



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

FACT SHEET

WWW.CMA.ARMY.MIL

Pueblo Chemical Depot

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

The Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) works with a variety of public, private, and government organizations to ensure safe, effective operations. One of the primary statutes governing the hazardous waste storage program at PCD is the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). This is a federal law that regulates the treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous wastes.

The process to obtain a RCRA permit involves Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) oversight and approval and includes opportunities for public participation.

RCRA Permit Process

The original PCD RCRA permit was issued in 1992, and it was effective for a period of 10 years. PCD reapplied, and the permit was renewed, in 2002. In September 2012, the 10-year permit will again expire. PCD will submit its renewal application to CDPHE in March 2012, six months (180 days) prior to the current permit's expiration date.

To obtain a RCRA permit at PCD, the Army submits a detailed application describing how the storage facilities are built and operated in order to comply with RCRA regulations. Then, as a requirement in the process, PCD will hold one public meeting to communicate the Army's intent to submit an application and to obtain public comments.

Following this initial step, CDPHE reviews the facility's application, establishes permit conditions and issues a draft permit for public comment. During the comment period, the permitting agency holds a public meeting and public hearing. All public comments are reviewed prior to issuing the final RCRA permit. By law, the conditions of an expired permit will continue to be enforced until the new permit is issued.

Permitted Storage Units at PCD

The hazardous wastes stored at PCD are divided into two categories: agent-related wastes and nonagent-related wastes.

Agent-related wastes include waste chemical munitions and agent-contaminated materials, such as used personal protective equipment (PPE) and spent decontamination solutions. PCD stores and manages mustard agent-related wastes in RCRA-permitted units. Three units are permitted for liquid waste, and one is permitted for solid-phase waste.

Nonagent-related hazardous wastes are generated at PCD during environmental remediation activities and industrial support activities such as building and motor vehicle maintenance, small construction projects and office operations. Hazardous wastes that are not chemical-agent related are stored in Building 540 for up to one year prior to transfer to a permitted treatment, storage and disposal facility.



For more information, contact the **Public Affairs Office** (719) 549-4135 usarmy.pueblo.usamc.mbx.pcd-pao

or the **CMA Public Affairs Office** (800) 488-0648