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**Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting
Summary of Action Items and Discussions
Sept. 13, 2011
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Kentucky**

Attendees

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC): Brig. Gen. John Heltzel, Doug Hindman, Tim Hubbard, Robert Miller, Sheila Pressley and Craig Williams

Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB): Lt. Col. Steven Basso, Dan Bayens, David Benge, Robert Blythe, Jeff Brubaker, Kent Clark, Regina Crawford, Doug Hindman, Terry House, Tim Hubbard, Tom McKinney, Ramesh Melarkode (for Col. Brian Rogers), Robert Miller, Harry Moberly, Jr., Bill Nave, Chester Powell, Carl Richards, Craig Williams and Todd Williams

Media Attendees:

The Richmond Register: Ronica Shannon
Lexington Herald-Leader: Greg Kocher

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Systems Contractor Update
- Mustard Projectile X-ray Assessment Results
- Explosive Destruction Technologies (EDT) Review
- Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) Annual Conference Update
- CDCAB Co-Chair Updates and Preview of December Meeting Agenda Items

Meeting Summary Structure

This meeting summary is not intended to be a verbatim record of conversations, but instead will provide an overview of the discussions and next steps committed to by the government 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

Action Item: Finalize the X-ray assessment data and present to the CAC/CDCAB.

Responsible Entity: U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA).

Timeline: Dec. 13, 2011.

Action Item: Re-form the EDT Working Group (EDTWG).

Responsible Entity: Doug Hindman, CAC chair, and Craig Williams and Kent Clark, CDCAB co-chairs.

Timeline: Prior to Dec. 13, 2011.

Action Item: Reconvene the Economic Development Working Group (EDWG).

Responsible Entity: Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair and David Benge, CDCAB member.

Timeline: Prior to Dec. 13, 2011.

Outline of Key Issues and Discussions

Welcome and Introductions – Chris Higginbotham, ORO, Outreach Manager

Chris Higginbotham welcomed the attendees, reviewed the meeting agenda and noted the following action items from the June 14 CAC/CDCAB meeting:

Action Item	Steps Taken	Date/Status
Proposal of the 2012 meeting dates: March 13, June 12, Sept. 11 and Dec. 11 to CAC/CDCAB members for comment.	Dates were suggested at this meeting and will be approved by CAC/CDCAB members prior to the December meeting.	Sept. 13

Provide biannual updates regarding BGCAPP employment diversity numbers to the CAC/CDCAB.	Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass provided this information in their Sept. 13 briefing.	Sept. 13
Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair, to distribute to CAC/CDCAB members for comment his changes to language in a legislative bill regarding the relationship between ACWA and the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA).	Williams provided information on this topic in his Sept. 13 briefing.	Sept. 13
A poll of CAC/CDCAB members was requested to determine technical topics for future meetings.	Technical topics were covered in the Sept.13 meeting and will be requested again in the future.	Sept. 13

Opening Remarks – Doug Hindman, CAC Chair, and Kent Clark and Craig Williams, CDCAB Co-Chairs

Hindman welcomed members and attendees and recognized Harry Moberly, Jr., as being a long-time CDCAB member.

Clark also welcomed everyone and conveyed his gratitude that interest in the program remains active.

Williams also recognized Moberly and Chester Powell, who replaced Howard Baker on the CDCAB. He noted Steve Karcher and Diane Kerby would not be able to attend the meeting.

Key Updates

BGCAPP Update – Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP, Site Project Manager (SPM)

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Jeff Brubaker provided an update of BGCAPP activities and discussed recent construction progress. He presented updates on the major site buildings and noted construction was now 40 percent complete. He informed the group that the second-level blast-

containment walls in the Munitions Demilitarization Building should be complete by the end of the year, project workers are receiving and installing tanks on the Supercritical Water Oxidation (SCWO) Processing Building foundation, Laboratory Building modules should arrive at the site in October and the testing of the Facility Control System is complete. Brubaker informed the group about 2011 initiatives such as the continuation of the fabrication and placement of Blue Grass-Specific Equipment Thermal Oxidizer system and the placement of the Laboratory Building foundation, and compared the progress made on the site at this time in 2010 with today's status. Brubaker noted that BGCAPP continues to utilize equipment from the other chemical munitions destruction sites, and will receive a shipment of Enhanced On-Site Containers from the Anniston, Ala. project this fall. He closed by introducing the new education outreach specialist and discussing a recent education outreach presentation made to Madison County Schools' Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Infusion Program.

Williams asked for the status of the over-pressurization of the Kelley Two building at the construction site. Brubaker said the over-pressurization project should be complete in December 2011, and will complete the final phase of the safe-shelter process.

David Bengé asked if the project was on schedule. Brubaker replied the project may have gained a year in the construction phase, which may now end in 2015 instead of 2016. He further answered that the site buildings should be complete and the focus will be on the installation of bulk commodities (piping, wiring, etc.) by summer 2012.

