

Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant Partners

The [Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant](#) (PCAPP) safely completed destruction of the chemical munitions stored at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD), now known as the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity-West (CMA-West), June 22, 2023, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local environmental requirements. PCAPP is now in the closure phase, which will last approximately three years. The following is a summary of key program partners and their roles in reaching this shared goal.

Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (PEO ACWA)

PEO ACWA was established to demonstrate alternatives to the baseline incineration technology for the destruction of assembled chemical weapons. PEO ACWA was responsible for the destruction of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile stored at PCD and the Blue Grass Army Depot near Richmond, Kentucky, and is headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

- Contact: Katherine DeWeese, Chief of Public Affairs, (410) 306-4024, katherine.b.deweese.civ@army.mil

Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) Outreach Staff

PCAPP is a state-of-the-art, full-scale pilot facility that safely and efficiently destroyed the chemical weapons stockpile previously stored at PCD.

The PCAPP outreach staff, operating under contract by IEM, Inc., informed stakeholders about the chemical weapons destruction project and now provides information on the closure of the PCAPP facility.

- Contact: Cora Zaletel, Senior Public Outreach Specialist, (520) 687-1713, puebloutreach@iem.com

Bechtel Pueblo Team (BPT)

BPT is the systems contractor selected by PEO ACWA to design, build, test, operate and close PCAPP.

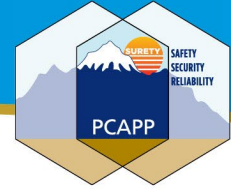
- Contact: Sandy Romero, Communications Manager, (719) 549-5280 or (719) 248-9633, svromero@bechtel.us

PCD/ CMA-West

Located east of Pueblo, Colorado, the depot was a 23,000-acre U.S. Army installation responsible for the safe and secure storage of a portion of the chemical weapons stockpile of mustard agent. Operational since 1942, PCD stored chemical agents since the early 1950s. Although PCD was deactivated Sept. 12, 2024, more than 100 employees remain under the auspices of CMA-West to support the mission of PCAPP during its closure phase.

- Contact: Rick Rzepka, Public Affairs Specialist, (719) 549-4118, richard.l.rzepka.civ@army.mil





CMA

CMA managed the U.S. stockpile of chemical weapons, enabling the Army to focus solely on the national security mission. Headquartered at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, CMA continues to assess and destroy recovered chemical warfare materiel. Prior to the elimination of the nation's chemical weapons stockpile in 2023, the activity maintained safe and secure storage of the Army's two remaining chemical stockpile sites at PCD and the Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) at the Blue Grass Army Depot in Kentucky. As of Sept. 12, 2024, CMA is responsible for the former PCD property and its employees.

- Contact: Karen Jolley Nikol, Chief of Public Affairs, (410) 436-4292, karen.j.nikol.civ@army.mil

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

The CDPHE mission is to protect public health and the environment. The department is responsible for enforcing the Hazardous Waste Regulations in the state of Colorado and considers the U.S. Army's permit applications for PCAPP. Representatives of the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division actively participate in meetings regarding the closure of the PCAPP facility in Colorado.

- Contact: Julianna Mahr, Unit Leader, Hazardous Waste Permitting Unit, (303) 692-3451, julianna.mahr@state.co.us
- Contact: Venissa Ledesma, Community Involvement Specialist, (303) 692-3432, venissa.ledesma@state.co.us

Colorado Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC)

In accordance with Public Law 102-484, the CAC served as a bridge between the community and the government by providing a forum for exchanging information about chemical weapons disposal and now is focused on the closure of the PCAPP facility. The governor of Colorado appoints members of the CAC, including private citizens, who represent the local community. The CAC conducts public meetings to facilitate consistent public participation in the closure of the PCAPP facility and return of the land to the people of Colorado and Pueblo County.

- Contact: Irene Kornelly, Chair, (719) 591-5157, ikornelly@pcisys.net
- Contact: Venissa Ledesma, Commission Administrator, (303) 692-3432, or toll free (888) 569-1831, extension 3432, venissa.ledesma@state.co.us

PuebloPlex

Pursuant to the Base Realignment and Closure Act and the Pueblo Depot Activity Development Authority Act, PuebloPlex was created to transition the closing military base to a community asset through redevelopment of the property, support of job creation, and enhancement of the tax base. As the Local Redevelopment Authority, PuebloPlex is securing from the U.S. Army excess and surplus land, buildings, and equipment in the development of a new economic resource for Pueblo County.

- Contact: Russell DeSalvo, President and CEO, (719) 320-1926, rdesalvo@puebloplex.com

Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)

The Colorado Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) enhanced the emergency preparedness of Pueblo County, PCD and the state of Colorado through equipment, personnel, training and public awareness. This program involved PCD, the Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Bureau, the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Colorado CSEPP program terminated in February 2024, following the conclusion of surety operations at PCAPP.