



CMA NEWS

April 2007

CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.,

completed approximately 46 percent of its scheduled days of work for the campaign to prepare for the safe destruction of 155mm VX projectiles. Employees will participate in training and an Operational Readiness Review prior to beginning the VX projectile disposal campaign later this summer.

Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah,

safely eliminated 1,001 mustard agent-filled ton containers since starting mustard operations in August 2006. Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) recently received approval from the Utah Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste and Department of Air Quality to increase the feed to the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) from 75 to 100 percent.

Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.,

destroyed nearly 49 percent of its VX stockpile as of April 18. The hydrolysate is currently being shipped to Veolia Environmental Services in Port Arthur, Texas.

Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.,

processed almost 96 percent of their stockpile of GB agent-filled M55 rockets as of the first week of April. Pine Bluff's only other GB munitions are two GB ton containers. Once the GB munitions are destroyed, the site will enter a maintenance period to change over to processing VX agent-filled M55 rockets, followed by VX agent-filled M23 land mines and HD/HT mustard agent-filled ton containers.

Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.,

reached 25 percent of total chemical agent destroyed, while processing 155mm GB (sarin) projectiles. The final GB munitions are expected to be eliminated this summer. Workers are preparing for the start of VX agent processing, which will begin several months after GB processing concludes.

Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project

is nearing completion of its efforts at the Pine Bluff Arsenal, with four of the six site projects complete. The Explosive Destruction System is scheduled for completion this year and the Ton Container Decontamination facility is due for completion in 2008.

NECDF IS SAFELY SHIPPING WASTEWATER TO TEXAS

The Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF) is safely shipping caustic waste water, commonly referred to as hydrolysate, to Veolia Environmental Services in Port Arthur, Texas, where it is being incinerated. Hydrolysate, stored in intermodal containers, also referred to as ISO containers, is a byproduct of the neutralization process. As of April 18, NECDF has safely destroyed nearly 49 percent of the nerve agent VX stockpile that was stored at Newport Chemical Depot.

The first shipment (four trucks) left Newport early on April 16, carrying approximately 15,200 gallons of hydrolysate. A second convoy of four trucks left Newport that evening followed by a third convoy on April 17. The Army has agreed to limit shipments to no more than 12 trucks per week.

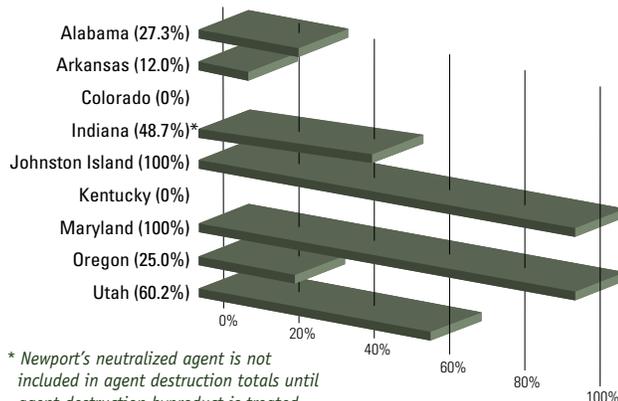
The Newport nerve agent VX destruction project began in May 2005 and is expected to produce 1.8 million gallons of hydrolysate, which will be mixed with other water-based liquid waste, fed into incinerators and heated to at least 1,600 degrees Fahrenheit. Any ash or remaining solids will be buried in a permitted landfill.

The U.S. Army's decision to ship the wastewater from Indiana to Texas is based on research that the process is safe, environmentally sound, cost effective, and efficient. The Army worked with local stakeholders in Indiana and the various states along the transportation route before awarding the contract. The entire process is expected to take 12 to 18 months, using approximately 430 trucks.

CMA and its contractors successfully transported more than 7 million gallons of hydrolysate from its Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., mustard neutralization facility without a single accident or incident. With less than 2 million gallons of hydrolysate to be shipped, the NECDF hydrolysate will be a small fraction of a percent of the total amount of hazardous waste and hazardous materials shipped annually in the United States.

