

Meeting Minutes
 Travis Air Force Base
 Environmental Restoration Program
 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
 24 April 2003

RAB members present:

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Col. Michael L. Sevier	Travis Air Force Base (AFB), RAB co-chair	X
Whalen, Jim N.	Mayor Fleming's Office in Vacaville/RAB Community co-chair	X
Curtis, Richard	Northern Solano County Association of Realtors	X
Foster, John	City of Fairfield Representative	X
Kanouff, David F.	National Association of Retired Federal Employees	X
Lucey, John	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)	X
Marianno, David	Suisun City Resident	
Moriarty, Eamon	Goodrich Corporation	
Morad, Cyrus	Fairfield Resident	X
Raker, Sarah	San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board)	X
Salcedo, Jose	California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)	X
Taylor, William W.	Travis Unified School District	
Tolentino, Ron	Solano Garbage Company	

Public Members present:

- Allen Brickeen
- Clark Brandstatt, CSU Chico
- Justin Downard, CSU Chico

Travis AFB Staff Present:

- Glenn Anderson
- Wilford Day
- Gloria Downey
- DeAnn Lehigh
- Dale Malsberger
- Troy Martinson
- John Schopp
- Mark Smith

- Tom Sreenivasan
- Steve Stopher
- Linda Weese

Agencies and Contractors present:

- | | |
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| • Viola Cooper | U.S. EPA |
| • John Kaiser | Water Board |
| • Michelle Trotter | DTSC |
| • Mike Wray | CH2M Hill |
| • Monique Meyer | EarthTech |
| • Elizabeth Allen | TechLaw |
| • Ross Overby | URS |
| • Traci Bjers | URS |

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Mark Smith welcomed the attendees and introduced Mr. Troy Martinson, who has replaced Bruce James as Travis AFB's new Environmental Chief.

Mr. Smith introduced Col. Michael L. Sevier, Travis AFB Vice-Wing Commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing, as the new RAB co-chair. Mr. Smith also introduced Michelle Trotter as the new DTSC Public Participation Specialist overseeing Travis AFB.

Ms. DeAnn Lehigh introduced Captain Gloria Downey who will serve as the acting attorney for the environmental program until Ms. Lehigh's replacement arrives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 23, 2003, RAB meeting minutes were approved as final with no changes.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Introduction of New Remedial Program Manager

Mr. Smith introduced himself as the new Travis AFB Environmental Restoration Chief.

U.S. EPA Orientation

Mr. John Lucey and Ms. Viola Cooper, U.S. EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, gave a presentation on the U.S. EPA.

Superfund Community Involvement

Ms. Cooper stated that within the U.S. EPA, there are 10 regions, and Region 9 oversees Travis AFB. The goal of the Superfund Community Involvement Program is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation during Superfund cleanups. This is accomplished by:

- Keeping the community well informed of ongoing and planned activities;
- Encouraging and enabling community members to get involved;
- Listening carefully to what the community is saying;
- Taking the time needed to deal with community concerns;

- Changing planned actions where community comments or concerns have merit; and
- Explaining to the community what U.S. EPA has done and why.

Ms. Cooper stated that the RAB plays an important role in community involvement.

CERCLA

Mr. Lucey gave an extensive overview on the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund. CERCLA establishes prohibitions and requirements concerning closed and abandoned hazardous waste sites; provides liability of persons responsible for release of hazardous waste at these sites; and establishes a trust fund to provide for cleanup when no responsible party can be identified.

On October 17, 1986, CERCLA was amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). SARA stresses the importance of permanent remedies and innovative treatment technologies in cleaning up hazardous waste sites, requires actions to consider the standards and requirements found in other state and federal environmental laws and regulations, and provides new enforcement authorities and settlement tools.

Mr. Lucey explained that Region 9 has set preliminary remediation goals for drinking water and soil.

Mr. John Foster asked how maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) are determined. Mr. Lucey stated that risk usually drives the MCLs.

Mr. Richard Curtis asked what is meant by 10^{-6} . Mr. Lucey stated that 10^{-6} means one in a million. Mr. Jose Salcedo further explained that the risk of getting cancer is one in a million over the norm.

