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## U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

### Mission Area Overview:

*Project Manager – Chemical Stockpile Elimination*

#### What is the Project Manager – Chemical Stockpile Elimination (PM-CSE)?

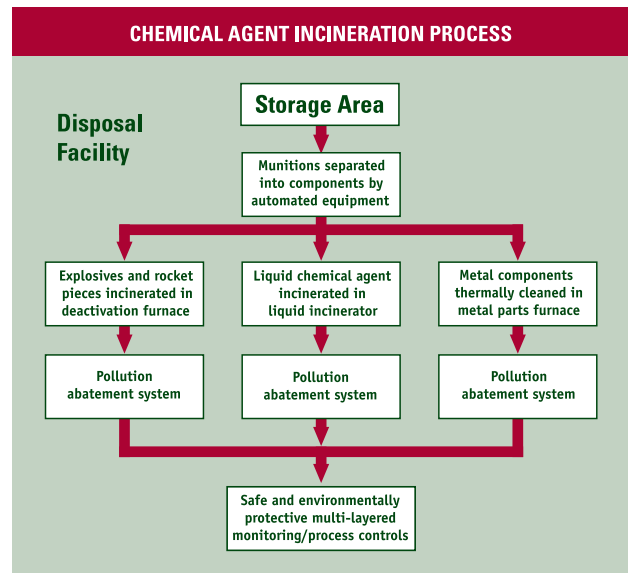
PM-CSE is an acquisition PM responsible for the safe destruction of the nation’s unitary chemical agents and weapons. The destruction technologies used by PM-CSE include incineration and neutralization.

The PM-CSE is one mission area of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA). CMA’s mission is to protect, safely store and destroy the aging chemical weapons stockpile.

#### Why incineration?

Incineration was selected as the Army’s preferred chemical weapons disposal technology in 1985 based on rigorous tests and comparisons of various technologies. The Army found incineration technology to be the safest and most efficient method to treat and dispose of various types of chemical weapons including chemical agents, explosives and metal parts. The process has been tested and used successfully in the chemical weapons disposal missions since 1979 and is endorsed by the National Research Council and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The first full-scale incineration facility was built on Johnston Atoll located in the Pacific Ocean. It successfully completed its mission in November 2000—safely destroying the 6 percent of the U.S. stockpile stored at the atoll. The disposal facility was dismantled and the atoll was returned to its natural state as a coral reef habitat. Other locations throughout the United States that use incineration for the safe disposal of chemical weapons include:



Anniston Army Depot, Ala.; Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.; Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah; and Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.

#### Why neutralization?

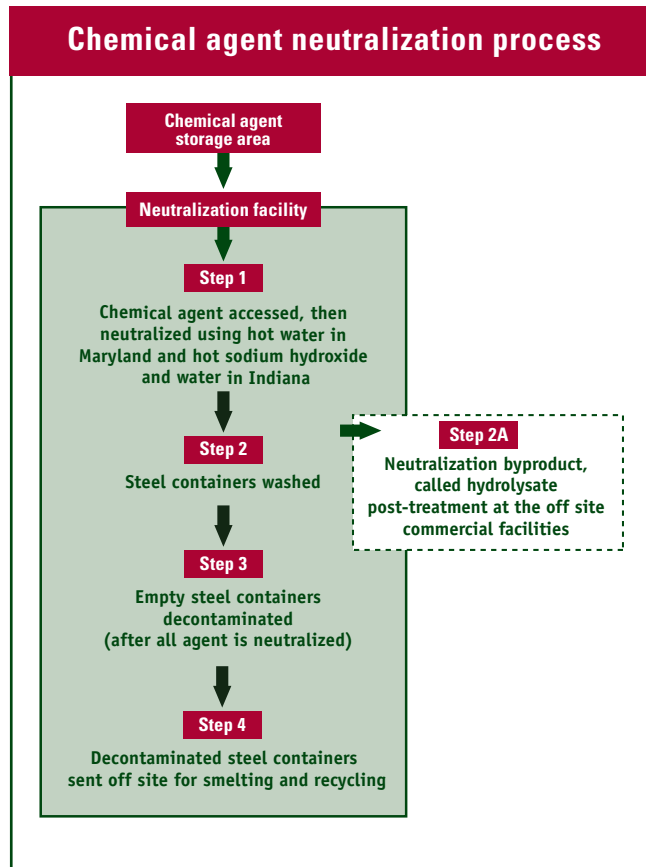
After extensive research for technologies other than incineration that could possibly be used to destroy chemical agent, four viable alternative technologies were selected for examination. One of the technologies was neutralization. Three independent groups reviewed each technology to determine which could destroy the bulk agent stockpile while meeting all of the legal and regulatory requirements for safety, environmental protection and cost effectiveness. The three groups, as well as the Citizen’s Advisory Commissions for Indiana and Maryland, recommended neutralization technology as the best alternative process at those sites.

For more information, contact the CMA Public Affairs Office at (410) 436-3629 (800) 488-0648



## Mission Area Overview: (continued)

Project Manager – Chemical Stockpile Elimination



### What has been destroyed and what is left to destroy?

- Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Alabama had 7 percent of the original stockpile and has destroyed all of its GB nerve agent and munitions. It has nerve agent VX and HD and HT blister agents and munitions remaining to destroy.
- Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Indiana had 4 percent of the original stockpile, all of it nerve agent VX in bulk containers. It is currently destroying its VX stockpile.
- Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Arkansas had 12 percent of the original stockpile and has destroyed its nerve agent GB and munitions. It has nerve agent VX and HD and HT blister agents and munitions left to destroy.

- Deseret Chemical Depot in Utah had 44 percent of the original U.S. stockpile and has destroyed all of its GB and VX nerve agents and munitions. It has H, HT, HD, GA and L agents and munitions left to destroy.
- Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Oregon had 12 percent of the original stockpile and has destroyed its nerve agent GB and munitions. It has nerve agent VX and HD blister agent and munitions remaining to destroy.
- Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System in the Pacific Ocean had 6 percent of the original stockpile and completed its disposal mission in 2000, destroying nerve agents GB and VX and HD blister agent and munitions.

### Who else is involved?

The PM-CSE, headquartered at the Edgewood area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is responsible for thousands of military, civilian and contract workers who are dedicated to ensuring the project's success. PM-CSE works with many state and federal oversight agencies including Congress, Department of Defense, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Research Council, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. PM-CSE also works with local and state regulators and nearby communities to ensure the safety of the workers, the public and the environment.

### How can I learn more?

The Army encourages you to learn more about the PM-CSE mission by visiting the CMA Web site at [www.cma.army.mil](http://www.cma.army.mil).