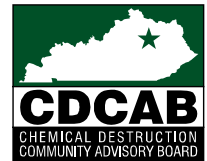




Doug Hindman  
Chair

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

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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  
March 8, 2017  
Eastern Kentucky University (EKU)  
Richmond, Kentucky**

**Attendees**

**CAC:** Doug Hindman, Tim Hubbard (for Tony Hatton), Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Harry Moberly and Craig Williams

**CDCAB:** David Benge, Robert Blythe, Jeff Brubaker, Lt. Col. Scott Gould, Jeanne Hibberd, Doug Hindman, Ron Hink, Mike Hogg, Terry House, Tim Hubbard (for Tony Hatton), Mark Klaas (for Michael Dossett), Brian Makinen, Darcy Maupin, Kelley McBride (for Howard Logue), David McFaddin, Harry Moberly, David Rowlette, George Shuplinkov (for Col. Norbert Fochs), Mica Sims (for U.S. Sen. Rand Paul's office), Reagan Taylor, Craig Williams and Ethan Witt (for U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell's office)

**Media Attendees:**

*The Richmond Register:* Bill Robinson  
*Lexington Herald-Leader:* Greg Kocher

**Meeting Synopsis**

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Program Executive Officer Farewell Remarks
- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) 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 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 Parke, Manager, ORO***

Parke welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted there were no action items generated from the Dec. 14, 2016, CAC/CDCAB meeting.

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

The chairs welcomed everyone and Williams provided status updates on some of the CAC/CDCAB members not present.

### **Key Updates**

#### ***Farewell Remarks – Conrad Whyne, Program Executive Officer, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA)***

Whyne thanked CAC/CDCAB members for their time and noted that after 39 years of service with the U.S. Army, this will be his last Kentucky CAC meeting prior to his retirement in April. Whyne said he began working to destroy the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile in 1984. He noted the need for continued transparency by ACWA and Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG), along with all the other stakeholders that have an interest in this program. Whyne called on Jeff Brubaker, site project manager (SPM), BGCAPP; Ron Hink, project manager (PM), BPBG; and their teams to continue to be open about their issues with this first-of-a-kind, \$1.5 billion facility as they prepare for operations. Whyne also called on the CAC/CDCAB members to continue to ask the hard questions, challenge the information provided and continue to give inputs, so that the team can make good, objective decisions. Whyne discussed the Department of Defense's (DOD) support of the ACWA program by saying additional funds have been requested for the upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 supplemental request. He added that DOD has already put additional funds into the FY 2018 budget request. He noted the job listing for his replacement is scheduled to close on March 15. He said he hoped a selection will be made before his

retirement on April 26. Whyne said that Joe Novad will be the acting program executive officer if one is not named by his retirement date. He concluded by thanking the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD), Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BCGA), Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP), Army and contractors who support the ACWA mission for their hard work and support.

Williams said he is very pleased to hear the news on the supplemental defense bill and asked if the amount is known and if so, if it will offset the 2017 shortfall. Whyne said he could not discuss the numbers because they have not been released by the Office of Management and Budget, but noted the amount asked for was fully included in the request. He added that it will not fix the schedule slip, but the intention is to use it wisely to buy back as much schedule as possible.

Williams said ACWA and the CAC/CDCAB have worked together so well lately. He thanked Whyne for his leadership. Hindman, Williams, Taylor and Kelley McBride, public information officer, CSEPP, presented Whyne with tokens of appreciation including a plaque, medal and challenge coin. Taylor said he has the least amount of experience working with Whyne, but noted Whyne's commitment to keep the community safe and his willingness to work with the community. Hindman thanked Whyne for his leadership, transparency and willingness to work with the CAC/CDCAB and community.

***BGCAPP Project Update – Jeff Brubaker, SPM, BGCAPP, and Ron Hink, PM, BPBG***

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

Brubaker and Hink provided a project update. Brubaker discussed schedule updates and funding since the December 2016 meeting. He said in December 2016 and January 2017 project leadership focused on developing a systemization re-plan and the priority is systemization for the main plant. He then said main-plant systemization is scheduled to be complete in late 2019 or early 2020. At that point, GB destruction would commence, followed by VX destruction. Brubaker noted destruction of the mustard munitions using the Explosive Destruction Technology (EDT) will follow disposal of all the nerve agent. He then discussed a re-plan schedule released to the project in February, which encompasses each facility and each of the 14 major processes that have to be demonstrated. He said the project will go through three levels of optimization, followed by a complete integrated operations demonstration run. All of those activities will involve numerous stakeholders who will come to Richmond to observe and assist with demonstrations prior to declaration of readiness to begin agent destruction.

