



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

MONTHLY UPDATE

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Closure work moving forward

Since completion of the chemical weapons destruction mission in January, closure activities have been gaining momentum.

Workers have been busy decontaminating and decommissioning (D&D) the most contaminated areas of the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF). Equipment has been decontaminated or removed from the Explosive Containment Rooms (ECRs), Liquid Incinerator (LIC) rooms and Toxic Cubicle (TOX). Workers are now conducting monitoring activities in those areas to check for residual agent contamination.

"Things have been going good and D&D work is nearing an end in the ECRs, LIC and TOX," said Jim Hebert, one of four TOCDF closure managers. "We are tying down loose ends in those areas while decon work continues in other areas of the plant."

Similar D&D work is taking place at the Area 10 Liquid Incinerator (ATLIC). Agent piping has been removed from the facility's toxic area and workers are currently cleaning the Spent Decontamination System.

Hard at work

Environmental cleanup continues

Remediation efforts are in full swing at Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD), with work currently underway or soon to start on the depot's last remaining Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs). A SWMU is any area that was once used to dispose of or treat hazardous waste. DCD's SWMUs vary in size, contamination and complexity; the worst being SWMUs 1 and 25 that were used decades ago to dispose of chemical and conventional weapons along with other various types of industrial wastes. Environmental regulations require DCD to remediate its SWMUs; work has been completed on 17 out of 29 SWMUs.

The work done at each SWMU varies, but can include cleanup of surface debris, groundwater and soil sampling, geophysical surveys to detect buried

Once the main processing areas of the TOCDF and ATLIC are thoroughly decontaminated, workers will complete Unventilated Monitoring Tests (UMTs), similar to those conducted at the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System, to verify agent contamination, if any, is within safety requirements.

"The UMT is the final test before we declare victory," TOCDF Deputy Site Project Manager Trace Salmon explained at a recent Restoration Advisory Board meeting. "If we pass that test, then the building is ready for demolition."

Ultimately, the main processing buildings and a small number of support buildings will be razed. Many of the support structures will be retained for use by the Tooele Army Depot, which will assume control of Deseret Chemical Depot in July 2013.

Closure operations are currently expected to be completed by mid-2014. However, carbon filter disposal methods are under review and may affect the plant operations closure schedule, which is currently being revised.



Emergency personnel with the U.S. Army's Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives (CBRNE) Analytical and Remediation Activity (CARA) process remediation workers through the hotline during a training exercise.

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Monday - Friday
(Additional hours available upon request)

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Remediation efforts

(continued from front page)

items, and the removal of buried items. If the geophysical surveys or soil and groundwater samples indicate there is additional contamination, further remediation may have to be done.

“We have accomplished a lot of work on our SWMUs, and we are on track to have most of our remediation work finished by the time DCD is transitioned to Tooele Army Depot,” said DCD Environmental Manager Troy Johnson. “But any work that is not done by the transition date of July 11, 2013, will continue under the guidance of Tooele Army Depot and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.”

Updates on DCD’s closure, including environmental remediation efforts, are provided at DCD’s quarterly Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings. The next RAB meeting is scheduled for Nov. 13, 2012, and the public is welcome to attend. For more information, you can contact or visit the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office.



Burn trays will be used to destroy incendiary bomb components as they are recovered during SMWU remediation activities. The incendiary bomb components containing thermite and magnesium will burn at 2,500 degrees. More than 100,000 bomblets are expected to be recovered from SWMUs 1 and 25.

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SWMU Review

SWMUs 1 and 25

1945-1959: used as chemical munitions demil area
1960-1980: used as conventional munitions demil area
Remediation will include clearing all surface debris, a geophysical survey of all 1,500 acres and soil sampling the areas where piles of debris were once located.

SWMU 2

1945-1950: gravel pit used as a munitions burial site
Remediation includes soil sampling and geophysical survey to help detect buried items such as M2 ignition cartridges, hand grenades, blasting caps, incendiary bomb clusters, TNT blocks and possibly mustard chemical agent. Surface debris and all buried items will be removed.

SWMU 3

1945-1970: three acres used as a disposal pit and maintenance area for chemical munitions
Remediation includes the removal and disposal of buried drums (they are not suspected to contain chemical agent), soil sampling and a geophysical survey.

SWMU 15

1940s: used as demolition pit
1950s and 60s: used as combat training range
Remedial investigation including soil sampling and a geo-

physical survey to determine best path forward; surface cleanup will be conducted as well.

SWMU 26

1970-1990: sanitary landfill for routine installation trash
Remedial investigation will include soil sampling, investigative trenching and a geophysical survey to determine if additional remediation work is needed.

SWMU 29

Disposal site for metal debris
Investigative work will include soil sampling and a geophysical survey to determine the nature and extent of the contamination.

SWMU 31

1985-1996: open burn/open detonation range
Cleanup includes removing munitions and explosives of concern, soil and groundwater sampling, and a geophysical survey.

SWMU 37

1970-1980: slag pile created by burning incendiary items
Because the slag pile is contaminated with heavy metals, it will be removed and soil sampling will be conducted to determine if additional remediation is necessary.