Temporary Authorization Request: On July 29, 2021, Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) (the facility “owner”) and the systems contractor, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG) (the facility “operator”), submitted a Temporary Authorization Request (TAR) to the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP). This submittal is in accordance with the provisions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) to allow continuation of modifications of the Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) 1200 unit while the RCRA Class 3 permit modification request continues to be reviewed and processed by KDEP.

Background: The Explosive Destruction Technology unit SDC 1200 has been permitted and is operating at the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP). This TAR will allow for preparation of changes necessary to modify the current unit. The BGCAPP Main Plant processes were designed and constructed for the destruction of all chemical munitions stored at BGAD; however, due to the age of the M55 rockets, the agent in some rockets may contain solids or may be gelled. This is expected to cause equipment operability problems in the BGCAPP Main Plant, which may increase the number of times personnel have to enter into agent-contaminated areas to perform maintenance activities. This increases the safety risk to personnel due to potential agent exposure. Treatment of problematic munitions and residual agent in the SDC 1200 facility will mitigate this safety risk. Authorization to continue installation of underground utilities and infrastructure, install all major processing equipment associated with the SDC 1200 facility and continue construction of the SDC 1200 building surrounding the equipment is sought under this request.

For information, please contact BPBG Public Communications Manager Mark York at (859) 625-1291.