Systems Contractor Update – Tom McKinney, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass, Project Manager

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Tom McKinney gave a project update covering safety, project staffing and small business and community involvement. He noted receipt of the *Best Practices Award* from the Kentucky American Society of Safety Engineers and potential good news about the progress of the site application for Voluntary Protection Program Star Status. McKinney said the project would enter an intensive electrical installation phase next summer, and there would be several hundred electricians on site for that phase. He said 12 interns worked on the project this summer, five of whom were from Kentucky colleges. McKinney noted the current Blue Grass-Specific Equipment projects are mostly mechanically complete and are now having electronics installed. He then said Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass is heavily involved with the Thermal Oxidizer vendor re-design effort and that factory acceptance testing should commence in late winter or early spring. He concluded with status updates on the main site buildings under construction.

Robert Miller asked if McKinney had seen any discrimination complaints in his time here so far, and if not, how complaints such as these would be handled. McKinney replied he had not, and that there were very specific processes and resources in place on the

project at each of the parent companies for handling such situations, for both manual and non-manual employees.

Sheila Pressley said the project minority population looked the same and asked what the plans were to raise minority hiring numbers. McKinney said the project not only works from the parent companies' plans but also with minority organization and local colleges, among other things. He said he felt the project could do better considering its percentage of minority employees is the same as percentage of minorities within the state of Kentucky – and the project wants to be above average in everything it does.

Williams congratulated McKinney on the safety award and said each time he sees something like that, he feels more comfortable with the project. He then asked if there were any challenges with the Thermal Oxidizer changeover. McKinney said he didn't think so — the project keeps the state informed and has a good relationship with its regulators.

Williams then said tremendous progress has been made on the SCWO Processing Building, which has increased his confidence in SCWO progressing and the off-site shipment of hydrolysate being mitigated. He inquired about the status of the SCWO units being tested in San Diego. McKinney replied that all of the Blue Grass-Specific Equipment was on schedule and at or under budget, and he anticipates a late 2012 or early 2013 delivery of the SCWO treatment units.

Mustard Projectile X-ray Assessment Results – Rusty Fendick, Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project, System Operations Team Member

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Rusty Fendick briefed attendees on the purpose, details, equipment, procedures and findings of the X-ray assessment of a sample of mustard agent-filled projectiles stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot. He noted all of the X-rayed projectiles had heel material on a side wall, possibly from having been stored horizontally in the past, and that the X-rays indicated that most of the 96 non-leaker projectiles had significant heel formation. He said the assessment was unable to identify stuck-burster issues, but noted 19 non-leaker munitions had apparent residue in the fuze well. Fendick discussed the leaker munitions that were assessed and said they were found to have heels along the side walls. A small number had liquid in the overpack, and more than half showed residue or liquid in the fuze well. Fendick showed photos of several of the projectile X-rays and noted the analysis of the assessment results would be completed in October.

Hindman asked if the assessment was looking for variations between the munition lots. Fendick said the sample sizes were too small, so it was hard to tell if there was any significance.

Williams asked if corrosion or disfigurement of the burster would have been seen if they were there. Fendick replied it would depend on whether the level of corrosion was bad enough to show a build-up on the burster wall. He noted the X-ray equipment was not sensitive enough to show details such as the threads of the lifting lugs, which may have been coated in a lacquer material.

Terry House asked if any discoloration, expansion, contraction or change in the composition of the chemicals within the projectiles had been noted. Fendick replied it would be difficult to know since the original fill level of each munitions was unknown. He said he did not know if there was expansion or contraction in the heel solidification, and this equipment and assessment could not discern changes in the chemical composition. House asked if they saw anything to set any "alarm bells" off, and Fendick said no.

Explosive Destruction Technologies Consideration Review – Jeff Brubaker, BGCAPP, SPM

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Brubaker reviewed this topic for the group by recapping EDT background information, including the rationale for considering the technology, the related X-ray assessment, the National Research Council's assessment of appropriate technologies and previous recommendations from the CAC/CDCAB to ACWA on EDT. Brubaker briefly explained the mustard projectile destruction process, discussed the expected analysis of the X-ray assessment and briefly mentioned an EDT feasibility study currently being prepared by Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass, as well as the history of public involvement on the issue. He recommended the reformation of the EDTWG, suggesting that several meetings would likely be required in the coming months. Brubaker stated there will be another EDT presentation to the CAC/CDCAB in December regarding the results of a feasibility study evaluating EDT as a potential method to augment the basic destruction plans for BGCAPP. He concluded by offering some of his insights regarding EDT: several factors are important to the destruction process selection, the current design has limitations or unknown capacity and the ACWA program will work with the EDTWG to receive stakeholder input on considerations for the final EDT decision.

Carl Richards asked if the study was commissioned to study just the mustard agent, or all chemical weapons at the Blue Grass Army Depot. Brubaker replied the current study was focused on mustard agent; he believes there may be some future discussion on potential application beyond that, but at this point, there is no move to process other materials with EDT.

Miller asked what would prompt that further discussion. Brubaker replied it was important for the feasibility study to identify limitations of the technical systems discussed; however, the facts are that most countries were testing largely with mustard

agent and CMA was using EDT exclusively for mustard agent. He said another entity would be free to pursue further evaluation if they wished, but ACWA is not interested.

