

Change of Leadership

Colonel Gerald L. Gladney takes the reigns of the Deseret Chemical Depot

In between words of gratitude, noted accomplishments, laughter and some tears, the colors of Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) passed from Colonel Frederick D. Pellissier to Colonel Gerald L. Gladney signaling a change of leadership during the Change of Command ceremony.

"I expected much and received even more from Colonel Pellissier," said Conrad Whyne, director of the U.S. Army's Chemical Materials

Agency (CMA) during the ceremony held at DCD July 22. "He is a true leader in every sense."

Amidst his farewell remarks, Colonel Pellissier, who will report next to U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla., thanked his DCD team. "You made my job easy," said Pellissier. "Every inspection—ranging from international treaty inspections to surety inspections—we achieved outstanding results. Be proud of your accomplishments."

Pellissier also warmly welcomed Colonel Gladney and his wife, Deidre, to Utah. "You bring a wealth of experience," said Pellissier to Gladney, "and I wish you all the best in command."

While Utah may be uncharted terrain for Colonel Gladney, he certainly is no stranger to the U.S. Army's chemical weapons demilitarization operations. He graduated from South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and chemistry and was commissioned an officer in the United States Army Chemical Corps in 1985. Before taking command of DCD, which originally stored the Army's single largest stockpile of chemical weapons, Gladney served as Chief of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Operations, J38 Readiness Division, at the North American Aerospace Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colo. He also served as Commander of Edgewood Chemical Activity and the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md. Most recently, Gladney was CMA's Director of Chemical Stockpile Operations.

"I vow to be the best leader I can be," said Gladney, who already faces several challenges, including problematic projectiles, mercury contaminated mustard agent, closure of the former research and development Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS) facility, and, as the end of chem demil operations near, closure of the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF).

"I am extremely excited to be part of this history making team at DCD," said Colonel Gladney, "and ridding this nation of its chemical stockpile safely and on time, thus creating a safer tomorrow."



CMA Director Conrad Whyne passes the DCD colors onto Col. Gerald L. Gladney. The colors represent not only the body of the Deseret Chemical Depot, but also its history of service to the Army and the country.



Incoming DCD Commander Col. Gerald L. Gladney addresses the workforce and program stakeholders for the first time at the Change of Command ceremony on July 22.

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8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
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DCD Restoration Advisory Board

An opportunity to get involved

Although the chemical weapons storage and disposal operations at Deseret Chemical Depot are drawing closer to the end, discussions regarding environmental cleanup and future use of the land have been under way for many years.

The DCD Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) first formed in 1998 as a communications forum for representatives from DCD, federal and state environmental agencies, Tooele City and County governments and local residents. The RAB provides an opportunity for stakeholders to participate in the cleanup process and make their views known to decision makers. Hosted by DCD and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the RAB meets quarterly each year to address environmental restoration and remediation activities from past operations at DCD.

"The RAB has been very successful in conveying information to the public on restoration projects taking place at DCD," said Walt Levi, DCD's Risk Management director and RAB co-chair. "The Army's commitment to environmental stewardship is one we all take very seriously."

The RAB's role as a communication vehicle remains important for the local community. Meeting attendees hear about upcoming environmental studies of DCD land and groundwater, the results of completed studies and the methods planned to restore the land to pre-mission environmental status. Residents also may ask questions and give their opinions or suggestions at the meetings.

The next meeting will be held on Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, located at 54 S. Main Street in Tooele. The public is encouraged to attend.



Brennon Orr of North Wind, Inc. presents the results of the fall 2007 groundwater monitoring activities at the July 15 RAB meeting at the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office.

Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing

(as of July 20, 2008)

Total number of mustard agent-filled ton containers	2,271
Total number of mustard agent-filled 155mm projectiles	54,205
Percentage of total mustard agent stockpile	37.82%

CAMDS closure work to transition to EG&G

Chemical Materials Agency officials have made a business decision to have all closure work at Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) performed by a single contractor.

Closure work at DCD's Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS) facility, currently being conducted by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), will transition to EG&G Defense Materials, Inc. Beginning next spring, EG&G will assume responsibility for the CAMDS closure operations, including the dismantling, decontamination and disposal of the equipment and structures used during chemical agent operations.

Closure efforts initially began at CAMDS in June 2006. Since the 1970s, the CAMDS facility served as the primary test and development facility for the nation's chemical agent destruction program.

This transition is not a performance based consideration. TVA has consistently set the standard for facility closure at DCD as well as the former Newport Chemical Depot (Ind.) and Pine Bluff Arsenal (Ark.).

Upcoming Events

- July 31, 5:00 p.m. – Utah Citizens' Advisory Commission annual social and meeting. The meeting will be held at the Ophir City Park.
- July 31–Aug. 2 – Come visit the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office information booth at the Tooele County Fair at the Deseret Peak Complex, 2930 Highway 112, Tooele.
- Aug. 14, 1:00 p.m. – Utah Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste Control Board monthly meeting. The meeting will be held in Room 101 at the Department of Environmental Quality building, 162 N. 1950 W. in Salt Lake City.

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