CMA - CREATING A SAFER TOMORROW

41.4 PERCENT OF U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED
(as of April 18 measured by agent tonnage since entry into force - 29 April 1997)



* Newport's neutralized agent is not included in agent destruction totals until agent destruction byproduct is treated.



ANNISTON EMPLOYEES EXCEED 10 MILLION SAFE WORK HOURS

The Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) reached a safety milestone by recording 10 million safe hours of operations without an injury that resulted in days away from work.

“Our work force continues to impress me! This group of men and women continue to work safely while destroying the chemical munitions stored at Anniston Army Depot and making Alabama safer,” Westinghouse Anniston Project Manager Robert Love said. “This record reflects the commitment and dedication of ANCDF employees in protecting themselves, their co-workers and the community.”

Based upon criteria established by the National Safety Council, the milestone places ANCDF employees among the safest in the nation. This accomplishment dates back to May 19, 2000, during the early stages of construction, a span that covers 2,500 consecutive days without a lost-time injury through all operations including the completion of GB campaign and VX rockets.

“This is an amazing record for any industry. ANCDF employees are working hard every day to eliminate the risk to the community. And, they are doing so with the safety of their co-workers, family and community in mind,” said Timothy Garrett, ANCDF Government Site Project Manager.

“Ten million safe work hours is phenomenal. I’ve worked in various industries and this is by far the safest place I’ve ever worked. It’s got the best safety program. I’ve worked in shipyards. I’ve built microchips. This is the deadliest stuff on earth, but this is by far the safest place I’ve ever worked,” added Stanley Pollet, a mechanical technician for Washington Group International.



Electrical Technician Timothy Bramblett takes a moment to Stop, Think, Act and Review (STAR), a self-checking safety process, as part of working on an electrical panel at the ANCDF as part of the maintenance work. Bramblett is just one of more than 750 Westinghouse Anniston and subcontractor employees who have collectively worked more than 10 million safe hours over the past seven years.

PBCDF ACHIEVES TWO YEARS OF SAFE OPERATIONS

Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) has safely and successfully completed two years of operations. On March 28, 2005, the first Enhanced On-site Container (EONC) of M55 rockets was delivered to PBCDF. The first rocket was successfully destroyed the next day, thus beginning the process of eliminating 12 percent of the nation’s chemical weapons stockpile.

On this second anniversary, PBCDF has successfully eliminated more than 90 percent or 86,574 of the M55 GB rockets stockpiled at the Pine Bluff Arsenal and 914,323 tons of agent. PBCDF has also processed 87,855 pounds of secondary waste through the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) and more than 2,900 EONC deliveries of GB nerve agent-filled rockets have been made safely to the facility.

Once the GB campaign is completed, the VX campaign will begin. “As we celebrate and recognize this two-year processing milestone and the successful end of the GB campaign, we must keep an eye on the future and continue to keep safety as the cornerstone of this project,” said David Reber, Washington Demilitarization Company’s PBCDF Project General Manager.

PBCDF has also had a number of other significant accomplishments this year which included processing the “leakers,” GB rockets that were securely over-packed. In March, PBCDF was given approval from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality regarding the MPF secondary waste agent trial burn report for GB. This approval is one of several prerequisite requirements before the MPF can be operated at 100 percent of the permitted feed rate.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT CHALLENGED AT UMCDF

An Oregon judge issued his post-trial opinion and order on April 17 in the court case filed by the activist group GASP last week. GASP had challenged the hazardous waste permit issued by the state of Oregon for the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF). The judge sent three issues back for future deliberation by the state: the impact of higher mercury concentrations in at least some of the mustard; the impact of using the Metal Parts Furnace to incinerate certain secondary wastes that originally were going to be treated in a dunnage incinerator; and whether carbon filtration was sufficient to protect against emissions of mercury and from the former dunnage incinerator wastes. The judge did not find that UMCDF is unsafe or in violation of any regulatory requirements or permit conditions and operations continue.