**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**
ENGINEERING FIELD ACTIVITY, NORTHEAST
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
10 INDUSTRIAL HIGHWAY
MAIL STOP, #82
LESTER, PA 19113-2090

IN REPLY REFER TO
5090
Code EV2/JLC

05 SEP 2001

MEMORANDUM

**FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) FOR THE INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM AT NAVAL WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL RESERVE PLANT (NWIRP) BETHPAGE, NEW YORK**

The Navy would like to announce that a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, September 20, 2001**. This meeting is open to the general public and will be held at the Bethpage Community Center located at 103 Grumman Road in Bethpage, New York. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Also enclosed are the minutes from the RAB meeting held on March 13, 2001. The RAB minutes were paraphrased from the meeting's official transcript. A copy of both the meeting minutes and the official transcript will be available for review at the Navy's Information Repository located at the Bethpage Public Library. The community co-chair will also be provided with two copies of the transcript.

The agenda for the meeting, which was forwarded to the community co-chair for consideration, will include the following items:

- Presentation on Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)
- Discuss TAPP Project for independent review of the Plant 3 Drywell Field Investigation Report and Focused FS
- Discuss schedule for upcoming field activities regarding Re-start of AS/SVE system at IR Site 1 (Handout)
- Discuss schedule for upcoming field activities regarding installation of permeable cover at IR Site 2 (Handout)
- Summary of activities regarding Groundwater ROD
- Discuss Technical Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2001
  - Display Cross Sections prepared by ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller
  - Discuss schedule for upcoming field activities

If you need additional information, please call either Judy Lamey of Tetra Tech NUS, Inc. at (412) 921-8817 or myself at (610) 595-0567, ext 163.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. COLTER
Remedial Project Manager
By direction of the
Commanding Officer

Enclosure: (1) Minutes from 3/13/01 RAB Meeting

Distribution:
NAVAIR, Judith Hare
NYSDEC (Albany), Steve Scharf
NYSDEC (Stony Brook), Stan Farkas
NYSDOH, Bill Gilday
USEPA Region II, Carol Stein
USEPA Region II, Carla Struble
Nassau County DOH, Bruce Mackay
Nassau County DPW, Tim Kelly
Town of Oyster Bay, Hon. John Venditto
Town of Oyster Bay DPW, Tom Clark
DCMC, Marty Simonson
J.A. Jones, Al Taormina
Bethpage Water District, John Molloy
Community Co-Chair, Jim McBride
Community RAB Member, Hon. Ed Mangano
Community RAB Member, Linda Mangano
Community RAB Member, Ed Resch
Community RAB Member, Charles Bevilacqua
Community RAB Member, Roy Tringali
Community RAB Member, Rosemary Styne

# RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
# NAVAL WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL RESERVE PLANT BETHPAGE
# BETHPAGE COMMUNITY CENTER, BETHPAGE, NEW YORK
# March 13, 2001

The eighth meeting of the RAB began at approximately 7:10 pm. RAB members attending were: Judith Hare, Joe Kaminski, and Jim Colter from the Navy, community members John Lovisolo, Rosemary Styne, Roy Tringali, Edward Resch, and Edward Mangano; Steven Scharf representing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC); Charles Bevilacqua representing the Conservation Fund Advisory Board; Tim Kelly representing Nassau County Public Works; and Rich Pfaender for Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto. Also in attendance were Anthony Sabino representing the Bethpage Water District and several attendees from the general public. Members absent included Community Co-chair Jim McBride, community member Linda Mangano, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto, Tom Clark representing the Town of Oyster Bay Department of Public Works, Stan Farkas and Nick Acampora representing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Gerard Burke representing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Bill Gilday representing the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Bruce Mackay representing the Nassau County Department of Health, Carol Stein representing the U.S. EPA, Martin Simonson representing the Defense Contract Management Command (DCMC), and Thomas Clark representing the Town of Oyster Bay Department of Public Works.

## WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Judith Hare, the Navy Co-chair, welcomed everyone and stated that Jim McBride, the community Co-chair, was not able to attend this meeting. Ms. Hare explained that the transcripts from the previous RAB meeting held on October 25, 2000 would not be available. However, meeting minutes were written based upon notes taken from that meeting and that approval of these minutes would be postponed until the next RAB meeting so that all members could thoroughly review them.

Jim Colter introduced himself and stated that there are currently several initiatives going on with the clean up of the Bethpage property.

