



PEO ACWA QUARTERLY BRIEF

Program Executive Office
Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives

April 2013



From the Program Executive Officer: Sequestration Impacts to the ACWA Program

The across-the-board spending reduction called sequestration went into effect on March 1, 2013. The Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113-6) was signed March 26, 2013 by the President and will keep the government operating through the end of the fiscal year. This legislation retains sequestration, but provides funding at the Fiscal Year 2013 appropriated levels. The PEO ACWA team remains focused on our mission and will strive to maintain the best program possible.

[Read more on our website](#)

Explosive Destruction System Chosen to Augment Pueblo Plant

Program Executive Officer Conrad F. Whyne announced his selection of the U.S. Army's Explosive Destruction System (EDS) to augment the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant at the Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo. The decision followed a lengthy review of several explosive destruction technologies designed for the safe destruction of chemical munitions unsuited for processing by the main plant's automated equipment.

[Read more on our website](#)

Pueblo Team Declares First System Operational

The appearance of billowing steam in a clear January sky was cause for much excitement in Pueblo as it represented a successful final test of the facility's boilers. In Pueblo, the use of steam is twofold - the boilers will not only provide heat to the plant's processing buildings, but also aid in chemical agent destruction operations, providing steam to several key pieces of processing equipment. The boilers are the first system declared fully operational at the pilot plant.

[Read more on our website](#)

Practice Makes Perfect in Pueblo's Lab

In Pueblo, Laboratory employees are busy practicing exercise scenarios to ensure they are ready for unexpected incidents that may occur during operations. The staff is engaged in learning how to conduct decontamination after a chemical spill, as well as how to respond in case of a fire. Training exercises will prepare the team for upcoming operations and are a key part of ensuring the lab is ready for analytical activities.

[Read more on our website](#)

Blue Grass Team Brings New Meaning to 'Heavy Metal'

Ten years of design, procurement and construction plus 3,650 tons of structural steel culminated in the completion of the structural steel frame of the Blue Grass plant's main processing building, the Munitions Demilitarization Building. The team will now turn their attention to installing the unique equipment that will disassemble the chemical munitions, as well as piping and electrical wiring installation.

[Read more on our website](#)

Follow a Munition Through the Blue Grass Plant from Anywhere

Interested stakeholders can follow a simulated projectile or rocket on its path through the Blue Grass plant from their desk or smartphone via the latest video available on the ACWA website and YouTube channel. The new video breaks down the complex process of chemical agent neutralization through digital simulations of the plant's destruction processes.

[Watch the video](#)



PLANTS AT-A-GLANCE



Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

- Destruction technology: **Neutralization/Supercritical Water Oxidation**
- Construction complete: **67%**
- Systemization complete: **7%**
- Operations begin: **2020**
- Local project employment: **1,015**
- Local payroll paid to date: **\$417 million**
- Spent with Kentucky companies: **\$106.4 million**
- Anticipated end of destruction operations: **2023**



Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

- Destruction technology: **Neutralization/Biotreatment**
- Construction complete: **100%**
- Systemization complete: **38%**
- Operations begin: **2015**
- Local project employment: **719**
- Local payroll paid to date: **\$641.0 million**
- Spent with Colorado companies: **\$223.3 million**
- Anticipated end of destruction operations: **2019**

ABOUT PEO ACWA

The Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is responsible for managing the safe and environmentally sound destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiles stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot in Kentucky and the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Colorado.

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