

**NAVAL AIR STATION ALAMEDA RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING SUMMARY**

**NAS Alameda Combined Officers Quarters
NAS Alameda, California**

Tuesday, December 3, 1996

ATTENDEES

See the attached list.

MEETING SUMMARY

I. Introduction and Minutes

Steve Edde, the Navy co-chair, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. He announced that Ardella Dailey, the interim community co-chair, would be late to the meeting and as a result the restoration advisory board (RAB) meeting procedures portion of the meeting will be postponed until she arrives.

Mr. Edde asked for comments on the November 5, 1996, meeting summary. No revisions were requested and the minutes were approved.

II. Co-Chair Announcements

Mr. Edde made several announcements.

- Mr. Edde said that there has been no significant change in the proposed budget since his presentation at the August 6, 1996 RAB meeting. He said that Naval Air Station (NAS) Alameda has been guaranteed 70 percent of the requested funding; NAS Alameda has requested \$33.8 million and is guaranteed \$23.7 million. Karen Hack asked how much of the budget has been administered so far. Mr. Edde said he does not know how much money has come in so far but he knows that it has been obligated.
- Mr. Edde gave a brief update on the underground storage tank (UST) soil piles. He explained that the soil piles are the result of UST removals when the soil around the tanks was removed and stockpiled for testing for contamination that may have resulted from a UST leak. He explained that the piles are currently located on the fence-line south of the soccer field, as well as south of Building 14 near the Seaplane Lagoon. Mr. Edde explained that there were originally 48 rows of soil. The soil has been tested and 1.5 rows were determined to have petroleum contaminants above acceptable levels. These soil rows will be disposed of off site. Four rows of clean soil have been used at Site 15. The remaining clean soil piles will be used on-site as needed, and this will save the cost of importing clean soil.

- Doug deHaan suggested that the community be informed via newspaper article of the status of the soil piles. Mr. Edde agreed and Hans Petersen noted the request. Tom Okey expressed concern that the Navy not use the soil to fill the wetlands along the runway. There was a brief discussion about whether the area was determined to be a wetland. Tom Lanphar said the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT) is currently developing a soil management plan to address soil management issues for the cleanup at NAS Alameda. He explained that the area near the runway is not one of the areas being considered for reuse of the soil generated from the UST program activities.
- Mr. Edde displayed a map indicating that the area of the base that has been evaluated in the environmental baseline survey and had a finding of suitability to lease (FOSL) signed, has increased significantly. He said it is planned that the entire property will be evaluated by April 1997. Mr. Edde said he will make copies of the map for the RAB.
- Mr. Edde distributed a matrix summary outlining the installation restoration (IR) sites and asked the RAB to provide comments. Mr. deHaan suggested a funding column indicating funding at each IR site. Ms. Hack requested schedules for both the IR activities up to the record of decision (ROD), and compliance programs. Mr. Edde said that updates beyond the scope of the IR program will be given during the co-chair announcements and that he will be creating a milestone schedule. Mr. Edde and Mr. Lanphar indicated that the BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP) currently being updated will contain updated schedules. Mr. Lanphar suggested that the summary include a column for environmental baseline survey (EBS) activities. Mr. Edde said that he will make modifications to the summary and will present it again at the January 1997 RAB meeting.

III. Process Action Team for UST Soil Piles and Site 15

Mr. Edde introduced Karen Hack, coordinator of the Site 15 process action team (PAT). Ms. Hack explained that in addition to soil management issues at Site 15, the NAS Alameda environmental office had received calls about the UST soil piles near the fence line on the eastern border of NAS Alameda. She said that because RAB members available to address these issues were few, the PATs will address both of these issues. Ms. Hack said that because the soil piles were of concern to the neighboring community, the PAT considered the soil piles a priority issue. Ms. Hack introduced Patrick Lynch to present the summary of the PAT's discussion and recommendations regarding soil management. Mr. Lynch distributed a handout that summarized the PAT's concerns and recommendations. After Mr. Lynch presented the PAT's concerns and recommendations, RAB members asked questions and engaged in discussion.

- Mr. DeHaan asked how the PAT's recommendations differ from the Navy's current practices. Mr. Lynch said that the Navy currently makes the decisions before the public comment period; the PAT is recommending public involvement before the decision has been made. Ms. Hack said that community involvement is required at the end of the process and the PAT would like to see continuous RAB and community involvement throughout the process.

- Mr. Okey asked what authority the community has in these decision-making processes. Mr. Lynch said that decisions are somewhat contingent on regulatory approval but ultimately the Navy has authority. Mr. Edde said that the BCT wants RAB input and has given the RAB three options to review for addressing the soil at Site 15. Mr. Lynch said that the options presented are the beginning of the discussion but the PAT needs to know more about the options including where would a corrective action management unit (CAMU) be located, where would soil be disposed of off-site, and how that would affect communities near the disposal site.
- Mr. Lynch distributed photographs of the UST soil piles near the fence line of the eastern border of NAS Alameda. Mr. Okey commented that the soil was being washed into a storm drain. Mr. Edde said that all the soil at that location has been determined to be clean. Mr. Edde continued that he understands that the PAT has identified two key issues: (1) what to do with current soil piles and (2) how to deal with soil removals in the future. Mr. Lynch added that there also needs to be a process for addressing community concerns. Mr. deHaan asked if the Navy knew the UST soil piles were clean before placing them near the fence-line. Ms. Hack said that she has been asking for the data showing the soil is not contaminated but she has not received it. Lyn Stirewalt also agreed that there needs to be a way of addressing community concerns. She said that concerns brought up in the RAB are reflected in the information repository through the minutes and videotaping of the RAB meetings; however, phone calls received by the Navy are not necessarily presented. Mr. Edde said that he has received two phone calls from one woman regarding the UST soil piles; the first was to request that the soil piles be recovered with the tarp that had blown off and the second was to thank him for recovering the piles.
- Ms. Hack asked if there was a schedule for removing the piles and that removing the piles without a plan for what to do with them was a problem. Mr. Lanphar said that the piles were originally scattered throughout the base and as a result were difficult to manage. The intention for the temporary storage and treatment area (TSTA) at Site 15 and the UST soil piles was to enable better on-site management of the soil. The BCT subsequently had problems with contracts, schedules and technology which resulted in delays at Site 15. It was not the BCT's intention to have the soil piled for so long. He explained that the soil management plan is being developed to address these issues. Mr. deHaan asked if the BCT will take into consideration the PAT's recommendations for the soil management plan. Mr. Lanphar said that the BCT will consider the RAB's recommendations.
- Mr. Edde stated that it is important to make the distinction between the UST soil piles and the Site 15 TSTA soil. He explained that the UST soil piles are exactly like those found in neighborhood gas station renovation projects. He said that the soil at Site 15 is secured in the TSTA. Mr. Lanphar said that on-site treatment of the Site 15 soil was the goal of the BCT, but the Biogenesis technology failed.

