

DEMIL DISPATCH

BGAD Project

Volume 1
Issue 3
September 2005

Public Hearing Held on Chem Storage Mod and RD&D Permits

By: John Jump

The Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, Division of Waste Management (DWM) has tentatively decided to approve a permit modification for the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) to store hazardous waste, including chemical munitions and related materials (Chemical Storage), and a Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D)

permit to construct, test, and operate the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP). The BGCAPP is a facility to destroy chemical munitions containing the nerve agent GB. Both of these are Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permits. RCRA is a federal program that is administered by DWM.

After public noticing the Chemical Storage and RD&D permits on Sunday, July 17, comments were accepted for the next 45 days through Wednesday, Aug. 31. A public hearing was held at the Carl D. Perkins Conference **Continued on page 5**



John Jump, April Webb, and Tony Hatton review public comments during the Aug. 30 public hearing on the chemical storage modification and the RD&D permit.

DAQ Hosts Public Hearing on Air Permits for BGCAPP

By: Brian Ballard

The public hearing for the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-

Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) was held on Tuesday, Aug. 30, at the Carl D. Perkins Conference Center on the Eastern Kentucky University campus.

The Division for Air Quality (DAQ) was represented by James Morse and Brian Ballard. Morse, the permit support section supervisor, served as the moderator for the portion of the hearing pertaining to the issuance of the draft Clean Air Act, Title V permit for BGCAPP, permit number V-05-034.

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Division for Air Quality's Brian Ballard and James Morse await their portion of the Aug. 30 public hearing in Richmond.

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Mike Welch (in plaid) receives certificates, awards, and plaques for his 20 years of environmental service to the state from Division of Waste Management Director R. Bruce Scott. Welch's travel-themed retirement reception was held in Frankfort on July 28.

Mike Welch Retires as HWB Manager

By: Shannon Powers

Mike Welch retired as the Hazardous Waste Branch (HWB) manager at the end of July with a travel-themed retirement reception.

Prior to his employment with Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KDEP), Welch was an environmental engineer with Commonwealth Technology, Inc., in Lexington for seven years.

Welch began his time with KDEP in the Division of Water as an environmental engineer working as the Pretreatment Program Coordinator in January 1985. He was promoted to Environmental Engineer

Consultant in 1987 and supervisor of the newly-created Pretreatment Section within the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) Branch in 1990.

He was promoted to environmental engineer branch manager of the HWB within the Division of Waste Management in April 1993 and remained in that position until his retirement.

After finishing his tour of jury duty that began right after his retirement, Welch plans on using his free time to travel and spend time with his two daughters, two sons-in-law, and grandson.

April Webb Promoted to HWB Manager

By: Shannon Powers

April Webb was promoted to the post of Hazardous Waste Branch (HWB) manager and began her duties on Aug. 1.

Webb, who is currently doing double duty by functioning in her past capacity of Permit Review Section supervisor for the branch, has a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering from the University of Kentucky (UK) and received her professional engineer (PE) license in environmental engineering in January 2003.

For six years, she worked in the Division for Air Quality. While there, she worked in the Metallurgy Section of the

Permit Review Branch where she wrote and approved air permits for companies that made metal or metal products. She was the supervisor of the section for two years.

Recently, Webb finished the Certified Public Manager (CPM) Program by completing all her capstone projects. She is looking forward to graduation in November.

Webb, a Montgomery County native, lives in Mt. Sterling with her husband of 12 years, Bobby, and their 3-year-old son, Robbie, on a cattle farm.



April Webb, pictured with R. Bruce Scott, was promoted to the position of Hazardous Waste Branch manager. Previously, she had been the Permit Review Section supervisor for the branch. Webb began her new duties on Aug. 1.

KDEP Attends Tier II Meeting in Richmond

By: Nathan Bentley

The Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KDEP) had several representatives at the Tier I/ Tier II Meeting held at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) on Aug. 16-17. Dale Burton, Bill Holskey, Larry Hughes, Eric Ringo, Bill Buchanan, Tim Thomas, Joe Wellner, and Nathan Bentley were present along with various members of the Department of Defense (DOD) and the federal regulatory community.

