

**LONG BEACH NAVAL COMPLEX
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
FINAL MINUTES FROM 17 MARCH 1999 MEETING**

The Long Beach Naval Complex (LBNC) held a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting on 17 March 1999, at the City of Long Beach Community Room, 200 Pine Street, Long Beach, California.

RAB ATTENDANCE:

Alan Lee - Present
Martin Hausladen - Present
Alvaro Gutierrez - Absent
Henry Brice - Present
Mary Butler - Present
Doug Carstens - Present
Carol A. Churchill - Absent
Greysen Edward Cooley - Present
P. James Drake - Present
John Essington - Present
Betsy Foley - Absent
Howard Hargrove - Absent
Bob Kanter - Present
Roger Olson - Absent
Joseph Petway - Present
Darwin Thorpe - Absent
Karl A. Tiedemann - Present
Anna Ulaszewski - Present
Maria Vargas - Present

OTHERS PRESENT:

Matt Brookshire, CDM Technical Support
Jennifer Rich, Cal-EPA DTSC
Del Davis, City of Long Beach
Rick Sauerwein, Battelle
Omer Kadaster, BNI
Tom McDonnell, BNI
Clyde Nash, Jr., City of Compton
Jim Sturm, Naval Complex Initiative
Loyd Klock, Citizen
Terry Ulaszewski, Citizen
Mary James, Citizen

MEETING BEGAN AT 6:45 PM – John Essington, Community Co-Chair, presiding as Chair.

The Chair welcomed the RAB members and members of the audience and later in the meeting reminded everyone to please sign in (PRINT LEGIBLY) - *"The sign-in sheet is the official record of attendance for each RAB meeting. It is the responsibility of each and every RAB member to sign into the official record. If you do not sign in, you did not attend the meeting."*

Mr. Essington reminded the RAB members that the meeting was being tape recorded. No objections were voiced from the floor.

Administrative Issues

Mr. Essington asked for comments on the 20 January 1999 meeting minutes. Ms. Ulaszewski stated that the minutes were very good and detailed. The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

The Draft Rules of Operation were discussed. Mr. Essington stated that the changes from last year's Rules of Operation were highlighted. Mr. Drake stated that he approved of moving the RAB meetings to Wednesday evenings. No other comments were given and the Draft Rules of Operation were approved.

Mr. Essington stated that Mr. Thorpe (whom was absent) had addressed a letter to Mr. Lee and Mr. Essington stating his concerns regarding Site 7. Mr. Lee stated that Mr. Thorpe's comments would be addressed in writing as formal comments.

Mr. Essington discussed the RAB caucus that he and Ms. Butler had attended in San Francisco. He said that Ms. Butler was chosen to the Steering Committee for the next RAB caucus. Ms. Butler stated that a firm date for the next caucus had not been set. She will be having a conference call in the near future to establish a date. Ms. Butler also mentioned that there might be some funding for airfare and hotel rooms for RAB members. Mr. Tiedemann stated he had videotaped the first two RAB caucuses and he would make them available to any of the RAB members who were interested.

Mr. Essington introduced the new RAB members who were present. Mr. Carstens and Mr. Cooley each introduced themselves.

Mr. Essington opened the floor to nominations for the annual election of the Community Co-chair. Mr. Essington and Ms. Vargas were both nominated and seconded. Both nominees gave a brief presentation about why they were interested in being the Community Co-chair. Ballots were then distributed to all RAB members present at the meeting. A vote was cast and Mr. Brookshire collected the ballots and tallied the votes. Ms. Rich double-checked the voting results. Near the end of the meeting, Mr. Brookshire announced that Ms. Vargas was elected the new Community Co-chair. Mr. Lee commended Mr. Essington for the excellent job he has done as Community Co-chair. Mr. Lee also congratulated Ms. Vargas for becoming the new Community Co-chair. These comments were echoed by all RAB members present.

Presentation of the Port of Long Beach Pier T Dredging Project

Mr. Essington introduced Dr. Kanter who presented the Port of Long Beach (POLB) Pier T dredging project.

