

August 3, 2004

**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING  
NAVAL WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL RESERVE PLANT CALVERTON  
RIVERHEAD MASONIC LODGE  
RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK  
April 15, 2004**

The fifteenth meeting of the RAB began at 7:00 pm. RAB members attending were: Joe Kaminski and Jim Colter representing the Navy; Stan Farkas representing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC); Sy Robbins representing the Suffolk County Department of Health Services; and Al Taormina representing J.A. Jones, Inc. Community members attending were: Bill Gunter, Vincent Racaniello, Sid Bail representing the Wading River Civic Association, Ann Miloski, Harry Histard, Warren Voegelin, Andrea Lohneiss representing the Town of Riverhead, and John Hall representing the Peconic River Sportsman's Club. Members absent were: representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); representatives from the New York State State Department of Health (NYSDOH); community members Lorraine Collins, Jean Mannhaupt, Randolph Manning, Joseph Pannone, Art Binder, and Louis Cork.

There were also several attendees from the general public.

**WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW**

Mr. Kaminski welcomed everyone to the fifteenth meeting of the RAB. Mr. Kaminski requested that prior to speaking that each individual identify themselves because a new stenographer was transcribing this meeting.

The minutes of the November 4, 2003 were approved, as written.

Mr. Kaminski stated that by direction from the Chief Naval Operations, the Navy property ownership at former NWIRP Calverton may be transferred from Naval Air Systems Command to Command Naval Installations, whose primary function is real estate. However, this will not affect the present and proposed remediation activities conducted

August 3, 2004

by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. Mr. Kaminski stated that the date of the transition is tentative, however, it could occur as early as December 2004.

Mr. Kaminski turned the meeting over to Mr. Jim Colter.

### RAB Membership

Mr. Colter introduced himself and asked Ms. Judy Lamey to explain the RAB membership details. Ms. Lamey stated that RAB membership renewal letters were sent to all RAB members asking if members wished to continue their membership for an additional two years or withdrawal completely. Some letters had been returned, some had not, so it was decided that those members that did not reply by mail, would be contacted by phone.

Mr. Bill Gunther asked if members in attendance could sign their names on a sheet of paper rather than mailing in their renewal letters. It was agreed that this was acceptable.

Mr. Colter stated that in 2001, the Department of Defense hosted a RAB forum in Denver, Colorado. Another forum is planned for summer 2004 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Because Bill Gunter replaced Sherry Johnson as Community Co-chair, Mr. Gunther would be receiving an invitation to the forum. If he is unable to attend, he may assign another member to go in his place. Mr. Gunther stated that he had attended the 2001 forum in Denver because Sherry Johnson was not able to attend, so he would like to extend this opportunity to another member. When the forum agenda becomes available, Mr. Gunther will pass it on to the RAB members.

Mr. Anastasi added that there is also a Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Program website that contains a link to RAB resources and references.

Mr. Colter asked Mr. Gunther if he had received a draft Proposed Rule for comment sent by the Undersecretary of Defense in January 2004. Mr. Gunther stated that he didn't recall receiving the document so Mr. Colter provided him with a copy. Mr. Colter indicated that the document contains some proposed changes for the operation of the RAB.

**Update on Remedial Activities at Site 1**

Mr. Colter stated that excavation activities at Site 1, the landfill site were complete and the remedial contractor demobilized from the site. Vegetation was planted and a silt fence and hay bales erected as erosion controls for the winter until final grading and revegetation could be put in place in the spring. Mr. Colter indicated that the Navy received comments from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the seed mix that the Navy proposed for the Revegetation Plan was approved. The NYSDEC did request the planting of some trees, but the Navy feels that this is unnecessary.

During site remobilization on Monday, April 12, it was discovered that some erosion had occurred over the winter. The erosion had filled in part of the pond. This area will be excavated prior to grading and vegetating the area. Additionally, the fallen trees will be chipped and the wood chips spread across the site in the areas where soil was stockpiled.

Mr. Colter stated that Tetra Tech NUS will perform the semi-annual groundwater sampling in accordance with the Record of Decision. At the request of the NYSDEC, groundwater would be monitored to determine if the excavation activities had released any contamination into the groundwater. Pre-construction rounds of groundwater sampling had revealed non-detect results for all parameters that had been analyzed.

Tetra Tech NUS is developing a sampling and analysis plan for the groundwater. An internal draft will be sent to the NYSDEC and the RAB for review. Sampling will be conducted over two different seasons, a wet and a dry season. If non-detect results are found, the Navy will propose to the NYSDEC that the second year of sampling not be conducted. Pending the NYSDEC's agreement with this, then the site will be closed and the Navy will conduct a Finding of Suitability to Transfer to the Town of Riverhead.

Mr. Colter stated that Tetra Tech FW is in the process of generating a Construction Completion Report, however, this will not be finalized until the revegetation and wood chipping has occurred. This report will be the May/June 2004 time frame.

**Update on Remedial Activities at Site 7 -- Fuel Depot Site**

Mr. Colter stated that the next agenda item is the Site 7 - Fuel Depot Area remedial activities update to be given by Mr. Bob Olewinski. However, since Mr. Olewinski was unable to attend, Mr. Colter would give the update on Site 7 in addition to updates on the others sites where work had been performed since the last RAB meeting in November 2003.

Mr. Colter stated that in November 2003, Tetra Tech FW has submitted the work plan to install a pilot system, a scaled down version of the air sparging soil vapor extraction system, to get aquifer parameter to design the full scale system. Tetra Tech FW mobilized into the field during March 2004. Six soil vapor extraction wells and two groundwater monitoring wells have been installed. The anticipated start up of the pilot test is early August and the system will operate for a period of three months.

