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**Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and  
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting  
Summary of Action Items and Discussions  
June 8, 2016  
Eastern Kentucky University (EKU)  
Richmond, Kentucky**

**Attendees**

**CAC:** Josh Bailey (for Michael Dossett), Tonita Goodwin, Doug Hindman, Diane Kerby and Craig Williams

**CDCAB:** Josh Bailey (for Michael Dossett), David Benge, Jeff Brubaker, Tonita Goodwin, Jeanne Hibberd, Doug Hindman, Ron Hink, Terry House, Leslie Kaylor, Diane Kerby, Howard Logue, Tara Long, Brian Makinen, Darcy Maupin, Lt. Col. Andrew "Jack" Morgan, George Shuplinkov (for Col. Lee Hudson), Reagan Taylor, April Webb, Craig Williams, Ethan Witt (for U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell's, R-Ky., office)

**Media Attendees:**

*The Richmond Register:* Bill Robinson

**Meeting Synopsis**

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Secondary Waste Working Group (SWWG) Update
- Perimeter Monitoring at BGCAPP

**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:** Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) to provide projected payroll numbers.  
**Responsible Entity:** Lt. Col. Scott D. Gould, BGCA commander.  
**Timeline:** By Sept. 14, 2016.

**Action Item:** Confirm 2017 CAC/CDCAB meeting dates.  
**Responsible Entity:** CAC/CDCAB chairs.  
**Timeline:** By Sept. 14, 2016.

**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 9, 2016, CAC/CDCAB meeting:

<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Steps Taken</b>	<b>Date/Status</b>
Provide the definition of "local payroll."	Information provided at the June 8, 2016, Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Board (CAC) and Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) meeting (below).	Complete
Provide cost and schedule projection of the supercritical water oxidation welds issue	Information provided at the June 8, 2016, CAC/CDCAB meeting (below).	Complete

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

Doug Hindman welcomed the attendees and thanked outgoing BGCA commander Lt. Col. Andrew "Jack" Morgan for his leadership and transparency. He then welcomed Lt. Col. Scott D. Gould. Craig Williams echoed Hindman's appreciation for Morgan and said he is confident Gould will follow the same model.

## Key Updates

***BGCAPP Project Update***– Jeff Brubaker, Site Project Manager (SPM), BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, Project Manager, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG)

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

BGCAPP SPM Jeff Brubaker gave updates on main plant progress, noting the site now has around-the-clock medical care; the testing of mechanical systems, conveyors and blast gates and doors; natural gas supply to the Utility Building for the start-up of the boilers; the upcoming start-up of the Standby Diesel Generators; and the ramp-up of systemization staff. Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG) Project Manager Ron Hink described photographs of project work in progress. Brubaker showed the hiring video. Brubaker then discussed the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine munitions washout deletion study and gave background information on the topic. He said promulgation of the amendment to the Kentucky Revised Statutes changed requirements to allow BGCAPP to process hydrolysate and measure destruction or removal at two points: within the agent and energetics processing system and prior to the release of air to the environment at the stacks, which is more appropriate to a facility like BGCAPP. Brubaker gave an update on the supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) weld situation by stating there has been very good success to date, with more than 98 percent post-repair acceptance. He said almost all critical material has been received on site, well ahead of the original schedule. Brubaker noted the total cost of repairs is estimated to be between \$15 and \$20 million, which is being paid for by the Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) in order to avoid a significant delay to the project. He said Parsons and General Atomics representatives are meeting in a contract dispute resolution process in the meantime. Brubaker then moved to waste code changes and explained the difference between destruction efficiency (DE) versus destruction and removal efficiency (DRE), noting BGCAPP uses carbon filtration, which is a removal process. BGCAPP was required to show a DE of 99.9999 percent, which is not attainable using carbon filtration, but the legislation has been changed to accommodate DRE. He noted working with the, Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP), Secondary Waste Working Group (SWWG) and the CAC/CDCAB and the agreement across all organizations to propose this change. He said KDEP will incorporate these updates into the governing regulations and BGCAPP is working with KDEP to make necessary revisions to permits and plans as appropriate. Brubaker then discussed the rocket motor disposal status and said the treatability studies are complete, the project is awaiting final data and all results were positive. He covered the testing and said there were no high-order detonations in test processing or rapid-heating testing. As the reports are finalized, they will be made available to the CAC/CDCAB. He said BPBG has received requests for proposal from several commercial vendors and technical evaluations are ongoing. The final step will be a decision later this year on what potential venues may be appropriate for the disposal of the rocket motors. He said the project will discuss with KDEP the steps to be taken to separate the rocket motors from the shipping and firing tubes. These actions may require a permit modification. He will keep the group updated

