



# Pueblo Pilot Plant Design Complete

## A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Pueblo, Colo. – The Department of Defense (DoD) has accepted the final design for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP), which will destroy the chemical weapons stockpile located at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot.

The final design is a culmination of extensive coordination between the PCAPP team; Bechtel Pueblo, the systems contractor responsible for the design, construction, operation and closure of the pilot plant; the Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, the DoD organization responsible for the destruction of the Colorado chemical weapons stockpile; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineering and Support Center; and the local community.

“We’re extremely excited to mark the end of the design phase of the project,” said Gary Anderson, who serves as the PCAPP site project manager and led the design effort on behalf of the government. “The final design is a culmination of several years of hard work, focused on designing the safest and most cost-efficient pilot plant possible.”

As part of the environmental permitting process, the December 2006 permit modification request will be updated to provide the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment with the final design documents.

Design of the pilot plant began in 2003. In September 2004, DoD temporarily suspended design activities to evaluate cost reduction measures. Bechtel Pueblo subsequently initiated trade studies and evaluated design options to identify potential changes to existing design concepts that might better balance cost and schedule objectives. Several of these changes were incorporated into the final PCAPP design and will ensure maximum protection and safety for workers, the public and the environment.

“The design was truly a team effort,” said Paul Henry, project manager for Bechtel Pueblo. “We look forward to taking this momentum moving forward, as we shift gears and put 100 percent of our focus on construction.”

Lt. Col. John Riley, commander of the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot, added, “As the depot continues to safely store and monitor the chemical stockpile, this critical milestone marks another step forward in the Army’s mission to proceed with the destruction of the munitions.”

Some construction activities, such as site preparation and access road paving, began in fall 2004. Construction will continue for the next several years in preparation for chemical weapons destruction operations, which are slated to begin 2015. Destruction of the Colorado stockpile is expected to be complete in 2020.

**News Release**