The agenda for the meeting consisted of updates from

DOD facilities as well as presentations given by KDEP staff and updates on chemical demilitarization. Holskey gave an update on the Naval Ordnance Station in Louisville in which the partnering process was credited for the project's success. Burton informed the team on the status of Kentucky's regulation update. Thomas, principal assistant in the Office of the Secretary, gave a presentation on open burning regulations and the newly-

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On May 4, Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet (EPPC) employees Tim Thomas, John Jump, and Bill Buchanan attended a reception honoring U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell at the Glyndon Hotel in Richmond, Ky. The reception was hosted by the Berea-based Chemical Weapons Working Group (CWWG) for McConnell's ongoing efforts to ensure that the chemical weapons stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) are destroyed in a way that protects human health and the environment.

DAQ Hosts Public Hearing on Air Permits for BGCAPP

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Ballard, the air quality permit writer, presented information on the air quality permit. His presentation included details about the background of the Clean Air Act, purpose of the Title V permit for BGCAPP, applicable regulations and compliance requirements

Craig Williams, representing the Kentucky Environmental Foundation (KEF) and the

Chemical Weapons Working Group (CWWG), was the only individual who made verbal comments during the air quality portion of the hearing.

Written comments were submitted by Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD), Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG), and William R. Scrivner.



Inspector Bill Buchanan (in red) and Permit Reviewer Eric Ringo (in black) were among the 80 participants in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Unraveled class held Aug. 9-11 at the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) building in Frankfort. The course was brought to the state by McCoy Seminars to help clarify the meaning of a number of difficult EPA regulations.

KDEP Participates in Madison County Safety Day

By: Bill Buchanan

The First Annual Madison County Safety Day, held at the Madison County Fairgrounds in Richmond was a huge success. The event was held on Saturday, May 21, and had many booths, exhibits, fun and entertainment for the whole family. Hot dogs and hamburgers were provided to event participants.

Sam Lofton and Bill Buchanan from the Frankfort Regional Office manned the booth for the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP). They handed out hundreds of brochures, hoping to educate the public in such areas as mercury handling and disposal; waste

oil/antifreeze management; lead acid battery disposal; and the tire amnesty program. Information related to nerve/blister agents located across the road at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) and copies of the two issues of the *Demil Dispatch* newsletter were provided. The biggest draw to KDEP's booth was T-shirts. Over 100 Commonwealth Cleanup Week T-shirts were distributed.

The turnout for this event was larger than anticipated, and KDEP looks forward to providing further public education at future Safety Days in Madison and other counties.



Nathan Bentley has been assigned geologist duties for the project while Tim Barrett is on military duty.

Bentley Steps in for Geology Duty

By: Shannon Powers

While Tim Barrett is in Afghanistan during his Kentucky National Guard tour of duty, Nathan Bentley has stepped in to take over the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) Project's geologist duties.

the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection's Hazardous Waste Branch in 2003. He graduated from the University of Kentucky in December 2002 with bachelor degrees in geography and geology.

Bentley, a Greenup County native, has been working on the non-chemical side of BGAD for the Corrective Action Section since joining

During Bentley's spare time, he and his wife, Krissie, are refinishing their recently-purchased 108-year-old Harrodsburg home.

KDEP Attends Tier II

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adopted Uniform Environmental Covenants Act, which addresses land use controls, long-term management, and the accountability of landowners. Thomas Kurkijy of Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass presented on the Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant and explained the ongoing redesign consideration studies.

Todd Williams and Phillip Williams, two members of BGAD's environmental team, gave a tour of the facility and pointed out sites of interest along the way, including the future site of the chemical demilitarization plant and a detonation chamber.

The next Tier I/Tier II meeting has been tentatively scheduled for January 2006.



The Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) Project Team's Geologist Tim Barrett (sitting behind the desk) reported for his Kentucky National Guard military duty in Afghanistan in July. The gentleman in blue is Barrett's interpreter, who helps him communicate with the Afghan commander at his right.

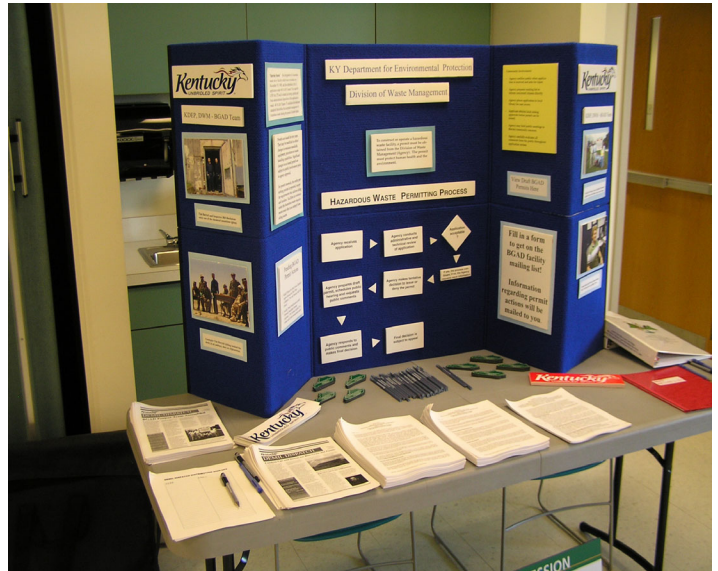
KDEP Participates in Public Involvement Session

