

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION EL TORO
PROPOSED PLAN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

M60050.001961
MCAS EL TORO
SSIC # 5090.3

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING

Thursday, May 15, 1997

4:30 p.m.

ORIGINAL

Irvine City Hall
One Civic Center Plaza
Conference and Training Center
Irvine, California

Reported By: Jeanine Burgner, CSR No. 6653

HAHN
BOWERSOCK
C O R P O R A T I O N
Certified Court and Deposition Reporters
3187 Redhill Avenue · Suite 115 · Costa Mesa, CA 92626
800-660-3187 · Fax 714-662-1398

COSTA MESA · ONTARIO · LONG BEACH · LOS ANGELES · SAN DIEGO · SAN FRANCISCO

I N D E X

COMMENTS BY:	Page
DENNY QUERANTES 1702 Kaeser Avenue Irvine, California 92714 (714) 252-8555	4
GAIL REAVIS 21281 Astoria Mission Viejo, California 92692	4
JOHN GUPTILL John Gupstill, Inc. Affiliation: Polar Marine Incorporated 5690 Sugar Pine Drive Yorba Linda, California 92886 (714) 996-4559	5
LAYTON RAWLINS Affiliation: Dana Point Sentinel P.O. Box 691 Dana Point, California 92629	5
ELISE STEELE Affiliation: Project 99 and TRP 17236 Citron Irvine, California 92612	6
NANCY HAZLETT 22621 Dunkenfield Circle Lake Forest, California 92630	7
GERHARD "GARY" F. KNAPP Affiliation: GFK Consulting, Ltd. President 63 Calle de Industrias San Clemente, California 92672 (714) 366-2346	7
HARRY CHENARIDES 17 Merlin Avenue Aliso Viejo, California 92656 (714) 452-9488	8

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

INDEX (cont.'d):

COMMENTS BY:

Page

MARCIA RUDOLPH
24922 Muirlands
Lake Forest, California 92630

10

SCOTT BROTEN
23411 Summerfield - #69E
Aliso Viejo, California 92656
(714) 643-6765

10

AMY SPURGEON
10531 Morada
Orange, California 92869

10

1 Thursday, May 15, 1997

2
3 (The following comments were on the record:)

4
5 DANNY QUERANTES: The groundwater contamination
6 should be actively pursued immediately.

7 A carcinogen constantly migrating across
8 property lines eventually contaminating a city's drinking
9 water supply is much more threatening to the people.

10 The proposed plan is adequate, at best, and
11 is moving at a snail's pace.

12
13 GAIL REAVIS: I guess, first of all, I'd like to
14 say -- I don't like the format of the open house, as
15 opposed to having a meeting where people can hear other
16 people's thoughts and concerns.

17 Mostly, I understand that this cleanup effort
18 is to the level of anticipating that the Air Base will be
19 replaced with an airport, so that the level of cleanup does
20 not have to be as tight. Standards are lower for the
21 cleanup when they put an airport in to a replace an Air
22 Base.

23 I know the Board of Supervisors had voted on
24 having an airport. But I don't think that the issue is
25 resolved satisfactorily, that cleaning it up to this level

1 is not satisfactory.

2 That's my statement: Not satisfactory to
3 me.

4

5 JOHN GUPTILL: With me today is Mr. Donald Rez.
6 Donald Rez is the President of Polar Marine and the
7 inventor of the process that we were talking about to some
8 of these people.

9 And we learned a great deal from the
10 displays, and so forth, and from talking to the gentlemen
11 from the Navy and Marine Corps. And we think the displays
12 were very good. And it's a very good show.

13 Thank you very much.

14

15 LAYTON RAWLINS: My kept inherent reason we
16 attended this meeting, after reading about it in "The
17 Orange County Register," was that this was going to be, in
18 our opinion, thee big story, much bigger than all the
19 attention that is being paid to whether or not there be an
20 airport at the former El Toro Marine station.

21 I've been advised by a Retired Marine Colonel
22 that once the Navy Secretary turns in his key to El Toro,
23 that any cleanup that hasn't been done by that time is
24 probably not going to be done.

25 And so, our concern is that we rattle enough

1 sabers between now and the time that the Base is actually
2 closed and that key is transferred over to Orange County,
3 whomever else will take control of that 4738 acres; that we
4 do everything possible to get as much cleanup done as
5 possible if -- hopefully, one hundred percent of the
6 cleanup be attended before the Navy resigns the Base.

7 That's my comment.

8

9 ELISE STEELE: I would like to suggest, as a public
10 citizen, that we have another Public Meeting, as we have
11 here today, before May 30th, if possible. I do not think
12 enough information was put out in the newspapers. There
13 should have been more people here, certainly from
14 Project 99 and TRP, who are very strong in fighting the
15 El Toro Airport as an international Base reuse.

16 I would suggest that people call me. Because
17 I did find 1st Lt. Matt Morgan, USMC, was most cordial,
18 most helpful. And he would really appreciate having more
19 public opinion, and people helping and learning what this
20 cleanup remedy is all about.

21 There has not been enough time for people to
22 be advised of these meetings. And he suggested there might
23 be more meetings on different site cleanups in the next few
24 years.

