

## DEQ recommends state maintain carbon treatment BAT

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has recommended that the state's Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) deny (or take no action on) a petition for reconsideration of the best available technology (BAT) for the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) as it pertains to the treatment of spent activated carbon.

The DEQ issued a notice June 7 announcing its recommendation. The EQC is expected to make its final decision on the petition at its regularly scheduled meeting June 16.

Last February, the EQC issued a final order determining the BAT for treatment of spent activated carbon used as filters in the plant's pollution abatement system. The BAT determination made a number of findings, including:

- The Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) is the best available technology for treatment of agent-contaminated spent carbon at the UMCDF.
- Sulfur-impregnated spent carbon is expected to be agent-free. After confirming that it is agent free, the BAT for treatment is to manage it as routine hazardous waste, shipping it off site for treatment as needed and then disposal.
- New information shows that treatment of agent-contaminated spent carbon in the Deactivation Furnace System (DFS) with carbon micronization presents the potential for operational difficulty and safety risk, and is, therefore, not the BAT for treatment of agent-contaminated spent carbon.
- Because the volume of agent-contaminated spent carbon is significantly smaller than originally anticipated, the MPF is a viable alternative to the DFS with carbon micronization for treatment of agent-contaminated spent carbon.

On April 16, a petition for reconsideration of the carbon BAT determination was submitted to the EQC, asking that the MPF not be classified as BAT for the treatment of carbon due to "technical, institutional and environmental shortcomings and risks; but rather continue to consider Carbon Micronization as BAT, since it is the only technology with a proven and successful record of operation."

A detailed report can be viewed via the DEQ Chemical Demilitarization Program web page at:  
<http://www.deq.state.or.us/umatilla/cdpsearch/cdpSearch.asp>.



*Workers load charcoal into one of the Pollution Abatement System's (PAS's) carbon filters last spring.*

## UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 1,433 days, or more than 6.6 million work hours, since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCDF (July 7, 2006).

### Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing (June 3 - 9, 2010)

Total number of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed this period	23
Total number of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed to date	324
Percentage of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed to date	12.3
Total "recipient" HD ton containers* destroyed this period	8
Total "recipient" HD ton containers* destroyed to date	179
Pounds of HD agent destroyed this period	41,131
Pounds of HD agent destroyed to date	563,369
Pounds of total agent destroyed to date <i>Includes GB, VX and HD</i>	3,816,723
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) <i>including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers</i>	218,307
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date	1,659.54
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	44.64

*\*Recipient ton containers are byproducts of mustard disposal and were not a part of the original stockpile.*

## UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- **June 11, 2009:** Began first HD ton container destruction in the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF).
- **June 4, 2009:** First HD ton containers transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **Nov. 5, 2008:** Completed VX munitions campaign.
- **Oct. 26, 2007:** Began VX munitions campaign.
- **July 8, 2007:** Completed GB munitions campaign.
- **Sept. 7, 2004:** Began GB munitions campaign.

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