said the Rocket Cutting Machine (RCM) has been successfully completed, tested and shipped to the project. McKinney then gave a construction update on the main processing facilities, support facilities and infrastructure, and said work on the first MDB filter bank area was ahead of schedule.

Dr. Paula Maionchi, Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center board of director member, asked if the string of safety-related incidents could be tied to the physical fitness or health of workers, or if injuries were occurring at specific times or on specific days. McKinney replied that the project had looked at various possibilities but found no systemic connections. All workers were fit for duty. It was found that eye injuries stemmed from the eye protection the workers were using, and it has since been upgraded.

Miller asked if the incentive for finishing construction early could have contributed to a rushed mentality in the workforce. McKinney said project leadership recognizes that an up-tempo mentality to get the job done is a part of human nature, so they spend a lot of time promoting safety and that cost/schedule does not override safety—the real incentive is to not experience injuries, as the expense of hurting people is not worth it.

Miller asked if the string of injuries had common cause. McKinney said he could not pinpoint specifically what caused the accidents. He said there was overwhelming employee feedback in support of the work pause. Miller asked why the move didn't come earlier if the workforce thought it was necessary. Richards added that an effective root-cause analysis could not be done on this and still get the job done.

Darcy Maupin asked if there had been any OSHA recordable injuries since the work pause. McKinney said there was an investigation in progress of hearing loss from an employee who had been let go and there is good reason to believe it will not be an official recordable injury.

Richards asked whether site buildings were likely to be under roofs by winter. McKinney said most of them would be, but it would be close in some areas. Richards asked if there would be enough work to keep the craft workers busy and McKinney replied in the affirmative.

Williams asked about the outlook for getting craft workers such as electricians in the future. McKinney said to date that has not been an issue, but knows the project will need several hundred electricians in the near future and that is a focus for the project now.

George Shuplinkov asked if the mock rockets processed by the RCM were a good alternative for the real rockets in the testing of the destruction equipment. Brubaker replied testing of the Rocket Shear Machine has recently been completed using simulated test hardware. There was a small issue with the design of a part of the test hardware, but the project is working with the manufacturers to have that fixed before additional test hardware is built for the planned hundreds of hours of testing of the equipment at BGCAPP.

Kenneth Hisle, member of the public, said in reference to igloo storage that a long time ago implosion was what was counted on in case of an igloo incident. Williams said the igloos were designed to fall in on themselves and smother an explosion, should one happen.

Mark Klaas noted he is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and is looking at \$40 million of projects going on in this area in preparation for plant operations.

Chemical Weapons Convention: An Update – Craig Williams, CDCAB, Co-Chair

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

CDCAB Co-Chair Williams gave background on the chemical weapons demilitarization treaty and discussed the United States', Libya's and Russia's expected completion schedules: Pueblo – 2019; Blue Grass – 2023; Libya – 2016. Russia kept its schedule classified, but says it will be complete by 2015. He said Libya had originally declared a certain amount of chemical weapons, but found and declared more since the end of the Gaddafi regime. Williams noted the U.S. is doing its best to meet the deadlines while emphasizing safety.

Richards asked if Williams was making the assumption that Russia would be doing its demilitarization safely and environmentally soundly. Williams replied demilitarization was aligned with the laws of the individual countries.

Miller asked if Russia was using neutralization or incineration. Williams replied neutralization, but some facilities have a secondary treatment process of incineration.

Richards asked how Libya could have a second plant designated as under construction and still meet its 2016 expected completion date. Williams said he was not sure how that was being handled.

Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, CAC Chair; Judge-Executive Kent Clark and Craig Williams, CDCAB Co-Chairs

Hindman and Williams thanked attendees for their time and attention.

Clark thanked Whyne for his attendance and said he felt it was fortunate to have Brubaker's and McKinney's expertise in Madison County.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the Eastern Kentucky University's Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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