

## **Umatilla Chemical Depot Tour and Workshop Scheduled For Businesses**

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### **Umatilla Chemical Depot Tour and Workshop Scheduled For Businesses**

**HERMISTON** – A tour and workshop of the Army's Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) will be held Tuesday, October 20, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. for businesses and private groups interested in purchasing surplus buildings and property at fair market value when it becomes available.

Planning is taking place now! Participants will learn about the closing of the base and how to submit a Notice of Interest (NOI) that would qualify them for consideration of some of the assets to be vacated when the Army closes the base. In order to be considered in the site redevelopment plan, the deadline for submitting an NOI is 5 p.m. on November 23, 2009.

The purpose of the tour and workshop is to allow representatives of businesses and private groups to determine if their organizations might be interested in submitting an NOI to acquire vacated base assets.

Interested representatives wanting to attend must register by calling Kim Swentik, (541) 922-9339 by 5 p.m. by Thursday, October 15. Security considerations require advanced registration.

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In the workshop, officials will discuss the closure and property disposal process. They will also brief participants on any known land-use constraints affecting the available property and buildings, and discuss the NOI process and schedule.

In addition, a very important session will be conducted about what might be good uses of UMCD land and resources. This session gives participants the opportunity both to indicate their organization's needs, and understand the needs of others.

"Tour and workshop attendance is highly encouraged," said Brian Cole, Executive Director of the Dana Mission Support Team, "but it isn't required. Any private party may submit a Notice of Interest."

The UMCD is one of six Army installations in the U.S. that store chemical weapons. The Army works with the state of Oregon, local governments and federal agencies to safeguard the local community and protect the environment while chemical weapons are stored and destroyed. The installation occupies 19,728 acres in Morrow and Umatilla Counties.

Safe operation drives the weapons cleanup schedule which is in its final stages. The Army believes weapons destruction may be completed between the summers of 2010 and 2011.

Depot infrastructure, including a variety of buildings and structures, has been cleaned to Army standards. Environmental cleanup continues until the properties meet the requirements established by the state of Oregon, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other concerns that safeguard the public and the nation's natural resources.

To help alleviate the adverse effects of base closure to the local community, base realignment and closure (BRAC) guidelines require the establishment of a local Land Re-

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Use Authority (LRA). The Umatilla Army Depot Re-Use Authority (UMADRA) is the local LRA responsible for working with the Army to develop a land use plan for the total site. Such a plan would consider economic development, environmental protection, and needs of the Oregon State Guard.

The UMADRA is comprised of representatives from Umatilla and Morrow Counties and Ports, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and two ex-officio State representatives.

UMADRA hired the team of Dana Engineering and MSE, Inc., based in the Tri Cities in Washington, to evaluate base properties and buildings and to assist with gathering of information that will help UMADRA develop a plan for base re-use, and to present that plan to the Department of Urban and Housing Development (HUD) and the Army for its approval.

“Many leaders in government, public agencies, business, and nonprofit organizations, as well as leaders of the interested general public will be consulted during data gathering. A community meeting next spring will seek public comment on the proposed plan before UMADRA adopts and presents the plan to the Army,” Cole said.

More information about the LRA activities can be found at:

[www.missionumatilla.com](http://www.missionumatilla.com)

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