



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

# WEEKLY UPDATE

NEWPORT CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL FACILITY  
NEWPORT CHEMICAL DEPOT



NECDF Chemical Disposal Operations

May 9, 2006

[WWW.CMA.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.CMA.ARMY.MIL)

## Newport Milestones/Facts



Steel Container Transport

### Milestone Dates

- 1962-1968: Newport manufactures all chemical agent VX for the U.S. defense stockpile
- 1969: President Richard Nixon issues a unilateral decree halting production and transport of chemical weapons, including last two batches of VX produced at Newport
- 1999: Army awards systems contract to Parsons Corporation of Pasadena, Calif., to design, construct and operate NECDF
- 2003: Construction complete
- 2005: Agent destruction operations begin May 5



Chemical Agent Transfer System

Using neutralization technology, NECDF has safely destroyed:

Approximately 382,346 pounds of agent (approximately 45,303 gallons)

Activities: Workers at NECDF continue to safely neutralize the chemical agent VX stored at the Newport Chemical Depot. Construction of the second phase of the additional intermodal container storage area continues on schedule for a July completion. Scheduled preventative maintenance of NECDF Reactor Systems will be conducted Wednesday and Thursday of this week.



Neutralization Reactor

## Continuing the Legacy of Safety

The Newport team continues to build upon their legacy of safety – from chemical agent manufacture and shipment in the 1960s, to nearly 40 years of safe storage and finally to the start of agent destruction operations. By safely eliminating Newport's chemical agent stockpile, the workers at NECDF will remove the risk posed by continued storage of the stockpile. The United States will be safer due to the efforts of the Newport team.



Carbon Filtration Units

- Our top priority remains the safety of the surrounding communities, site personnel and environment.
- During start up, deliberate actions and thorough review of data will be conducted to verify performance before increasing production rates.
- Processing areas are ventilated and maintained under negative pressure. Air drawn from these areas is controlled, monitored and filtered through carbon units before being released into the environment in order to meet state and federal clean air standards.
- Monitoring air within the depot is a vital part of processing chemical agent. More than 70 chemical agent monitors are placed in and around the facility, with approximately 4,000 samples taken daily.

### Public Affairs:

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by appointment)

Newport stockpile  
consists of:



Liquid chemical  
agent VX housed in  
steel containers

CREATING A SAFER TOMORROW