Mr. Colter indicated that the pilot plan is constructed to perform soil conductivity and radius of influence testing to ensure capture over the site. Based on the results of the pilot test, some additional refinements to the full scale may be necessary. The Navy anticipates full operation in early fiscal year 2005.

Mr. Colter stated that the full scale system would operate at an estimated three to four year period. During this period, the objective is to remove 90% of the mass of contaminants from the groundwater and clean up the soil/water interface of the total petroleum hydrocarbons. If the system operation becomes inefficient, the Navy will discuss with the NYSDEC about transitioning to another approach such as monitored natural attenuation in attaining remedial goals.

A question was raised about the additional monitoring wells that Tetra Tech FW has installed. Mr. Colter stated that the Navy already had some wells in place, however at the recommendation of Foster Wheeler Tetra Tech, additional wells were installed to enhance the monitoring.

**Update on Remedial Activities**

Mr. Colter stated that in late March 2004, Tetra Tech NUS was directed to develop the Site 6 Work Plan. Funding has been made available for the TAPP.

A Finding of Suitability to Transfer of the agricultural outlease area will also be submitted. This report will summarize the work that was performed there including additional downgradient wells.

Mr. Colter provided a summary of the Agricultural Outlease site. During the 1940s and 1950s, the Navy gained control of the Outlease during the construction of the NWIRP Calverton facility. However, the Navy allowed the owner to continue farming through a lease. When the Navy closed the NWIRP Calverton facility, they also terminated all leases associated with the property. When the Navy investigated this Outlease, they discovered an old abandoned farmhouse, sheds and storage structures, pesticides, batteries, and household items. As part of the initial environmental baseline survey, the Navy proposed to sample below the slabs to determine any environmental impacts, however due to the conditions of the structures, the sampling was deemed unsafe. In order to proceed, the Navy demolished the structures then sampled the area. Some low level pesticide contamination was present, and the contaminated soils were then excavated.

Mr. Sy Robbins inquired if it would be possible for the Department of Health to sample the monitoring wells that the Navy had put in place to insure that none of the pesticide contamination had migrated. This data would then be made available to the RAB.

**TAPP Project**

Mr. Colter stated that funding has been made available for SCA Associates to continue their review and their recommendations on the Southern Area will be incorporated into the Site 6 Work Plan.

Mr. Frank Anastasi summarized his review of the Southern Area. Mr. Anastasi stated the he reviewed the work that contractors had performed on the site that related to

historical aircraft engine testing where the Navy would store fuel, fuel engines on concrete pads, test them, and perform typical maintenance and testing associated with aircraft engines. During the closure process, solvent and petroleum hydrocarbon contamination was discovered in the area and it had migrated downgradient beyond the site boundary and toward the river.

Mr. Anastasi generated a report on his review. Mr. Anastasi stated that there is some uncertainty over the characterization of how the groundwater flows at different depths and within a given depth. The source of the contamination is known, where the testing was performed is where it entered the ground and the groundwater. The concentration of the contaminants at different levels in the ground and the groundwater are also known, however, further from the site, there is an uncertainty about the nature and extent of the distribution of the contamination.

Mr. Anastasi stated that this uncertainty is due to the fact that the data for the site is based on two different time periods using different sampling methods. Some of the results were from monitoring wells, some were grab samples. As opposed to monitoring wells, grab samples are a one time sample that is difficult to duplicate to compare a change over time.

Mr. Anastasi recommends additional sampling to delineate the extent of the contamination then addressing the uncertainty of the distribution of the contaminants in the groundwater, both across the land as well as at different depths because the geologic material beneath the ground varies in different layers and the groundwater and contaminants may be trapped differently. To address this on-site as well as off-site testing would need to be conducted. The downgradient limit of the contaminants in the groundwater is the Peconic River, because the shallow groundwater appears to discharge into the river. The sampling done to date found nothing detectable in the river but in the groundwater near the river is detecting contaminants.

A question was raised as to whether the Brookhaven contamination is related to the Navy contamination. Mr. Anastasi stated no, as this is in a separate flow. The Brookhaven groundwater is upgradient from this location, however, there isn't any indication that there is any kind of flow component from Brookhaven down through the

site to the river. However, due to principles of groundwater flow and surface groundwater interaction, it isn't thought that the contaminants would go beyond the river.

**Update on Remedial Activities – Site 2**

Mr. Colter stated that low level groundwater contamination was detected at Site 2, the Former Fire Training Ring. A pilot scale air sparging soil vapor extraction system was run at this site in the mid-nineties. About 90% of the soil contamination was removed in this area.

By recommendation of the Suffolk County Department of Health, test pitting was performed to determine if any free product layer remained. The test pits closest to the ring revealed a layer of burnt material and thick oil sludge around the area. The Navy ultimately will dig up the area of the ring to remove this material, however, due to the priorities of the RAB, the off-site contamination will be addressed prior to Site 2 which will be addressed in the 2005/2006 fiscal year time frame.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:20 pm.

**POSTSCRIPT NOTE**

Stenographer's transcripts are prepared for RAB meetings to assist the Navy in preparation of meeting minutes. The transcripts are available in the NWIRP Calverton Information Repository at the Riverhead Free Library. To assist the stenographer, RAB members and other attendees at the meeting are requested to speak one at a time for the stenographer to accurately transcribe the meeting discussions. Any participant at the RAB meeting who would like to have their comment formerly documented for the record is requested to state their name prior to speaking.