



Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization
Citizens' Advisory Commission

Doug Hindman
Chair

Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board
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Kent Clark
Craig Williams
Co-Chairs

**Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and
Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB) Meeting
Summary of Action Items and Discussions
Sept. 12, 2012
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Ky.**

Attendees

Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC):

Doug Hindman, John Heltzel, Mark Klaas, Robert Miller, Sheila Pressley, Aaron Thompson and Craig Williams

Chemical Destruction Community Advisory Board (CDCAB): David Benge, Robert Blythe, Regina Crawford (for Sen. Mitch McConnell's (R-Ky.) office), Lt. Col. Christopher Grice, John Heltzel, Doug Hindman, Mike Hogg, Tim Hubbard, Steve Karcher, Mark Klaas, Darcy Maupin, Tom McKinney, Ramesh Melarkode (for Col. Brian Rogers), Jim Milliman (for Sen. Rand Paul's (R-Ky.) office), Chris Musgrave (for Sen. Paul's office), Anthony Reed, Geoff Reed (for Rep. Ben Chandler's (D-Ky.) office), Carl Richards, Sheila Pressley, Aaron Thompson and Craig Williams

Media Attendees:

None

Meeting Synopsis

The meeting provided information on the following:

- Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Update
- Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass Update
- Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) Update
- Updates from CDCAB Co-Chair

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 action items of government representatives 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: Distribute project veterans' employment statistics and monthly payroll number to group.

Responsible Entity: Tom McKinney, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass project manager

Timeline: Dec. 11, 2012.

Action Item: Provide projected number of BGCA employees who would be affected by the BGCAPP closure to the group.

Responsible Entity: Lt. Col. Christopher Grice, BGCA commander.

Timeline: Dec. 11, 2012.

Action Item: Distribute membership lists of all working groups to the CAC/CDCAB.

Responsible Entity: Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair.

Timeline: Dec. 11, 2012.

Action Item: Call a meeting of the full Economic Development Working Group (EDWG).

Responsible Entity: Craig Williams, CDCAB co-chair.

Timeline: Dec. 11, 2012.

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 13 CAC/CDCAB meeting:

| Action Item | Steps Taken | Date/Status |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Distribute forecast of economic impact information for life of BGCAPP project. | Craig Williams distributed through email. | Sept. 11, 2012 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Provide information on the time taken for workers to get to safe refuge on the BGCAPP site from the May 23 Chemical Accident or Incident Response and Assistance exercise. | Anthony Reed delivered this data in his BGCAPP update presentation. | Sept. 12, 2012 |
| Provide public comments received on the Colorado Explosive Destruction Technologies (EDT) Environmental Assessment (EA) to CAC/CDCAB chairs. | Distributed by email and on the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program website. | Sept. 12, 2012 |

Higginbotham asked if the current schedule of Tuesday/Wednesday/Wednesday/Tuesday meetings was amenable to everyone for the 2013 schedule. He proposed the dates of March 12, June 12, Sept. 11 and Dec. 10, 2013. The group will discuss the dates and get back to him.

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

Hindman said he appreciated attendees taking their time to be there and congratulated the members of the EDWG for the receipt of the grant for the first phase of the economic development study.

Williams thanked the representatives from Sen. Paul’s office for attending and welcomed Geoff Reed back to the group. He said CDCAB member Terry House was very ill and Williams will post his contact information for well wishes. He thanked everyone for attending.

Key Updates

BGCAPP Update – Anthony Reed, BGCAPP, Deputy Site Project Manager

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

BGCAPP Deputy Site Project Manager Anthony Reed gave a programmatic overview of the ACWA program transition to a Program Executive Office and explained that the change would be effectively invisible from the site level. He said the program schedule remains the same as was published following the Nunn-McCurdy restructuring. Reed

noted systemization is occurring in concert with construction and is two percent complete. He gave key updates on site buildings and showed the most recent construction update video. Regarding the EDT project, Reed said ACWA is well into the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process and documents are being reviewed and commented upon. He noted the Commonwealth has continued involvement in the process. He reminded the group that the Pueblo EA resulted in a Finding of No Significant Impact. He said he has no concerns about potential hiccups in the Blue Grass process at this point. Reed then gave data on the results of the worker emergency response practice at the site, saying overpressurization of the Kelly II Building took less than a minute; 577 staff made it into the building within 7 minutes, 55 seconds; and a full accountability of all staff was completed in less than 16 minutes. Reed noted that information makes a good baseline to work from in future exercises.

Robert Miller asked how often the project schedule is reviewed, what terms and factors affect it and what would cause any significant change in the schedule projection. Reed said permitting issues and regulatory compliance could create delays. Miller asked if the schedule review was event-specific or if it occurs regularly. Reed replied it was reviewed monthly.

Craig Williams commented on project funding issues and said due to the current authorization and appropriations bills not being passed in a timely manner, the project will be under a continuing resolution. This allows the project to continue operating, albeit at past years' funding levels, which are less than requested in the president's FY 2013 budget. Williams said the bigger issue for funding is the possibility of sequestration, where 10 percent would be cut from federal projects' budgets. He noted the project's involvement with the international treaty could possibly make this project an exception to those cuts.

