



Chemical Warfare Materiel Design Center

Program Manager 256-895-1598

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville's Chemical Warfare Materiel Design Center (CWMDC) located within the Ordnance and Explosives Directorate is the sole provider of environmental response capability for activities that involve chemical warfare materiel for the Army and Department of Defense.

The CWMDC functions as the USACE lead for environmental response actions and other activities that may involve Chemical Warfare Materiel (CWM). Additionally, it serves as an adviser to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment for execution policy related to CWM issues.

CWM Defined

Chemical Warfare Materiel items are generally configured as a munition containing a chemical compound that is intended to kill, seriously injure or incapacitate a person through its physiological effects. CWM includes V- and G-series nerve agents or H-series (mustard) and L-series (lewisite) blister agents in other than munition configurations; and certain industrial chemicals (e.g., hydrogen cyanide (AC), cyanogens chloride (CK), or carbonyl dichloride (called phosgene or CG)) configured as a military munition. CWM does not include: riot control devices; chemical defoliants and herbicides; industrial chemicals (e.g., AC, CK or CG) not configured as a munition; smoke and other obscuration producing items; flame and incendiary producing items; or soil, water, debris or other media contaminated with low concentrations of chemical agents where no CA hazards exist. Soil, water, debris or other media contaminated with dispersed V- and G- series nerve agent, H- and HN-series blister agent or L will be considered and managed in accordance with 40 CFR 266 Subpart M.

Program Execution

CWMDC executes projects under the regulatory framework of both Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act. Projects span the gamut of environmental programs such as Formerly Used Defense Sites, Installation Restoration Program, Active Army Military Munitions Response Program, and Base Realignment and Closures. Program requirements include preparation of contract performance work statements and independent government estimates; overseeing the CWM safety and occupational health, technical, and administrative aspects of the field work for design and removal actions for CWM; maintaining contract capacity for CWM design and response services; providing an OE Safety Specialist to observe all site activities and ensure safety procedures are followed; providing technically qualified personnel to conduct CWM designs, investigation and remediation actions pertaining to CWM; retain responsibility for all CWM site activities from the beginning of mobilization to the destruction on-site or transportation of CWM found — this includes during the assessment and interim storage; and coordinate requests for support from other government agencies for CWM projects.

Program Partners

The CWMDC works with a variety of other government agencies in the execution of its program. These include the U.S. Army Materiel Command, CBRNE Analytical and Remediation Agency, Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, Project Manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Munitions, Army Environmental Command, U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosive Safety and the Department of Defense Explosive Safety Board.



A contractor performs OSHA Level B work while conducting a Chemical Warfare Materiel investigation under the Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) program.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville

P.O. Box 1600, Huntsville, AL 35807 Public Affairs Office 256-895-1694

www.hnc.usace.army.mil

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