A member of the audience asked if Tooele, Utah stored the waste from hydrolysis, if it sent the waste into the environment as wastewater, or if it designated the waste for industrial cleanup. Brubaker explained that Tooele was an incineration project, so those waste products would have been handled within the footprint of the Tooele site. The problematic munitions were such an issue there that the decision was made not to drain the projectiles, since it would have created more problems downstream in the disposal process and involved hundreds of additional entries by personnel. Tooele worked with regulators and received permission to process the projectiles in their Metal Parts Furnace. He noted there was a lot of discussion before that decision was made. The audience member asked if the decision to process problematic munitions in the Metal Parts Furnace was made on individual projectiles or if they were all to go for incineration. Brubaker said that eventually all projectiles were incinerated. Williams asked why Tooele did not use an EDT and Brubaker replied it was not safe for projectiles with explosive components (stuck bursters) to be destroyed in the Metal Parts Furnace—only projectiles with bursters removed could be processed that way.

Hindman noted the number of EDTs around the United States and asked if one could be recycled and used for this project. Brubaker said possibly, but as an example, the EDT at Anniston was designed for the quantity of their munitions. The Blue Grass munitions quantity is much greater than Anniston, and their EDT may not be appropriate to meet throughput goals here.

CSEPP Annual Conference Update – Carl Richards, Madison County Emergency Management Agency, Director, and Michael Bryant, Madison County CSEPP, Director

Richards and Michael Bryant presented the video they developed for the annual CSEPP conference earlier this summer. Richards and Bryant said the video was well received at the conference.

Terry House also attended, and said Kentucky stood out in the presentations. He said he was amazed at the amount of people who donate their time to emergency response, and he is very glad CSEPP is in place and in operation. He appreciated the chance to attend the conference.

Miller asked about the process to determine the fate of CSEPP after BGCAPP closure. Richards noted there is a committee working on this and they have a good idea of what the end result will be. He said it would not be a pretty picture if adequate planning is not done now, that there are approximately 10 years to get it figured out. He has the budgetary numbers necessary to keep key services available, and is calculating a path forward for funding. Miller asked who would make the final decision and Richards replied that elected officials including the Madison County Fiscal Court and the Richmond and

Berea city governments would decide. Brig. Gen. John Heltzel said it would take education at the legislative level; there is great congressional support, but it is still a work in progress in Frankfort, Ky. Miller asked what the decision-makers were thinking, and Richards said there were a lot of views — that the tone-alert radio won't survive past CSEPP; the outdoor sirens and radio system are critical; and some decontamination and field capabilities were important.

CDCAB Co-Chair Updates and Preview of December Meeting Agenda – Craig Williams, CDCAB, Co-Chair

Slides of this presentation are available by contacting the ORO at (859) 626-8944 or bgoutreach@iem.com.

Williams gave updates on several topics:

- EDT — Williams said a formal technology recommendation on EDT at Blue Grass needs to be completed in the March 2012 timeframe. He noted Anniston is expected to complete processing their mustard mortars and projectiles and Tooele will have started theirs by the December CAC/CDCAB meeting, and CMA has offered to provide information on these operations to ACWA. Williams said based on the X-ray data he has seen today, he believes there is a good chance Blue Grass will be using an EDT. He will send invitations out to reconvene the EDTWG.
- Igloo Filtration System—Williams said testing is currently under way on non-surety igloos at the depot. The primary objectives of this system are to mitigate humidity to diminish pallet deterioration and to contain airborne chemical agent in the case of a leak within the igloo. Williams said the test data should be available at the December meeting.
- Economic Development Working Group (EDWG)—Williams informed the group that the EDWG core group will meet to discuss funding options for their proposed study and he hopes to have this tracking before the December meeting.
- Acquisition Program Baseline (APB)—Williams said the next step after Nunn-McCurdy recertification is a revised program cost and schedule estimate. He noted that following the recertification, the total ACWA budget went up significantly, and said the APB will contain an estimated program cost and schedule. Williams said the APB will probably say the project will take longer than has been previously estimated, but that is a projection, and may not be what is heard locally. He said he felt the use of EDT would save eight months on the Blue Grass schedule. Williams noted the APB is anticipated to be out by the end of September.

- Legislation — Williams briefly discussed House language modifying the relationship between CMA and ACWA, and said the Senate had serious concerns about the language and agreed in principle to withdraw it. He noted there is still a possibility the language could stay in the bill through the House/Senate conference process.

There were no questions.

Closing Remarks – Doug Hindman, CAC Chair, and Craig Williams, CDCAB Co-Chair

Hindman noted December will be very busy for the CAC/CDCAB, and said if new members need assistance, to please contact him or Williams.

Williams said he appreciates everyone's continued interest. He said he would be briefing the Madison County Fiscal Court, the Berea City Council and the Richmond City Commission in the near future. He said he wants to continue on a safe path forward, and thanked everyone for attending.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 13 at 1:30 p.m. at the Eastern Kentucky University's Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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