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

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Project Manager Tom McKinney reiterated his focus on a zero-accident project. He said the recent safety record has been disappointing, but the project is learning lessons and improving its processes. He noted much better near-miss reporting and emphasized workers are not disciplined for self or other-reporting. He said project workers continue to have a lot of ownership in the safety program. McKinney said project employment was now more than 1,000 and gave employment and workforce diversity statistics. He said payroll and acquisitions are still up and the project was more than 90 percent bought out on major equipment and materials. McKinney then said the project employed 14 interns this summer and one of them received an Intern of the Year award (the second one to do so in the project internship program). McKinney said the Rocket Shear Machine has now been delivered to the project's warehouse, the supercritical water oxidation

processing equipment is in final testing, the blast walls of the Munitions Demilitarization Building are now complete and the project is ahead of schedule on the placement of the west filter bank foundation. McKinney said the roof and walls of the Supercritical Water Oxidation Processing Building will go up once inspectors sign off on the structural steel.

Williams asked if any tracking of veterans' employment status is being done. McKinney said it is, and he will deliver that information at the next meeting.

Williams wanted to know if the 90 percent major equipment and materials buy-out included all process material. McKinney said yes, and the big items left are heat tracing, the stand-by diesel generators and support equipment. Williams asked if procurement would really be affected if funding dropped. McKinney replied a drop would likely delay some acquisitions, but it was easier to delay acquisitions than to lay-off, rehire and retrain members of the workforce.

Williams inquired if the carbon filters were on site and if they all came from previous sites. McKinney replied about half of the filter housing units were on the site, and the filters themselves would be new when installed. Some of the filter housing units came from the Newport project and were reconditioned by the vendor prior to delivery to the site.

Robert Blythe asked about the interns and their functions, by educational background or major. McKinney said they were mostly of information systems & technology, subcontract administration or engineering backgrounds.

Robert Miller wanted to know if any problems had been detected with the near-miss, self, and other-reporting and if there was any culpability of the individual. McKinney said virtually all safety issues were self-reported. He emphasized that unless grossly negligent or irresponsible, the workforce does not get in trouble for that.

Steve Karcher asked if there were incentives for reporting safety issues. McKinney replied there is really no need for that, as the incentive to the worker is not getting hurt. Williams asked if McKinney had noticed any undercurrent of retaliation if one worker reports another. McKinney said the project carefully looked for that and has seen no evidence. He mentioned instituting a "Brother's Keeper" program at the site. Reed noted a blue-card program, where documentation on safety suggestions gets tracked through the safety program.

David Benge inquired about the amount of the monthly payroll. McKinney will get that information for the CAC/CDCAB.

Chris Musgrave, from Sen. Paul's office, asked if the secondary waste processing byproducts of salts and other materials would have any other industrial use. McKinney said no, they were just waste.

BGCA Update – Lt. Col. Christopher Grice, BGCA, Commander

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Grice filled the group in on his background and gave an introductory update. He said his philosophy is to focus on both the mission and the people, and that he was extremely impressed with the professionalism of the BGCA personnel. Grice explained that he is now managing transition as the focus shifts from long-term storage of the munitions to transfer to the processing facility, and he is also looking at closure. He showed a picture of the Mobile Information Center and gave a schedule of upcoming events.

Williams requested a projection of BGCA employees who would be affected by the project closure, as they had not yet been considered in the planned economic study. Grice will provide it to him.

Updates from CDCAB Co-Chair – 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 a quick update on the current status of the igloo filtration study, which is still ongoing, and the EDT project, stating that the NEPA process is now complete in Colorado and Blue Grass will benefit from Pueblo's process. Williams then discussed the Sept. 5 press conference regarding receipt of the grant to fund the first phase of the economic development study and noted good media coverage. He said he was thankful for the Blue Grass Workforce Investment Board providing the grant for the first phase of the planned economic development study and said the money originated from the federal Department of Labor. Williams informed the group of the three phases of the planned study – 1) Job-loss aversion study; 2) tangible impacts on the community; and 3) reuse of the facility – and gave the anticipated funding necessary for those phases: \$120,000 for Phase 1, \$250,000 for Phase 2, and \$130,000 for Phase 3. He said the phases were expected to be completed within two to three years of when the funding is received, and the study will be a team effort, listing the team partners on a slide. He said in looking at other communities that have completed this kind of work he found that if phase one actions were done in an adequate, timely and appropriate manner, chances for next-phase funding would be better.

Hindman asked about the possibility of getting funding for the other two phases of the study. Williams replied it was very good.

Jeanne Hibberd asked who was on the EDWG. Williams will share that information and will send a note out about a meeting of the full EDWG.

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

Hindman and Williams thanked attendees for their time and Williams said he thinks the project is probably in most positive environment right now that it has ever been with funding, a solid schedule, the grant for the economic development study and the participation of different groups.

Next CAC and CDCAB Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m. at the Eastern Kentucky University's Carl D. Perkins Building, Rooms A and B.

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