

State of Oregon

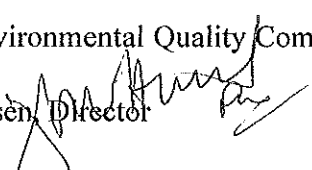
**Department of Environmental Quality**

**Memorandum**

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**Date:** Oct. 7, 2013

**To:** Oregon Environmental Quality Commission

**From:** Dick Pedersen, Director 

**Subject:** Umatilla Chemical Demilitarization Program status update  
Oct 16-17, 2013, EQC meeting

**Purpose of item** This item will inform the commission about closure activities and project status at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and the Umatilla Chemical Depot as of Sept. 24, 2013.

**Depot status** The Umatilla Chemical Depot was closed under a General Order of Closure on Aug. 1, 2012. The Depot is currently under Base Realignment and Closure authority with the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility as a tenant. The U.S. Army's Chemical Materials Activity is conducting closure activities for the Depot-permitted hazardous waste storage units. Those activities include cleanup and sampling of igloos and other storage areas.

**Program news** The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility destroyed the last agent-filled munitions in its stockpile Oct. 25, 2011. The facility had been decontaminating, dismantling and removing equipment associated with the facility closure until Jan. 17, 2013, when the final closure plan was approved for the facility and all closure activities could begin. The facility treated non-liquid secondary wastes through the metal parts furnace until Feb. 8, 2013. All incinerators are now shut down and closure activities have begun throughout the facility.

Since August:

- The demolition contractor has completed mechanical and electrical isolations and began demolition of the Munitions Demilitarization Building on Aug. 15, 2013
- The site electrical has been reconfigured for demolition
- All Pollution Abatement Systems have been removed
- All filters for the facilities heating, ventilation and cooling system have been removed
- About one half of the munitions demilitarization building has been demolished.

**Secondary waste**

The Umatilla facility has shipped away and processed all agent-contaminated secondary waste generated since the shutdown of the metal parts furnace. These materials were sent to a commercial RCRA-permitted incinerator in accordance with the facility's Waste Analysis Plan. All other waste generated during closure will be

characterized in accordance with the closure plan or the generator requirements in 40 CFR 262 and OAR 340-102 and shipped to the appropriate disposal facility.

**Facility safety record**

As of August, the facility has achieved approximately 11.7 million work hours without a lost time injury. There have been no lost time injuries since 2006.

**Facility permitting**

Thirty-five facility independent registered professional engineer interim closure packages have been submitted to DEQ for review and acceptance. DEQ completed review of all packages and approved the start of demolition of the munitions demilitarization building.

DEQ filed the temporary rule, approved by EQC at the June 2013 meeting, with the Secretary of State's office Aug. 14, 2013, to facilitate the efficient management of demolition debris from the munitions demilitarization building.

**Depot permitting**

The depot finalized the updated closure plan and submitted a permit modification in September. With this submittal the depot requested a temporary authorization to begin sampling and DEQ approved the request. The depot will hold a public meeting about the closure plan modification Oct. 15, 2013.

**Significant events at other facilities**

The U.S. Army chemical materials activity has eliminated 90 percent of the national chemical weapons stockpile to date.

**Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility**

This facility completed agent disposal operations on Jan. 21, 2012. The facility has shut down all of its furnaces. They continue to perform unventilated monitoring tests. The drum ventilation system and autoclave have been shut down and are being decommissioned.

**Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility**

This facility operated from Aug. 9, 2003, to Sept. 22, 2011. The facility has shut down all of its furnaces. The facility has begun demolitions operations.

**Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility**

The demolition of this facility has been completed and it has received notification from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality accepting the RCRA clean closure of the facility and for termination of the facility's RCRA permit.

**Blue Grass Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant**

This facility is still under construction and scheduled to begin operations in 2018. The plant will use neutralization followed by supercritical water oxidation to destroy 523 tons of nerve and mustard agents, with hydrolysate to be processed on site.

**Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant**

The facility is currently conducting systemization activities and should start operations in 2015. The plant will use neutralization followed by biotreatment to destroy 2,611 tons of HD agent in artillery and mortar projectiles, with hydrolysate to be processed on site.