Dr. Kanter gave a summary of the beginning of the project for the new RAB members. The POLB looked at ways to put the area back into use without using landfills. The POLB will be setting up a new container terminal supporting some of the world's largest ships. The POLB had to address dredging in order to accommodate these large ships. The POLB used bioassay testing

to determine where contaminated sediments were located and how contaminated they were. Dr. Kanter presented the areas of contaminated sediment with the use of a figure. He pointed out that even though the sediment was contaminated, it was not considered hazardous.

Dr. Kanter discussed how to dispose of the dredge material. All disposal methods have to obtain regulatory approval. Clean material will be used for beneficial uses, such as placing on beaches. Dr. Kanter discussed different ways of disposing the contaminated sediment, such as filling in large holes that have been identified in the bay and capping with clean sediment. Some contaminated sediment will be placed near Pier E to build new land that will be used as a modified container terminal. Contaminated sediment from Marina Del Rey will also be placed at Pier E for new land. Pier S has had subsidence and sediment will be placed there, where it will be turned into a container terminal.

Relocating habitat is another issue. The California least tern forage in the area designated for dredging. The POLB will build an area near Pier E for foraging for the birds. This is in proximity to the dredging area.

The POLB already has a contractor building the new foraging area for the California least terns. Just recently, the POLB awarded a 71 million-dollar contract to Matsen to begin the dredging and disposal (including remediation). Dredging could start as early as next week. Completion target date is July 2000.

Questions and Answers

Mr. Tiedemann stated that the presentation covered a lot of information, but the Long Beach Naval Shipyard (LBNSY) was not included. What about cleanup at LBNSY? Dr. Kanter stated that when this current dredging project is completed or near completion, the POLB will follow the same strategy for the area at LBNSY. The POLB is currently doing testing at the LBNSY area. The Navy has done some dredging in front of Drydock 1, but that needs to be completed. The POLB plans on having a tenant take over operations at Drydock 1. The POLB will cleanup the area to a baseline level prior to a tenant taking over operations.

Mr. Brice asked how much of the sediment is contaminated. Dr. Kanter stated that in the dredge footprint there is 730,000 cubic yards that is contaminated and 415,000 cubic yards that is clean.

Ms. Vargas asked why the POLB was going to help Marina Del Rey. Dr. Kanter stated that it was a regional policy and provides beneficial uses for everyone. The POLB is also being accommodating to Marina Del Rey in that dredge material from their marina will provide fill material for the POLB.

Mr. Cooley stated that it was his understanding that Santa Monica Bay is contaminated with high levels of DDT and that responsible parties keep saying they are going to cleanup the Santa Monica Bay, but it has been 20 years and no cleanup has been performed. Mr. Cooley asked if the same problem would occur at LBNC. Dr. Kanter stated the EPA is still looking at Santa Monica Bay, especially at the Palos Verdes shelf. The POLB has already started the process for

performing the dredging and removing the contaminated sediment at LBNC as he discussed in the presentation. Any heavily contaminated sediment will be put on railcar and disposed of properly at a hazardous waste landfill. The POLB is currently stockpiling clean dredge material to be used in contaminated sediment management.

Ms. Ulaszewski asked how the POLB determines sediment is clean prior to placing it on the beach area. Dr. Kanter stated that the sediment to be used for beach replenishment would come from a virgin lens of sediment that has not been contaminated from humans or human activities. This lens is deeper in the sediment.

Mr. Essington asked how the public could comment on the POLB dredging. Dr. Kanter stated that when the first testing was performed, the results were presented in a public forum through the ACOE with a time period for public comments. A permit was then applied for through the RWQCB, which also included a public forum for comments. The RWQCB then incorporated comments and included them in the permit. The regulatory agencies also perform spot checks. The process does not lend to influence from the RAB.

Mr. Petway asked if the Navy was contributing financially to the dredging project. Dr. Kanter stated that the Navy was not financing the dredging. The POLB has a business incentive to dredge so that they can build a terminal.

Mr. Essington asked if the work the POLB performs goes in to the Navy's administrative records. Dr. Kanter stated that some will be appendicized in Navy reports, but some of the work will not.

Mr. Drake asked how the POLB knew where to relocate the California least terns. Dr. Kanter stated that the California least terns have a foraging radius, and this was used to identify a relocation area. The Department of Fish and Game has approved the plan.