Williams asked if an adequate amount of money has been put in the supplemental and 2018 budgets and if BGCAPP would go back to moving forward with EDT to get it ready for operations to either begin before GB or concurrently with VX. Brubaker said the plan

at this point is to get EDT to 100 percent construction complete and then look at what those options might be.

Hink covered EDT status by noting work completed and work remaining. He then covered main plant progress by noting systemization stands at about 67 percent complete and said current systemization work includes testing the Energetics Batch Hydrolyzers; smoke testing of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in the Munitions Demilitarization Building; and fire-protection testing.

Brubaker provided an update on the supercritical water oxidation (SCWO) weld status by saying more than 4,000 piping welds have been successfully replaced in the SCWO Processing Building with 22 welds remaining to be completed. He noted specialty valves arrived on site and said they are heavier and of a slightly different configuration than the valves they are replacing. Therefore, Brubaker noted additional support structures will need to be built into the skids.

Brubaker then covered rocket-motor disposal by providing background information, and noted the only explosives to be processed in the BGCAPP facility will be the three-pound Comp B bursters, with an exception for overpacks, or leaking rockets. Brubaker said as the rocket motors will be tracked by the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty obligations until fully destroyed, BPBG has been looking for alternatives for their disposal. He said five proposals were received: two from government facilities and three from commercial facilities. Brubaker noted a team conducted additional background information research to include environmental and safety performance of those facilities and said after completion of a technical evaluation, a decision will come later this year. He also said BPBG proposed a concept for monitoring the inside of the shipping and firing tube prior to the separation of the rocket motors at the Rocket Cutting Machine for worker safety.

Brubaker then said BPBG has requested between 250 and 500 milliliters of munitions-grade GB in order to produce hydrolysate to meet Laboratory analytical optimization development needs. He noted sampling will include a process similar to previously approved mustard sampling operations. He said a permit application must be submitted and approved by the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection. Brubaker said the goal is to submit the permit application by the summer of 2017 and to begin GB sampling in the summer of 2018.

George Shuplinkov, chief of staff, BGAD asked which organization will produce GB hydrolysate after sampling the munitions. Brubaker responded by saying the agent will be collected by the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center prior to being sent to the surety Laboratory at Battelle in Ohio.

Hink covered project safety and said workers must now demonstrate efficiency with power tools to prevent workforce injuries. Brubaker and Hink also delivered information on project economic impact, workforce diversity and community involvement. Brubaker provided a Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) update and discussed the need for a back-up plan for hydrolysate disposal. He said PCAPP, like BGCAPP, only

has a limited amount of space for hydrolysate storage. He said he would not want to be presented with a situation in which the project would have to stop operations because tank capacity had been reached.

The group asked questions about scheduling and the supplemental defense budget. Mark Klaas, member, CAC asked if it was possible to co-process nerve agent in the main plant and mustard agent in the Static Detonation Chamber. Brubaker responded to Klaas by noting co-processing could be a possibility and lessons learned could be incorporated from the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility. Jeanne Hibberd, member, CDCAB asked about recent storm damage. Shuplinkov replied to Hibberd noting some of the damage the suffered by BGAD.

Williams asked if the Control Room is operating around the clock, if SCWO will be on track to start with main plant operations and the amount of munitions-grade agent required to produce hydrolysate for analysis. Brubaker replied that the Control Room is operating around the clock and he noted SCWO systemization will be completed at the time of operational readiness. Brubaker added there will be a four- to five-month time period to generate hydrolysate. Lastly, Brubaker responded to Williams the amount of munitions-grade agent is between 250 to 500 milliliters.

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

Williams thanked Lt. Col. Scott Gould, commander, BGCA, for having him and Hindman for a tour of the new Transition Assistance Center and to receive an update on the Chemical Limited Area. He mentioned a program to help transition workforce once operations are complete. Williams noted he provided a project briefing for the Richmond and Berea city governments and said many of the members are interested in touring BGCAPP.

Taylor turned the group's focus to CSEPP by saying he is excited about fiber cable being installed from the Madison County Emergency Operations Center to downtown so that everyone can be connected.

### ***Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting***

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. at the ECU Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

In closing, Parke discussed the new ACWA website launch in February. Parke also reminded members of an April 4 Meet and Greet with members of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Executive Council.

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