on this process. Hink updated the group on Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) progress, saying the main building was sided and roofed and equipment was almost fully moved into it, the Outside Operations Support Facility is in place, the EDT Service Magazine doors have been installed and an Enhanced On-site Container has been transferred to BGCA for training purposes. Hink noted the favorable project safety record and discussed economic impact, staffing and diversity. Brubaker covered recent tours. He said Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) personnel will be acting as escorts in the United States for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) inspectors. He expects some of the DTRA personnel to become resident at the site later this year, with inspectors arriving the month before EDT operations are scheduled to begin. Brubaker then explained the EDT roadmap, a tool he uses for integration and coordination among all entities, and pointed out major steps to be accomplished by the different entities along the way to EDT start-up. He said the project is working on concluding EDT permitting actions with KDEP. Brubaker said KDEP is preparing to issue the EDT draft permit, with a second permit in progress for the sampling of mustard munitions to fulfill Chemical Weapons Convention requirements. He said the Environmental Protection Agency is preparing to issue a permit regarding organic air emissions. There will be a combined public meeting later this summer to address the draft EDT permit and organic air emissions, with the permits to be issued in the September/October time frame. Brubaker noted the project is currently working on updating memorandums of understanding (MOU) between the Blue Grass Army Depot and several medical facilities (Berea, Richmond and Lexington), to add BGCAPP to those MOUs. He said after reviewing delays with construction and associated impacts, the current credible range for EDT start-up is August – October 2017. In closing, Brubaker said ACWA Program Executive Officer Conrad Whyne asked him to brief the group on the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) start-up. He said the plant is in the final stages of demonstrations and had some challenges, particularly within the agent-processing room, involving steam injection, cavitation and excessive pipe vibration. They are working on mitigating these issues, but at this point their start-up is anticipated to be in the September time frame. BGCAPP does not use steam injection, so the same issues will not be seen here.

Williams asked if BPBG has had any problems recruiting for specific areas to move forward with systemization. Hink said hiring electrical engineers has been the largest challenge, and that challenge is nationwide.

Hindman asked how the parties to the SCWO-weld issue were obligated to conduct a dispute resolution process. Brubaker said they were obligated under the terms and conditions of the contract signed by all parties. He said General Atomics awarded several subcontracts to different vendors for different pieces of equipment, and it was at this level that most of the poor welding and examination occurred.

Williams asked if the SCWO welds issue would have any foreseeable impact on the main plant's projected start-up date. Brubaker said at one time they thought there would be a potential extension of the schedule due to the long wait time to source the exotic materials needed, but the project was able to secure the materials through a world-wide

acquisition process in half the time originally thought. He said looking at the schedule, at this time it does not appear the SCWO weld recovery will extend the schedule any more than other systemization activities will. Brubaker also noted the slip in the EDT schedule.

Madison County Judge-Executive Reagan Taylor asked how long ago the project became aware of the welds issue. Brubaker said it was an evolution process and they weren't really aware of the significance of it until January 2016. He said last fall they had hoped to salvage about 50 percent of the welds, but when the new welders started work, it became evident very quickly that the welds were so poor that was not an option.

Williams asked KDEP Hazardous Waste Branch Manager April Webb if administrative regulations were an inhibition to staying on track or if she was comfortable with things moving in a timely manner. Webb said she was comfortable with the process. Williams said it was quite a cooperative effort, especially with the BPBG scientific team, to help the CAC/CDCAB understand this issue and then to support it with logistics and technical information. He said state elected officials were also extremely helpful in this regard. He said it was extraordinary to have this bill make its way through the legislature as quickly as it did.

Williams asked if the allowed explosive load of the Anniston, Alabama, Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) is equivalent to the BGCAPP SDC and wondered if the BGCAPP SDC could be used to supplement the destruction of rocket motors if disposal tests were successful at Anniston. Brubaker said they were rated identically and it could be a possibility. Supplemental permitting actions would need to be taken, as the BGCAPP SDC is only permitted for mustard-filled projectiles. Given the throughput model for the plant, if optimum processing is achieved, more than one facility may be needed to facilitate the disposal of the rocket motors.

