



DEMIL DISPATCH

BGAD Project

Volume 4
Issue 2
September 2008

Site Prep and Construction Permission

Granted for Operation Swift Solution

By: Leasue Meyers

On July 8, the Division of Waste Management (DWM) granted permission for site preparation and construction for Operation Swift Solution to begin. With the approval, BGAD has begun the site preparation actions including: lifting, cutting and/or grading of soil; construction of dense grade aggregate pad and associated improvements in the vicinity of the pad; concrete work for the environmental enclosure

pad and drive; and mobilization and set-up/staging of equipment and support structures.

Before approval was granted, DWM required the type of environmental enclosure to be specified and documentation that the structure would withstand wind and severe weather. The general purpose operations shelter (GPOS) was selected as the enclosure. The GPOS has been government-reviewed and engineer-certified for a 100 mph wind (Continued on Page 3)



The Chemical Agent Transfer System (CHATS) unit, pictured above, will be transferred to the Blue Grass Army Depot and utilized in the destruction of three leaking one-ton containers. This destruction initiative has been dubbed Operation Swift Solution and should begin later this year.

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BGAD Inspector Visits Aberdeen Proving Grounds

By: Bill Buchanan

Division of Waste Management (DWM) inspector Bill Buchanan visited Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland July 23-25 to observe the Chemical Agent Transfer System (CHATS) unit that will be used to destroy three leaking one-ton containers (OTCs) at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) during Operation Swift Solution set to begin later this year.

During the visit, the inspector met with PM-

ACWA headquarters personnel, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) personnel and Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center (ECBC) personnel, who constructed the unit. A tour was provided of the facility where the unit was constructed and currently sits awaiting shipment to BGAD.

The CHATS operates by using a peristaltic pump to pull liquids from the OTCs and into a metering vessel,

and then pump the agent into a reactor to mix with caustic materials with a residence time of about 1 hour or until the resulting mixture (hydrolysate) has reached 99.9999 percent destruction efficiency (about 60 ppb).

The hydrolysate will then be placed into an isotainer located in a hazardous waste storage area complete with secondary containment and other engineering controls provided by the storage (Continued on Page 2)

Environmental Forum XV Held in Indianapolis

By: Leasue Meyers

The Environmental Forum XV for Chemical Demilitarization was held Aug. 12-13 in Indianapolis, Ind. Representatives from Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA), and all demilitarization sites were present. Topics concerning closure activities and secondary waste (i.e., personal protective equipment and rags) management were discussed.

The current operating demilitarization facilities are in the process of completing their VX campaigns and changing over to mustard. With three facilities (Aberdeen, Newport and Johnston Atoll) complete, closure activities are discussed more often. In these discussions, the emphasis is on safety as the staff transfers duties from operations to closure,

including dismantling and destruction of the facility. Another closure concern is the transitioning of employees to new jobs. At Newport, the plan is to host job fairs and to provide resume and interview workshops.

Secondary waste management, treatment and monitoring were large topics of concern and discussion within the forum. At Johnston Atoll, it took six additional months to treat the secondary waste on-site when shipment off-site and treatment at a commercial treatment, storage and disposal facility would have been faster.

CMA is preparing a transportation risk assessment for the current operating facilities. These types of site-specific assessment reports were done for Aberdeen and

Newport before secondary wastes were shipped off-site. The transportation risk assessment is not complete as it is undergoing review with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Research Council.

The monitoring of secondary waste before shipment off-site was discussed in great detail. The transportation

risk assessment being prepared is for items greater than one vapor screening level (> 1 VSL). Applicable standards were discussed by regulators during their portion of the forum.

BGCAPP representatives hope that lessons learned from the currently operating facilities will help them as they enter into their beginning phases.



On Jan. 25, Dr. Leo Weitzman of Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass, the contractor agency in charge of designing, building and operating the facility for destroying the chemical agents located on the Blue Grass Army Depot, presented information on dioxins for the Division of Waste Management's Leadership Development Series.

Changes at KDEP

By: Shannon Powers

Quite a few changes have taken place in recent months in Frankfort for the Kentucky Department for

Environmental Protection (KDEP). These changes include:

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BGAD Inspector Visits

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container. The current plan is to ship the hydrolysate to an off-site treatment, storage and disposal facility out of state.

Overall, the visit was successful and allowed DWM to have some input of past lessons learned into the operation of the CHATS as well as become more

familiar with the operation of the unit, which will allow for better oversight when Operation Swift Solution begins.

For more information on CHATS, Operation Swift Solution, or the trip to Aberdeen, please contact Bill Buchanan at bill.buchanan@ky.gov.



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Printed on recycled paper with federal and state funds

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Changes at KDEP

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—A reorganization that changed the cabinet name from the Environmental and

Public Protection Cabinet (EPPC) to the Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC).

Site Prep

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load and 20 pounds per square foot of snow load. The GPOS will be anchored to the ground outside the concrete using duckbill anchors.

Before DWM approves the temporary authorization request for treatment operations to begin, all technical issues must be resolved for treatment and storage. A revised temporary authorization request for treatment was submitted on August 7.

—A reorganization of the Hazardous Waste Branch in order to make the Blue Grass Army Depot Project its own section. Current members of the section include Leasue Meyers and Shannon Powers. A section supervisor will be named soon. Bill Buchanan is still the BGAD inspector in the Field Operations Branch.

—A large move of the Division of Waste Management, the Division of Water and the Division for Air Quality into the same location at 200 Fair Oaks Lane, Frankfort, Ky. 40601.



Ralph Collins, Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP)/ Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives deputy site project manager, and Kevin Regan, Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass environmental engineer, presented information on BGCAPP, the facility that will destroy the chemical munitions at the Blue Grass Army Depot, and Operation Swift Solution, the process by which the one-ton containers will be destroyed this fall, during the Division of Waste Management's Leadership Development Series on April 11.