



Program Manager Assembled
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

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Systems Contract Awarded for Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. -- A basic contract was awarded today under the Defense Department's Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program headquartered here to a team led by the California companies Bechtel National, Inc. and Parsons Infrastructure and Technology Group, Inc. The contract supports destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile stored at Blue Grass Army Depot, near Richmond, Ky.

The Blue Grass award represents a final chapter in the Army's chemical weapons destruction program," said ACWA Program Manager Michael Parker, noting it is the final U.S. stockpile site to award a systems contract to design, build and operate a plant.

"The selection of the Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass team for this critical national project represents not only our confidence in their technical ability, but also their willingness to work with the Army and the citizens of Kentucky in a true partnership," he said. "We're eager to get this project under way."

Blue Grass Army Depot Commander Col. Martin Jacoby agreed.

"Both Lt. Col. Cantwell at the Blue Grass Chemical Activity and I, along with all of our employees, stand ready to support the chemical weapons disposal process," he said. "We've kept this stockpile safe for nearly 60 years and will continue to keep it safe."

Actual construction of the facility is not scheduled to begin for several years. Under the contract's first task order, a design-build plan will be developed for the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, or BGCAPP. The plant will pilot test neutralization followed by supercritical water oxidation to destroy the Kentucky chemical weapons stockpile comprised of blister agent in projectiles and nerve agent in projectiles and rockets.

Additional task orders under the basic contract will be awarded in the future for following phases of the effort, including construction, systemization, pilot testing, operation, and ultimately, closure.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Blue Grass Army Depot Public Affairs at 859-200-3008 or Blue Grass Chemical Activity Public Affairs at 859-625-6897. The point of contact for Bechtel-Parsons Blue Grass is John Schlatter at 719-543-7155 or 719-214-0086. The Program Manager for Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives can be reached at 410-436-3498. Additional information is available at the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 370 Highland Park Drive, Suite 2, Richmond, Ky. 40475, or call 859-626-8944 or on the World Wide Web at www.pmacwa.army.mil.