



## News Release

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### Field work brings ECBC home to Edgewood

*CBARR provides monitoring, analysis for site characterization of WWII-era buildings*

**ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md.** – The Chemical Biological Application and Risk Reduction (CBARR) Business Unit of the U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) is known for providing onsite field support at locations across the country. Now, the organization is utilizing this capability back home at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Since May 20, a team of CBARR personnel have provided air monitoring and sample analysis support for the E3200 block building characterization effort.

The project is led by the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville (USAESCH) and operated by prime contractor Parsons.

“Because of the history of the buildings, there is the potential that chemical warfare materials were used and there may be some building contamination as a result,” said Bill Bruchey, CBARR project manager. “It’s the reason why we are supporting the effort to characterize the area in question.”

Parsons personnel wear personnel protective equipment to enter buildings and take surface samples, as well as soil and liquid samples from the buildings. Additionally, any unknown wastes in containers and drums are characterized in the buildings.

“These buildings have been abandoned for so long and are in such a state of disrepair that I think understanding the hazards and dangers of the work are paramount,” Bruchey said.

A pre-operational survey was conducted with USAESCH, Parsons and ECBC personnel two weeks prior to operations to assess techniques, practices and protocols for the characterization work. The pre-operational exercises were designed to verify the Chemical Warfare Material Site Plan, familiarize all personnel with the operations and practice responses to potential scenarios. According to Bruchey, the project is expected to run through early July, where upon completion, the results from the sample analysis will help determine the future of the buildings.

For more information about ECBC, visit <http://www.ecbc.army.mil/>.

*ECBC is the Army’s principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for the warfighter and for our national defense, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is a U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command laboratory located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our website at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil> or call (410) 436-7118.*

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