Mr. Klock asked what order the dredging would be performed. Dr. Kanter stated that the contaminated sediment would be removed first, then the clean sediment that will be used for capping.

Presentation of Draft Feasibility Study for Site 7

Mr. Essington introduced Mr. Kadaster from Bechtel National, Incorporated (BNI) who presented the Draft FS for IR Site 7.

Mr. Kadaster provided a handout and photo album documenting some of the fieldwork that BNI performed for the FS. He said that the Draft FS had been issued today as two volumes. He also said that Mr. McDonnell, also of BNI, would be assisting in the presentation.

Mr. Kadaster gave an overview of the Draft FS. Mr. Kadaster first discussed the project background, the project team overview (included the regulatory agencies, trustees, the POLB, and the RAB), and the remedial investigation that was completed in December 1997.

Mr. Kadaster then discussed the FS. The FS followed the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan and the Navy/Marine Corps IR Program guidance. The objectives of the FS were to sample and analyze surface sediment and benthic communities, develop and evaluate potential remedies that would reduce the observed toxic effects of contaminated sediment on benthic communities and Areas of Ecological Concern (AOEC), and to provide the basis for preparation of a Proposed Plan and a Record of Decision.

Mr. McDonnell took over the presentation to discuss the sampling program. BNI wanted to determine the current conditions of the benthic communities and sediment toxicity at the AOEC to aid in identification and evaluation of potential remedial action alternatives. Sampling was performed during September and October of 1998. Both surface sediment and subsurface sediment samples were collected. Analyses included toxicity bioassays, grain size, organic carbon, and chemistry. Sample data was verified and validated. The areas not included in the FS are the POLB dredge area and AOEC D. The areas identified as AOECs were designate AOEC A through AOEC G (with the exclusion of AOEC D) and the data findings for each AOEC were presented.

Mr. Kadaster continued the presentation by discussing the FS process. He suggested anyone who was going to review the Draft FS read the EPA regulations for FS. He discussed applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) for three categories: chemical-specific, location-specific, and action-specific. Five chemical-specific ARARs for sediment were identified. No location-specific ARARs were identified. Action-specific ARARs are being requested from regulatory agencies and trustees upon their review of the Draft FS.

Mr. Kadaster stated that the remedial action objective is to achieve acceptable levels of benthic community indices and surface sediment toxicity. He discussed remedial technology screening and remedial alternatives development and screening. BNI conducted detailed and comparative analysis of potential remedial action alternatives against nine specific criteria. Mr. Kadaster then discussed the potential remedial action alternatives per AOEC. He finished the presentation with a discussion of the schedule for the FS.

Questions and Answers

Mr. Cooley asked why the FS did not include the POLB dredge area. Mr. McDonnell stated that if the dredge area was included then the POLB and the Navy would be doing duplicate work.

Ms. Ulaszewski asked why the FS did not cover the dredge area under the CERCLA process. Mr. Lee stated that it is not covered under the FS because the POLB will be dredging the area, which is considered the most conservative approach of remediation (dredge and remove). Under CERCLA the dredge area will be given a No Further Action. Ms. Ulaszewski asked if the Navy would perform sampling at the dredge area to confirm that the area is clean. Mr. Hausladen stated that the POLB would most likely perform confirmatory sampling to make

certain the area is clean. The Navy can use this confirmatory sampling to state that a portion of Site 7 has been remediated through dredging.

Mr. Cooley asked if the POLB is already removing sediment from Site 7. Mr. Kadaster stated that there are two different processes being performed at Site 7. The POLB has made a business decision to dredge a portion of the harbor for business development, which includes a portion of Site 7. This dredging will be commencing in the next few weeks. The FS portion of Site 7 covers only those areas identified in the Remedial Investigation, minus the area being dredged by the POLB, and includes regulatory agency oversight. Mr. Carstens asked if the Navy was turning over responsibility to the POLB. Mr. Hausladen stated that the Navy is responsible no matter what, this is still a Federal facility.

Ms. Vargas asked if anyone could go out on the Mole Pier. Dr. Kanter stated that access to the Mole Pier is restricted. If RAB members are interested in visiting the Mole Pier, they would need to schedule the visit through the POLB.