Williams asked Hink to give an update on systemization, the recruiting of necessary personnel and start-up of the BGCAPP EDT. Hink said the project is now anticipated to start between August and October of 2017, with about a 10-month period of operations. The effort was subcontracted and was having some challenges, so BPBG will self-perform and help make the contractor successful. Williams asked if the EDT operations will still complete before the main plant is expected to start up. Hink said yes.

Terry House asked what was happening at the Anniston, Alabama, destruction facility. Brubaker said the main facility has been completely removed but the Anniston SDC remains in operation to periodically destroy conventional munitions. The SDC also supported the Blue Grass rocket motor test and will be supporting PCAPP by processing the energetic components (fuzes and bursters) removed from their munitions. House wanted to know what will happen to the land and buildings there. Brubaker said his feeling is that they will continue to support the Army and Department of Defense in a number of ways. They have an anticipated four years of PCAPP support and they will support BGCAPP start-up by training some of the workforce.

David Bengé asked if the projected payroll information was for Richmond staff. Brubaker said yes, it reflects the five joint-venture companies but does not include government salaries, oversight, KDEP or the depot.

Williams asked Morgan if all of BGCA's upgrades were adequately funded at this time. Morgan said yes, he is completely funded for all upgrades to support BGCAPP.

Taylor asked if the BGCAPP complete close-out would be in 2024. Brubaker said yes, under the working schedule. The programmatic schedule shows 2026. After plant closure, the contract close-out period could go on for several years, but may be done outside Richmond. He said he anticipates a late 2018 or early 2019 start for main plant operations with closure being finished in 2023 or 2024.

Williams asked at what point BGCA will close. Morgan said about 12 to 18 months after the end of their mission, and they will start downsizing immediately after the last munition is delivered. He said the current annual BGCA payroll is about \$18 million, including guards, and just BGCA payroll is about \$10 million. Williams asked for a payroll projection like BGCAPP's, for economic planning, and Morgan said he would provide it.

Brubaker also said ACWA is developing a Record of Environmental Consideration on the mustard sampling initiative which supports OPCW requirements.

George Shuplinkov asked if the processing of Pueblo's energetics will max out the Anniston capacity during their four years of operations. Brubaker said Anniston's first priority is supporting PCAPP, but some availability to support BGCAPP may be possible.

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

Williams said the group's two working issues were rocket motor disposal and the revisions to the waste code classification statute, both of which have been resolved. He is very pleased with both, but particularly with the rocket motor disposal research. He wants to keep as much work in Richmond as possible, and was heartened by hearing the Blue Grass SDC might be able to be used for disposal of some of the rocket motors. He thanked the group members for their participation and work on these topics.

Hindman thanked Williams for his efforts in moving the waste code legislation through the general assembly. He noted that getting bills passed involves many steps and requires lots of monitoring to be successful.

### ***Perimeter Monitoring at BGCAPP – Mark Needham, Science and Technology Site Manager, BPBG***

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

Needham said BGCAPP perimeter monitoring is a KDEP and ACWA requirement to protect public interests and its purpose is to gather historical data outside the BGCAPP site but still within the depot. Needham said eight stations have been installed. He said the site locations take into account both the main plant and EDT sites, meteorological data, building location, topography and convenient infrastructure. He said the locations were chosen for the greatest possibility of being within a downwind dispersion plume for either facility under various conditions. Needham explained they had to make sure the sites were not close enough to BGCAPP to be overshoot by a plume. He said the baseline monitoring is ongoing seven days a week now, with tubes being collected daily and returned to the Laboratory for analysis. They will have data from all four seasons in place before EDT operations begin, as fertilizers, pollen and other seasonal items will show up in the analysis. He emphasized this monitoring is not an early warning system, that the monitoring stations on the BGCAPP site will provide that service. The perimeter monitoring is to verify if a plume has gone to the depot boundaries and what that release may be.

***Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, Chair, CAC, and Reagan Taylor and Craig Williams, Co-Chairs, CDCAB***

Taylor recognized Morgan for his work with the group and the community and wished him the best of luck with his future. Williams echoed his sentiment. Taylor noted the June 10 ribbon-cutting event for the new Madison County Emergency Operations Center. Williams said Harry Moberly was unable to attend the meeting and sends his regards and regrets.

***Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting***

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at the ECU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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