- Ms. Hack asked if anyone from the general community wanted to make a comment. Lauren Hellfand said the community should not accept the transfer of dirty property from the Navy. She said that soil piles are unacceptable regardless if the soil is clean or not. She explained that the community does not know if there is radioactive material in the soil as well as other kinds of contaminants.

IV. Membership Process Action Team

Ms. Stirewalt gave an update on the RAB membership PAT. She said the following membership drive efforts have been completed: letters and applications have been mailed to prospective members; an article has been published in the PG&E Newsletter FLASH; membership opportunities were announced at the Alameda Reuse and Redevelopment Authority town meeting; an announcement has been published in three local newspapers, and announcements and membership applications will be available for current members to distribute. Ms. Stirewalt said the membership applications are due January 15, 1997, and the next membership PAT meeting will be dedicated to ranking the applicants and planning for a new member orientation. She thanked Julie Brown and Hans Petersen for their help and said that the RAB should have new members by February 1997.

V. BRAC Cleanup Plan

Mr. Edde introduced Ms. Bernhard who gave a presentation on the updated BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP). Ms. Bernhard explained that the BCP is the primary document for information on cleanup activities at NAS Alameda. She said that she encourages the RAB to review the draft updated BCP and provide comments on how to improve the document. She said the BCP will be sent to RAB members on December 13, 1996, and the Navy needs comments back by January 30, 1997. Ms. Bernhard asked if the RAB would be interested in forming a PAT to review the BCP. Ms. Stirewalt and Ms. Hack stated that they would like to see the document first and would probably form a PAT in January 1997 after people had had a chance to review the BCP. Michelle Kortyna passed around a sign-up sheet for members interested in receiving and reviewing the BCP. Ms. Bernhard said she would be available by phone or in person to answer questions.

Mr. Edde announced that Ms. Dailey had sent word that she would not be attending tonight's meeting after all and agenda items to be addressed by her would be postponed until the January 1997 RAB meeting.

VI. Funnel and Gate Process: Site 1 Innovative Technology

Mr. Edde introduced Jim Barker, Professor of Earth Sciences at the University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. Professor Barker overviewed the funnel and gate technology (F&G) to be demonstrated at Site 1. He explained that F&G is being tested as a way of treating contaminated groundwater so that it does not migrate to potential ecological receptors downgradient. He explained the F&G is a desirable technology in that it is low cost, non-invasive, and long term. He explained that NAS Alameda was chosen for the demonstration because of ideal site conditions. He said these conditions include groundwater contaminated with both solvents and petroleum hydrocarbons which will allow for testing two technologies: iron reaction wall and biosparging. A RAB member asked if the tides influence the flow of the groundwater. Professor Barker explained that the Navy had contracted for a tidal report that

indicated there was little tidal effect on the groundwater in the F&G demonstration area. Professor Barker said NAS Alameda may want to continue using F&G if the demonstration proves useful in controlling contaminated groundwater. After Professor Barker's presentation, RAB members made comments and asked questions.

- Ms. Kortyna asked how clean the water will be after funneled through the F&G. Professor Barker stated that groundwater will be cleaned beyond drinking water standards. He explained that for 20 to 24 weeks the treated water will be pumped out at first to make sure the technology is effective.
- Ms. Kortyna asked if bacteria were going to be added in the biosparging process. Professor Barker explained that no new bacteria would be introduced, only oxygen to promote the growth of naturally occurring bacteria that degrade contaminants. He said that foam will be added to the bioreactor to host the bacteria.
- Mr. Mooney asked the length of the sheet pilings that will be inserted to funnel the groundwater. Professor Barker said the pilings are 60 feet long and the gates will be 15 feet wide.
- Ms. Hack asked what will be done with soil excavated for the F&G demonstration. Professor Barker said it will be securely stored and analyzed and probably taken off base for disposal. He said there will be approximately 120 cubic yards of soil.
- A RAB member asked if there is potentially radioactive contamination in the soil. Professor Barker explained that the soil will be tested for radioactive contamination. He explained that 6-inches of soil will be lifted at one time, spread out, then tested using a hand-held instrument. If the soil is found to be contaminated, it will be immediately barrelled and disposed of safely. Ms. Kortyna expressed concerns about radon gas from radioactive contamination. Ken Spielman explained that the Navy radiological expert has reviewed the data and determined the only potential radiological problem is the radium paint on disposed instrument dials.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 7, 1997, at the Combined Officers Quarters, NAS Alameda.

ATTENDANCE LIST

03 DECEMBER 1996 RESTORATION ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

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