25 But I think we should have more meetings on

1 the Site 24, which is the one they are attacking now.

2 I guess that's all.

3

4 NANCY HAZLETT: And I speak from ignorance, to some
5 degree. I found out a lot today.

6 My only concern would be that this cleanup
7 would be thorough and the Marines, or whoever is in charge,
8 would be committed to completing the cleanup. I've been
9 assured that is so. I just trust it is.

10 We're very anti-airport. And so, there's a
11 concern there, you know, whether the airport will actually
12 go in or not. And I understand that this is sort of
13 proposed with the assumption that the airport will go in.
14 And we certainly don't want the airport to go in, but we do
15 want the cleanup.

16

17 GERHARD "GARY" KNAPP: My comment, basically, is
18 that the technology that's being selected here of activated
19 carbon absorption for these chlorinated solvents is the
20 best and environmentally most effective way of doing the
21 job. That's my personal opinion.

22 And, basically, it is being done properly.
23 It is being removed from the ground. It is being absorbed,
24 the carbon. The carbon can be treated again in an
25 environmentally-accepted manner. So it's the best way to

1 do it.

2

3 HARRY CHENARIDES: Why am I here?

4 I'm here because the meetings that are
5 conducted at this particular site regarding the safety and
6 cleanliness of the El Toro Air Base affects me, because I
7 am a resident of Aliso Viejo.

8 And in that regard, if another airport site
9 goes into where the Marine Corps Base is in 1999, then I
10 will not only have air pollution, I'll have traffic
11 infrastructure problems coming out the gazoo (sic). And
12 we'll have all kinds of municipalities -- like water,
13 electricity, telephone lines -- multiplying by the
14 thousands.

15 The airport itself, if it becomes an airport,
16 will increase their flight pattern and timing to one every
17 thirty seconds, as opposed to the military, which has it
18 right now. And they conduct their flights from about 6:00
19 in the morning till about 7:00 or 8:00 at night. And then,
20 they stop. And that doesn't happen every day of the week,
21 which is what would happen if an international airport went
22 in that particular site.

23 Now, I'm concerned with the board meetings
24 here to the degree that they have spoken about the safety
25 and cleanliness of the site being brought to a residential

1 level, and not stopped at a commercial level.

2 For example, Lt. Matt Morgan has spoken to
3 me, saying they were obligated -- "they," the Marine
4 Corps -- were obligated to bring that up to a residential
5 state of cleanliness regardless, because that's their
6 orders, to bring it up to a residential level.

7 I'm satisfied with that, because I am for a
8 nonaviation use of the El Toro Marine Corps Base.

9 Much to my dismay, the Orange County Board of
10 Supervisors feel that airport site is much more profitable
11 than a nonaviation use of the site. There have been
12 several promotional ideas submitted to the Orange County
13 Board of Supervisors, who speedily reject them without even
14 looking at them.

15 And I know that, because I attend the
16 Orange County Board of Supervisors. And people like Silva,
17 Steiner and Smith have absolutely no concern at all about
18 any proposal that does not talk about an aviation site in
19 that particular area. They are dead set against anything
20 that's nonaviation.

21 In that regard, I'm concerned about what goes
22 on over here. So it's sort of, like I mentioned earlier, a
23 left-handed way of knowing what's going on at this board
24 and how it's being prepared for, whether it will be
25 prepared for, commercial or residential use.

1 MARCIA RUDOLPH: Put it this way: My perception
2 is that someone unfamiliar with the process may very well
3 find themselves snowed. I have been involved with the
4 process since the RAB started and am familiar with it. I
5 think it's a good presentation. I think the people
6 involved are doing the best to try and bring this
7 technical information down to the level of the average
8 person who is coming in, you know, wanting to know, you
9 know, are my kids going to turn blue with the pollution in
10 the water. And to that degree, I think this has been
11 helpful.

12 I think that's it.

13

14 SCOTT BROTEN: It seems very appropriate, the
15 selection and the technology. And it seems like -- based
16 on the Remedial Investigation, that they've done a good job
17 of investigating it and presenting it here tonight.

18 That's it.

19

20 AMY SPURGEON: I think it's good that the approach
21 to remove the TCE from the ground through soil vaporization
22 approach -- Is that what it is? -- SVE, I think that's
23 positive. Because they've seen it works before; and it
24 removes a great amount of contamination; and it's going to
25 see that there is a way to clean it up. And all these

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

people are working hard at it.

Okay. I guess that's it.

(The Public Meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m.)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

THE UNDERSIGNED SHORTHAND REPORTER DOES HEREBY
DECLARE:

THAT THE FOREGOING WAS TAKEN BEFORE ME AT THE
TIME AND PLACE THEREIN SET FORTH AND WAS RECORDED
STENOGRAPHICALLY BY ME AND WAS THEREAFTER TRANSCRIBED,
SAID TRANSCRIPT BEING A TRUE COPY OF MY SHORTHAND NOTES
THEREOF.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE SUBSCRIBED MY NAME
THIS DATE: MAY 29 1997 .

Jeanine Burque