Mr. Foster commented on the importance of the RAB and the community involvement, that it allows for obtaining an awareness of what is going on at Travis AFB and is a worthwhile program.

Mr. Curtis stated that he briefs the local association of Realtors and that they are quite interested in what is going on at Travis AFB.

CLEANUP PROGRAM STATUS REPORTS

Phytoremediation

Mr. Glenn Anderson gave an update on Travis' phytoremediation study at Site DP039 near the Building 755 Battery Shop.

- The roots of the Red Ironbark Eucalyptus trees have reached the water table. The roots are absorbing enough water to support tree growth. The roots are also absorbing dissolved solvents. Solvents are drawn into other portions of the trees.
- Travis AFB is now in the process of determining if the trees release solvents into the air through leaf pores, how much solvent mass the trees remove from the subsurface, if the removal rate is seasonal or year round, and if this solvent removal stabilizes the contaminated groundwater plume.
- Additional fieldwork to address the above questions will begin this summer. Data gathering will continue to evaluate this treatment strategy.

Mr. David Kanouff asked how long it will be before knowing that phytoremediation is effective. Mr. Anderson stated that it will be a minimum of three years, probably five years.

The question was asked if the plume is growing or is it stable. Mr. Anderson stated that the plume near the source area is very stable because of the pump-and-treat system. Other portions of the plume may be migrating very slowly.

Land Use Controls

Mr. Anderson gave an overview of Land Use Controls (LUC). Mr. Anderson explained that a LUC is a physical (fence) or administrative (deed restriction) action that restricts access to a particular piece of property that contains soil or groundwater contaminants above residential cleanup values.

The Base General Plan, which is similar to a city general plan, provides the framework for selecting the locations for building the facilities needed to carry out the base's mission. This plan summarizes the LUCs at restoration sites and is the centerpiece of the LUC strategy that is described in the West/Annexes/Basewide Operable Unit Soil Record of Decision.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the following planning paperwork:

- Air Force Form 813 – Request for Environmental Impact Analysis;
- Air Force Form 332 – Base Civil Engineering Work Request;
- 60 AMW Form 55 – Excavation Permit; and
- Annual Inspection, that verifies that each LUC is adequate and properly managed.

Mr. Smith asked when it will be the best time for the annual inspection. Mr. Anderson stated at the beginning of the rainy season to coincide with the end of the construction season.

Mr. Curtis asked if Base Civil Engineering has to approve construction on the base. Mr. Anderson answered, absolutely; also, the base community planner oversees the future development of the base.

NEWIOU Soil, Sediment, and Surface Water Record of Decision Update

Mr. Malsberger gave an update on the North East West Industrial Operable Unit (NEWIOU) Soil, Sediment, and Surface Water Record of Decision.

- Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum – determines if residual soil contamination is a threat to groundwater. A draft Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum was issued to the agencies on April 17, 2003. It concluded that no soil action was necessary regarding the groundwater (i.e., there is no threat to groundwater).
- Ecological Protection Technical memorandum – determines the risk to ecological receptors from soil, sediment, and surface water. A site visit with the agencies occurred in February 2003 to reach agreement on sites that have habitat. The Air Force met with the agencies in March 2003 and reached agreement on the approach and what the receptors will be (hawk, otter, and salmon). The draft Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum is scheduled to be issued on July 31, 2003.
- Draft Record of Decision – will incorporate all preliminary comments and agreements. This will include regulations, historical summary, site descriptions with recommended action for human health, Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum, and

Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum. The draft record of decision is scheduled to be issued on December 3, 2003.

Mr. Brickeen asked when the Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum will be finalized. Mr. Malsberger stated that the document is out for a 60-day review and will depend upon the comments received from the agencies.

REGULATORY AGENCY REPORT

None.

FOCUS GROUP REPORTS

None.

RAB/PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that future meetings will be held at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors Office, Fairfield, California. The next meeting will take place on July 24, 2003.

October 2003 RAB Meeting

Mr. Smith informed the RAB that Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence has rescinded its offer to host Travis AFB's October 2003 RAB meeting because of cost.

Topics for the Next Meeting

- Groundwater Technical Memorandum;
- Update on NEWIOU Record of Decision;
- Evaluation of the Reactive Wall;
- Toxicologist presentation on human health and ecological risks; and
- What are the potential human health risks?