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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 4 DECEMBER 1997 WITH
AGREED ORDER AND PROGRAM UPDATE NCBC GULFPORT MS
12/4/1997
NCBC GULFPORT



Gulfport, Mississippi

Minutes

NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Mississippi December 4, 1997 6:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board met in the Building 1 conference room at Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Mississippi, on December 4, 1997.

Gordon Crane

Edie Dreher

Joe Halasz

Art Holzweissig

Skip McDaniel

Retha Longmire

Joyce Shaw

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In addition, the following guest was welcomed from the community:

Andy Guerra

Support personnel attending the meeting included:

Penny Baxter, ABB Environmental Services, Inc.

Nancy Brooks, NCBC Gulfport

Art Conrad, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Marland Dulaney, ABB Environmental Services, Inc.

Nancy Rouse, ABB Environmental Services, Inc.

LT Matthew Haupt, NCBC Gulfport

Welcome: LT Haupt made opening remarks stating that CDR Zink would not be able to attend and that he would be sitting in. He introduced himself as Carol Womack's replacement.

LT Haupt asked the RAB if anyone had any additions or problems with last month's meeting minutes. The RAB voted to approve the minutes as submitted.

Agreed Order (AO) and Installation Restoration (IR) Program Update: Highlights of the AO and IR program, as provided by Art Conrad, are summarized here:

AO Highlights:

- SouthDiv have funds available for the groundwater investigation.
- Morrison Knudsen, the Seabee Center's Remedial Action Contractor (RAC), is developing plans to stop the groundwater seep at Site 4.
- Mr. Conrad offered to provide copies of the Administrative Order and the Agreed Order for the RAB to examine.

IR Highlights:

- During Phase I of the AO, PCBs were found at an undesignated site. That site will be formally designated as an IR Program site, and will probably be called "Site 10." The designation is required to occur within 45 days, of which over a week had passed.
- The Community Relations Plan is outdated and will be revised starting after the first of the year.

- New RAB members are being added this meeting.
- Gordon Crane added that the Biological Monitoring Plan is nearly ready for review. He said he needed an ad hoc committee to review it.

The Biological Monitoring Plan: Dr. Marland Dulaney gave a presentation on biological monitoring as it relates to the AO. The AO specifically states that the ditches, Canal #1, Turkey Creek, and Brickyard Bayou should be evaluated for the impact of Herbicide Orange on human health and the environment. The standard Superfund or IR approach would be to conduct a human health and ecological risk analysis - looking at receptors and ecology now present and performing calculations of present risks. From this data risk assessors try to predict risk and effects 30 years into the future. The calculations are hypothetical future risks. During this type of study, questions are asked about who or what to study, what effects to study, and the time frame for the study.

The presence of dioxin at NCBC presents a unique challenge since dioxin releases are rare and the possibility of 20 year exposure is rare. Other challenges are that numerous receptors are present, several different pathways exist, and ecological risks for dioxin are species dependent. Dr. Dulaney outlined possible approaches to address these challenges. These include: human risk analysis, ecological risk analysis, and epidemiology study - the study of diseases and factors that contribute to them. The epidemiology study looks backward in time. Dr. Dulaney told the RAB about the benefits and disadvantages of each type of study. He stated that the Biological Monitoring Plan is in the preliminary draft stage. There is general agreement that the human health study is needed, partial agreement that the ecological risk study is needed, and that there is significant debate about the usefulness of the epidemiological study. He stated that the BMP is not ready for review by the MSDEQ.

Q. What is the first thing that will be done?

A. Fish sampling.

Q. What levels will be important?

A. Investigations have shown 70-80 ppt in Leaf River with no dioxin in the sediment. We expect if concentrations of dioxin are found in greater concentrations than 25 ppt, the State will be interested.

Q. Will you be studying just fish, or crawfish too?

A. Probably just fish at this time.

Q. How far out is the dioxin?

A. Dioxin has been found in Bernard Bayou.

Q. Is it from the Base?

A. At this time we do not know. That is why in the BMP we are proposing doing a fingerprint study to identify the dioxin congeners.

Q. What is the first exposure that you will look at?

A. Eating fish. The exposure survey, we believe, underestimated the amount of fish being consumed. It is also possible that fishing was more prevalent in the past.

Membership Selection: Ten new members were selected from a list of interested community members. The list of eligible applicants was developed from a previous list of applicants from earlier recruiting efforts. The list was updated by first calling and/or mailing information to each of the applicants to determine if they were still interested in the RAB. The list indicated those who returned updated applications and those who expressed continued interest during telephone conversations. The RAB members were each given an opportunity to comment on the list of applicants, which was followed by an open vote. The 10 applicants receiving the most votes were selected for the RAB. The RAB members also noted that a quorum was present and decided to amend the charter by increasing the number of community members from 17 to 19. The following new members (in alphabetical order) were selected at the meeting.

Jim Atchison	Patricia Ramos-Membrado
Joseph Ford	Ron Schmidting
Andy Guerra	Philip Shaw
David Marshall	Jeff Stawowy
Robin Rafferty	Earl Whittemore

An eleventh new member was selected to serve as an alternate "base employee" representative.

Conclusion: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Membership Selection Postscripts: Several membership selection issues surfaced immediately after the meeting:

- ◆ The day following the RAB meeting, an application was received from a base resident. Although the application period had passed, the applicant was considered for selection because of the importance attributed to having base housing represented on the RAB.
- ◆ It was discovered that the person selected to act as a representative of base employees had retired from the Seabee Center.
- ◆ The total number of new community members had inadvertently been raised to 21 (including the base employee alternate), rather than the agreed upon 19. By adding the base resident and not adding an alternate base employee, the total number of community members was still be 21 -- two members more than approved through the charter amendment.
- ◆ However, Joyce Shaw reviewed the charter after the meeting and noted that two thirds of the RAB membership (rather than a quorum) is required to hold a vote to amend the charter, and therefore a vote had been taken without enough members being present.

All of these issues were resolved by a telephone "vote" of more than two thirds of RAB members who were eligible to participate in the new member selection. The vote resulted in the approval to increase in the maximum number of RAB members to 21 and the selection of Carolyn Mueller as the Seabee Center base resident representative.



Agreed Order (AO) and Installation Restoration (IR) Program Update NCBC Gulfport December 1997

Agreed Order (AO)

- ◆ Planning corrective action for groundwater seep at Site 4, the Golf Course Landfill.
- ◆ Drafting a plan for biological monitoring.
- ◆ Finalizing a letter report to summarize findings from the first phase of dioxin sampling.
- ◆ Completed Phase II sampling. Initial results will be available in early 1998.
- ◆ Finalizing the groundwater monitoring plan for Sites 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8.

Installation Restoration (IR) Program

- ◆ Continuing to pump and treat groundwater to remove free product at Site 6, the Fire-Fighting Training Area.
- ◆ Planning for cleanup of PCB-contaminated soil identified during Phase I sampling under the AO.
- ◆ Planning to revise the Seabee Center's community relations plan in early 1998.
- ◆ Adding new members to the RAB at the December 1997 meeting.