Mr. Cooley asked what the target date is for property conveyance. Mr. Lee stated Mr. Aaron Yue from the DTSC gave a presentation of the early transfer process in September 1998. Under the early transfer authority, conveyance can occur, but cleanup will continue. The request for the early transfer of Parcel No. 1 is currently at the Navy's headquarters. It will take approximately eight months to a year to complete the process. LBNC will be conveyed in two parcels. The first parcel includes the entire NAVSTA property and 75 acres of LBNSY. The second parcel includes the remainder of LBNSY. The LBNC property has been leased to the POLB since August 1998.

Mr. Tiedemann asked if there was any thought of moving contaminated sediment to clean areas. Mr. Kadaster stated that contaminated sediment would not be allowed to be moved to an area of clean sediment. Capping contaminated sediment allows the contaminated sediment to be covered and provides for a healthier benthic community.

Mr. Essington asked if the samples collected for the FS were collected in the same locations as the 1994 samples. Mr. Kadaster stated that samples were collected from the 1994 sample locations, but were also collected in new sampling locations. Mr. Essington stated that the 1994 samples did not identify the same high levels of lead that the POLB samples identified. The FS is only a conceptual study. The POLB took a large number of samples to identify the lead contamination. Dr. Kanter stated that it took the POLB three rounds of sampling to identify the lead contamination.

Mr. Cooley asked that if the piers were to be confined, how high would the containment be. Mr. Kadaster stated that the containment would go deep enough into the sediment to protect the benthic community and up to just above the water.

Having no additional comments from the RAB members, Mr. Lee stated that one copy of the Draft FS would go to Group One leader, Mr. Essington, and one copy would go to Group Two member, Mr. Drake, for review.

Open Forum for RAB Members and Members of the Audience

Mr. Essington stated that the new RAB member selection process would remain open until 31 March 1999. Mr. Lee stated that there were currently 16 RAB members, but he hoped to get the number up to 20. He asked current RAB members to solicit potential new members.

Mr. Lee stated that he had two copies of the Navy Environmental Restoration Program that are available for review by the RAB. They are available to be circulated among the RAB members for review.

Mr. Klock asked if the POLB is spending 71 million dollars to dredge, would the Navy be required to perform this same dredging at a later date. Mr. Essington stated that the Navy would be required to perform appropriate remediation for Site 7, but it may not be the same as what the POLB is doing.

Mr. Klock asked who performs oversight on the POLB dredging. Dr. Kanter stated that through the permits that are issued, regulatory agencies will perform oversight. Mr. Klock asked if confirmatory samples would be collected. Dr. Kanter stated that in most cases dredging will go down into the virgin sediment, so no sampling would be performed in these areas.

Mr. Cooley asked if the RAB can schedule an orientation, including a site tour. Mr. Lee stated that between now and the next RAB meeting, the RAB will be given an orientation and site tour, probably at the end of April or early May.

Mr. Cooley asked why the POLB is spending all this money if the Navy is ultimately responsible. Dr. Kanter stated it was a timeframe issue and a business development issue. Mr. Lee stated that as part of the lease between the Navy and the POLB, the POLB agreed to pay for the cleanup. The only portion that the Navy is financially responsible for is the fueling pier.

Mr. Klock asked if the containment for the piers occurs, would this containment go out twice the width of the piers or would the containment be attached to the pilings. Mr. Kadaster stated the containment would be attached to the pilings.

Having no additional comments, the RAB meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

The next LBNC RAB meeting is scheduled for **19 May 1999** at the City of Long Beach Community Room at 200 Pine Street.

These minutes were recorded by Matt Brookshire of CDM Federal Programs Corporation acting as the RAB Technical Support at 619-268-3383, and reviewed and approved by all members of the Long Beach Naval Complex Restoration Advisory Board.

Approved meeting minutes for the Long Beach Naval Complex (LBNC) RAB can be found at:

- (1) *The LBNC Information Repository located at the Long Beach Public Library, Government Publications Department; and*
- (2) *The Internet at the Southwest Division Naval Facilities Command Web page at <http://www.efdswest.navy.mil/DEP/ENV/default.htm> - SWDIV Point of Contact: Mr. Lee Saunders (619) 532-3100.*