



U.S. Army Element, Assembled
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

ACWA QUARTERLY BRIEF

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

June 2010



PILOT PLANT UPDATES

Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP)

Special Equipment Update: The Metal Parts Treater, which will treat munitions bodies and secondary waste, is already inside the Munitions Demilitarization Building. Later this year, two additional systems that carry out the neutralization process are expected to arrive – the Energetics Batch Hydrolyzer and the Energetics Neutralization Reactor. Testing on the hydrolyzer is complete and the reactor is currently being fabricated in Louisville, Ky. Additional special equipment to be fabricated for future use at Blue Grass includes the Rocket Cutter Machine, Rocket Shear Machine, Munitions Washout Station and the Supercritical Water Oxidation system.

Design Update: Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass, the Blue Grass systems contractor, submitted its final design package to the government in June, which included designs for the Entry Control System, Electronic Security System and Standby Diesel Generators.

Construction Update: Work is progressing rapidly, with an emphasis on the plant's main processing building – the Munitions Demilitarization Building (MDB). Placement of structural steel and concrete walls of the MDB are key priorities. Excavation and foundation work are under way for the Supercritical Water Oxidation Processing Building. Crews are also focused on placing structural steel for the Utility Building and finalizing work on the exterior of the Fire Water Pump House.

Acquisitions: Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass has awarded more than \$61 million in subcontracts to Kentucky companies since project inception.



Neutralization Equipment on Track

The Energetics Batch Hydrolyzer, which neutralizes explosives and other munitions' components, successfully completed testing and is awaiting shipment to the Blue Grass site.



The Sky is the Limit

Structural steel placement is progressing rapidly on the Utility Building at the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, raising the profile of the pilot plant each day.

HOT TOPICS

Special Equipment Development on a Roll

ACWA engineers are rapidly progressing through their “to do” lists for the development of the unique equipment required to conduct chemical weapons destruction operations at the Pueblo and Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plants. In just one year, four components completed testing and two were installed at the construction sites. Testing and fabrication activities were also initiated on several other pieces of equipment. Check out videos of these unique pieces of equipment on ACWA's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/usaeacwa.

Explosive Destruction Technologies (EDT)

Environmental Assessment Comments in Review

As a result of the public comment period on the draft Finding of No Significant Impact regarding the potential use of EDT at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, ACWA received 16 comments from a variety of individuals and organizations. ACWA leadership and environmental scientists are currently in the comment consideration phase of the National Environmental Policy Act process. In preliminary evaluation of the feedback received, additional data and information will be provided in the Environmental Assessment to support the finding. Please continue to check the ACWA website at www.pmacwa.army.mil for updates.

PCAPP Site Project Manager Says Farewell

Pueblo Site Project Manager (SPM) Gary Anderson announced he will be leaving Pueblo to assume SPM duties at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Oregon. Anderson has served as SPM for the past seven years and has led the PCAPP team in designing and building the facility that today, is well on its way to completion. Scott Susman, who currently serves as the lead engineer at ACWA Headquarters for PCAPP Engineering and Operations, will take the helm until a permanent manager is selected.



The Blue Grass construction site, shown here in June 2010, is bustling with activity as crews prepare for a busy summer, where construction efforts will focus on continued vertical construction as well as concrete placements for many key buildings.



Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP)

Special Equipment Update: Two Munitions Treatment Units that will thermally treat munitions bodies are in place in the Agent Processing Building, and Munitions Washout System testing is complete. Two Cavity Access Machines (CAM), which will drain chemical agent from various types of munitions, are undergoing testing and are scheduled for arrival in August and December, respectively. A third CAM is expected to complete testing and be shipped to the site in spring 2011. Finally, the Projectile Mortar Disassembly (PMD) system is currently in operation at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Alabama removing munitions' energetic components. Once its mission in Anniston is complete in summer 2011, the PMD will be transferred for installation at PCAPP.

Construction Update: As more exterior projects reach completion, the construction team is increasingly focusing on interior projects at PCAPP. Much of the indoor work includes HVAC, mechanical equipment work and composite walls in the Agent Processing Building, Control and Support Building and the Enhanced Reconfiguration Building. Installation of the exterior concrete masonry unit walls continues on the Entry Control Facility. Additionally, crews are engaged in foundation work preparing for the arrival of the Immobilized Cell Bioreactors (ICBs), which will break down hydrolysate, the byproduct of the chemical agent neutralization process. Four modules consisting of 16 ICBs, which are being engineered and fabricated in Lakewood, Colo., are scheduled to begin arriving on the Pueblo site in the late summer timeframe.

Acquisitions: Bechtel Pueblo has awarded more than \$210 million in subcontracts to Colorado companies since project inception.



Special Equipment Enhances Worker Safety

Three Projectile Mortar Disassembly machines, like the one shown above, will allow workers at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant to remove munitions' energetic components remotely.



Exterior Work Progresses at PCAPP

Masonry work continues on the Entry Control Facility at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant. Once completed, the facility will house security personnel and equipment.



In this June 2010 aerial view of the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, progress continues on enclosing the Energetics Service Magazine (ESM) Corridor (background, left) which connects the ESM with the Enhanced Reconfiguration Building.

NEXT 90 DAYS AT ACWA

- Along with the evaluation of the comments on the Environmental Assessment, the Department of Defense with ACWA will determine the path forward for completing the National Environmental Policy Act process prior to a decision on the use of EDT at Pueblo.
- At ACWA's request, the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) will begin the first of two stockpile assessments in the next several months. The Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project will use X-ray technology to examine all overpacked munitions and those munitions that have leaked in the past that are currently in storage in Colorado. This effort will provide critical data necessary to facilitate the future demilitarization of these items.
- In Blue Grass, government officials will be reviewing the final design package for the Blue Grass pilot plant. Additionally, Blue Grass construction efforts will be focused on placing the last horizontal concrete in the MDB, installing siding and roofing on the Utility Building and energizing the 138kV substation which will supply electricity to the plant.
- In Pueblo, the construction team will turn over the first subsystems for systemization testing and commissioning.

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