By: Shannon Powers

Members of the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection's Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) Project Team participated in the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) Public Involvement Session held on July 26 at the Madison County Extension Office.

Hazardous Waste Branch Manager Mike Welch, Permit Review Section Supervisor April Webb, Inspector Bill Buchanan, and Project Coordinator Shannon Powers were on hand to explain the role of the department in the

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The KDEP display and informational items are ready for public consumption during the public involvement session held on July 26 at the Madison County Extension Office.



These are just a few items that the Hazardous Waste Branch have collected to send to Tim Barrett in Afghanistan. Besides his favorite brand of chewing tobacco for himself, Tim also suggested the branch send items for the Afghan children such as toys, candy, and school supplies.

Haz Waste Branch Sponsoring Care Package to Afghanistan

By: Shannon Powers

The Hazardous Waste Branch, of which the BGAD Project Team is a part, is collecting items for a care package to be sent this month to the team's geologist, Tim Barrett, who is on Kentucky National Guard duty in Afghanistan.

Barrett, who keeps in regular contact with those in the branch, has said that he enjoys visiting the local towns and schools. On these visits, he and his fellow soldiers give

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Public Hearing Held on Chem

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Center on the Eastern Kentucky University campus on Tuesday, Aug. 30. Beginning at 6 p.m., the Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, Division for Air Quality (DAQ) held a public hearing concerning the Title V air permit for the BGCAPP. The DWM portion of the public hearing followed.

Individuals and groups were afforded the opportunity to comment on the DWM permits. DWM welcomed 42 members of the public and explained the public comment process. A presentation concerning some of the highlights of reviewing the BGAD applications and writing the Chemical Storage and RD&D permits was given. Next, the public was encouraged to make written and/or verbal comments. Written comments were

received from a number of individuals and groups. Craig Williams, representing the Kentucky Chemical Demilitarization Citizens Advisory Board (CDCAB), provided both written and verbal comments.

Currently, the DWM is in the process of reviewing comments and questions received. Responses will be prepared and the permit will be modified if necessary. The DWM will likely issue the Chemical Storage and RD&D permits by Sept. 30. Copies of the final permits and responses to comments will be available to be reviewed at the Richmond and Berea branches of the Madison County Public Library, the Eastern Kentucky University Library, the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, and the DWM in Frankfort.



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Haz Waste Branch Sponsoring Care Package to Afghanistan

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items to the locals as a sign of goodwill.

“The kids all want pens, pencils, paper, and, yes, hard candy/cookies,” said Barrett in a recent email. “If someone wants to gather up stuff like that and mail it here, we will get it to them.”

Some of the items already donated include two garbage bags full of Beanie Babies and stuffed animals; foodstuffs such as beef jerky, candy, and snack crackers; and school supplies such as paper, pencils, and pens.

One of the items persistently requested by the Afghan

KDEP Participates in Public

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process of designing and constructing the BGCAPP, which will destroy the chemical weapons housed on BGAD. Informational materials such as fact sheets for the recently public-noticed chemical storage modification and the Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) permits, copies of the actual permits, and a display

children is an American classic--Oreo cookies.

depicting the process of obtaining a permit were on hand for the public to peruse.

Other participants in the session included BGAD, Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA), Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass (BPBG), Madison County Emergency Management, and Kentucky Division of Emergency Management.

“Children run from wherever to meet our convoys with their thumbs in the air yelling ‘Oreo,’” Barrett said.

Some of the items requested for the soldiers’ use include inexpensive DVDs, paperback books, snack foods, and toiletries such as razors and mouthwash.

Barrett even made a special request for himself: “If someone wants to support my habit, I chew Copenhagen long cut with the gold lid. There does not seem to be any around here.”