



# U.S. ARMY PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT FACT SHEET

## ENSURING COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH SECURE CHEMICAL WEAPONS STORAGE AT PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT

### Our Mission

Safely secure, store, and monitor the chemical stockpile while protecting the workforce, the public, and the environment; prepare for and support stockpile elimination; and transition the depot and the workforce for closure.

### Safe and Secure Storage

Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) originally housed 2,611 tons (2,369 metric tons) of mustard agent in approximately 780,000 munitions, which comprised about eight percent of the nation's original toxic chemical materiel stockpile. The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Activity (CMA) oversees the secure storage at PCD, ensuring the chemical agents and munitions are safely protected and monitored.

To accomplish this safe storage, chemical agents and munitions are housed in designated storage areas and specially designed earth-covered magazines, commonly referred to as storage igloos or bunkers located on highly secure military installations where all Department of Defense and Army safety and security regulations are followed. The igloos at PCD are specially constructed with many security and safety measures and processes, designed for the storage of chemical agents, ammunition and explosives. The igloos help keep chemical agents and munitions secure and protected from natural forces and man-made threats. Each igloo is made of steel-reinforced concrete and designed to safely store explosives.

Among the many security and safety procedures conducted are routine and random around-the-clock patrols to verify the security of chemical agent storage areas. Crews conduct regular, routine visual inspections of the munitions to ensure that safe storage practices are maintained and the physical condition of the igloo will continue to protect the chemical munitions.

### Commitment to Safety

CMA is fully committed to the safety of the public, the workforce and the environment. Initial training of the workforce and certification in the Army's Personnel Reliability Program, followed by regular retraining and recertification, help ensure safety is maintained at all times. PCD will continue to ensure that chemical agent and munitions stockpiles remain safely secure and stored as they transition to the destruction facility.

### Igloo Specifications

- Stands about 12.5 feet high, 26 feet wide and either 40, 60 or 80 feet long—the largest igloos have 2,000 square feet of floor space
- Has a wall thickness carrying from 1 foot at the floor to 6 inches at the top, with a 6-inch slab floor
- Has a headwall of 10-inch thick, steel-reinforced concrete
- Is protected by a waterproof membrane that prevents moisture from entering
- Maintains a temperature of about 40 to 70 degrees year round
- Includes a lightning protection system



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