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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 4 MAY 2000 NCBC GULFPORT MS
5/4/2000
NCBC GULFPORT

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Gulfport, Mississippi

**NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi
May 4, 2000
6:40 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board met at the Harrison County Public Library in Gulfport, Mississippi, on May 4, 2000:

Gordon Crane
Edie Dreher
Joseph Ford
David Marshall

Ron Schmidting
Joyce Shaw
Philip Shaw
Jeffery Stawowy

Community Members attending included: Helen T Jones, Henry and Flora Windham, Kenneth and Lorelin Necaïse, Lee Willis, and Howard Page.

Support personnel attending the meeting included:

Penny Baxter, Harding Lawson Associates
Art Conrad, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Norm Richardson, Harding Lawson Associates

Other interested parties attending included: Mike Hawkins (AFCEE), Vergel Casunuran (Unitec/AFCEE), Don Ficklen (AFCEE), Charles Radford (CH2M Hill), Steve Hughes (TetraTech), and Bob Fisher (TetraTech).

Welcome: Gordon Crane opened the meeting at 6:40pm and made welcoming comments and introductions.

Art Conrad gave the Agreed Order/Installation Restoration Update. The following work at the Base was discussed:

- Groundwater Investigation. Mr. Conrad said that groundwater investigation was completed. Site 7 needed additional investigation and that was underway.
- Delineation of sediment on and off base was complete. The report had been reviewed by the State and the State was in agreement that the study was done.
- The soil under the Windham house was completed and found to contain no dioxin to cause concern.
- Two round of biological sampling was complete and risk assessments were underway.
- Two meetings were held with MSDEQ in December 99 and February 00. These resulted in setting remediation goals for residential/industrial areas. The State agreed to the cleanup. A document is being prepared for remediation planning.
- A meeting with the affected landowners north of the base was held. These landowners were presented with the concept of Brownfields land use.

- The Site 6 pump and treat system will be undergoing maintenance and an engineering study to improve system performance.
- Site 10 has had 400 tons PCB contaminated soil removed. Next, a study of the groundwater will be done to see if it contains PCB.

Norm Richardson gave a presentation of the biological sampling study that has been completed. The objectives of the sampling of fish were to:

- Collect whole and fillet fish samples
- See if a relationship exists between dioxin in fish and sediment
- Evaluate exposures to humans and wildlife that eat fish

Samples were collected both on the base and off the base in Turkey Creek, Brickyard Creek, Bernard Bayou and a background location.

Two sets of fish samples were collected: before spawning and after spawning. Whole body fish collected were used to study effects on wildlife. Fillet fish samples were used to study effects on human health. Both bottom feeding fish and larger predator fish were collected. Crayfish samples could not be collected due to scarcity. A total of 25 fillet samples were collected and 33 whole body samples were collected.

The study concluded that the dioxin in fish did not correlate with dioxin in sediment. Studies of the human health and environmental risks associated with exposure to the fish are currently being evaluated.

Several questions were received from those in attendance. One visitor told about seeing birds with lumps on their heads and wanted to know if that was from dioxin. Another visitor were the Windhams – whose soil had been sampled. Another question was from a visitor who had caught a perch from the ditches that had died when put in his lily pond.

Gordon Crane promised follow up for those with questions. He promised the Windhams a copy of the letter outlining the sample collected from beneath their house.

End at 8:00pm

Gordon Crane took the action item to notify the RAB members when the Groundwater Investigation report was ready for review.

Conclusion: The RAB agreed to hold its next meeting in September. This meeting will also include a Public Availability Session presenting groundwater results to the public.