**DRY WELLS 20-08 AND 34-07**

Mr. Colter stated that dry wells 20-08 and 34-07 were identified by Northrop Grumman during their efforts to vacate the property. During the 1998-1999 time frame, Northrop Grumman investigated all of the dry wells on the property. Most of them showed no or minor contamination and were cleaned up with the exception of two: dry well 20-08 on the northwest corner of Plant 3 and 34-07 on the south side of Plant 3. The contaminant of concern was PCBs. Northrop Grumman did an initial clean up to 35 feet below ground surface. Confirmation sampling showed that there was PCB contamination below 35 feet below grade. It was then determined that the Navy would take over the clean up if Northrop Grumman would complete the delineation of the contamination and provide an alternative that was acceptable to both the Navy and the State.

Northrop Grumman submitted a report to the DEC in October 2000 discussing their findings after three rounds of soil sampling. Several soil borings were installed around dry well 20-08 and several monitoring wells were installed downgradient to test the groundwater for possible PCB contamination. Prior to excavation PCB concentrations were 3200 parts per million. There was significant contamination directly below the dry well. Further from the dry well, levels drop significantly. Northrop Grumman excavated down to a depth of 28 feet below ground surface and filled with clean fill. Just outside the dry well there is still some significant contamination, however, this occurs at a depth of about 25 feet below grade.

Several soil boring were also installed around dry well 34-07 and several monitoring wells were installed downgradient here to also test the groundwater for possible contamination. There is a similar scenario here in that there is significant contamination immediately below the dry well. This was excavated and replaced with clean fill to a depth of 30 to 35 feet. Again, as the levels drop radially outward from the dry well.

Northrop Grumman is currently working on an exposure assessment. What are the risks associated with the PCBs at those depths? This is done by a risk assessment. In order to have risk, there needs to be a contaminant, a pathway, and a receptor. Since the PCBs are at depths over 30 feet below grade, there is no pathway and there is no receptor. Therefore, there is no risk. Additionally, it has been confirmed that there is no groundwater contamination associated with the PCBs.

The State requested that Northrop Grumman submit a Feasibility Study to evaluate and compare the different alternatives and their associated costs to the "No Action" alternative that is being proposed. The proposed date for submittal of the Feasibility Study to the State is June 15.

## AS/SVE at Site 1

An air sparging/soil vapor extraction system has been running for 2 years at Site 1 located on the east end of Plant 3. The goal has been to get levels of volatile organic compounds in soils down to a level where PCBs and metals could be easily and safely excavated without having an air quality issue. The system was shut down in December 2000. A draft report summarizing whether the system should continue or be dismantled and move onto soil excavation is due to the Navy at the end of March. If the system has not met its goals, then it may be determined to run it for an additional year to see if these goals can be met. If the system has met its goals then it will be decided whether to dismantle the system and pursue excavation of the soils. Funding is available for initial excavation of the soils, however the decision to excavate is pending DEC approval.

## AOC 22

Northrop Grumman identified the former underground storage tank area during their initial investigation to vacate the property. Oily sludge was discovered in the soils. The Navy agreed to take this over under their IR program. Several rounds of soil and groundwater sampling occurred during the 1998-1999 time frame. Although oily sludge was found in the soils, the results of the investigation didn't exceed clean up values for New York State guidelines. No further action was recommended. The State responded by requesting a Feasibility Study to evaluate other options to the no action alternative. Since this property is being retained by the Navy, this site is not listed as a high priority, however, the Navy still continues to work on it.

## GROUNDWATER ISSUE

The groundwater issue is one of the higher priority issues with the DEC and Northrop Grumman. A public meeting was held on December 13, 2000 and the public comment period for the PRAP ended on February 5, 2001. Currently, the State is working on issuing a ROD.

The Navy has been doing much fieldwork and has completed some investigations: vertical profile borings at locations 38 and 76, south of the Hempstead Turnpike, and 77 by the Seaford Oyster Bay Expressway. Results of the borings showed groundwater contamination. That led the Navy to move further south and downgradient to see if the leading edge of the plume could be delineated. A work plan was completed in January and currently four new borings are being installed at locations 43, 44, 45, and 46. This work should delineate the southern boundary of the plume and allow the Navy to install outpost monitoring wells which is one of the requirements of the ROD.

Another requirement of the ROD is some sort of remedy for the GM38 area. High levels of solvents was found in groundwater here. The Navy awarded a contract to design a pump and treatment system. The Navy will do the pre-design work, design, and construction of the system. Currently, the Navy is just assuming that they will run and operate the system because no decisions have officially been made with Northrop Grumman in terms of cost sharing. The fieldwork will entail installing some borings to delineate the extent of the hot spot. Six borings will be installed in the GM38 area extending to the Seaford Oyster Bay Expressway and to the east. This will probably take most of a calendar year to complete. Based on the data, a pump and treatment system will likely be designed. This will take 6 to 9 months to complete. This will take us through fiscal year 2002.

**TAPP PROGRAM**

Mr. Colter explained the TAPP program. A TAPP, Technical Assistance for Public Participants, is funding that the DOD does provide occasionally to RABs to help them in the decision making process, to help them understand certain aspects of the clean up program. The Navy is still looking at this request, but it appears that TAPP funding is for pre-ROD activities. The purpose of it is to bring in an independent contractor to explain to the RAB what the collected data means. Mr. Colter stated that for this site, we are beyond this point. As far as soils go, we are in post-ROD. That ROD was signed in 1995. The groundwater ROD is imminent. The work that Northrop Grumman did under the Environmental Baseline Survey is a RCRA clean up and the EBS and RCRA issues are not part of the RAB. The RAB deals with the Navy's IR program. The TAPP program would apply to IR Sites 1, 2, and 3, and not to Plants 3, 12. 17, and etc. The TAPP applies to IR Sites, Environmental Restoration Program, not the EBS program and not the RCRA clean up that Northrop Grumman did. To summarize, this site will most likely be an ineligible project because decisions have already been made.

Ms. Hare explained that the TAPP grant is given very infrequently. Where it is granted, it is granted to a site where the Navy has a team spread out over so many different facilities that they might not have much time to devote to any one particular facility and any one RAB. Ms. Hare suggests that the TAPP grant be put off until the next meeting so that she can, in the meantime, investigate this further and give an opinion as to whether this facility is eligible or not.

Mr. Colter then explained that the projects that are submitted for a TAPP grant must be very specific. The grant is for $25,000. The third party cannot perform any additional sampling or analysis. It is not for verifying work that has been completed, it is to explain work that has been done. They can further explain the data or the risk assessment process if the RAB feels that the

Navy has not done a sufficient job at it. If it is determined by the RAB, that the project is suitable for submittal then the Navy will do what they can to assist in the process. Ms. Hare explained that the Navy does not make the official decision as to what projects are approved and which projects are not.

A motion was carried that the RAB would pursue an independent application for the TAPP program. The subject of the application and the study would be delineated in the application which would address specific areas concerning the dry wells.

**DECEMBER 13 PUBLIC MEETING**

Mr. Scharf gave an update on the public meeting held on December 13, 2000. The public meeting was held to discuss the Proposed Remedial Action Plan for Operable Unit 2. Comments were taken at that time. The plan proposes to treat the more significant areas of contamination off-site, do a long term monitoring program, and do a well head efficiency treatment program in the event that any other well might be affected.

The state reviewed all of the comments and is drafting a ROD. This should be completed by April. The PRAP is available in the Bethpage library. That document when signed will bring a close to all remedial work at the site. Some of the remedies detailed in this document are currently in place and others are being prepared.

A question was brought up about the proposed assisted living center on South Oyster Bay Road and if this would be impacted by the groundwater contamination. Mr. Scharf explained that the groundwater is 50 feet below grade and is monitored on a quarterly basis. The plume is being tracked. According to Nassau County regulations, all municipal water supply wells are checked on a monthly basis. Those wells that have been impacted have a treatment system on them and so there isn't any exposure to the public of these contaminants.

Currently the Plant 3 area is up for transfer and that is going to be the next issue after the groundwater remedy document is signed. Areas that are transferred have been certified as suitable for transfer. Approximately 75 percent of the groundwater contamination in terms of solvents still remain on the site. Off-site there are generally solvents that are insoluble in water. Because they are heavier than water, as they move along, they sink. This explains why the contamination is found deeper as they move off-site.

The Navy and Grumman have made a commitment that if there is a water supply that is impacted, they will be able to provide the treatment necessary to attain non-detect to current standards under the Nassau County Health Code. Non-detect is at .5 micrograms per liter. There are 80 water supply wells in Nassau County that have been impacted by similar solvents and they have treatment so that they provide water that is safe to drink.

The meeting was concluded and adjourned at approximately 8:40 pm.