

Meeting Minutes

Naval Weapons Station Yorktown
Cheatham Annex (CAX), Williamsburg, Virginia
Environmental Restoration Program (ERP)
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2020; 1300-1400

Attendees:

Name	Organization/Role
Captain Schneider	Naval Weapons Station Yorktown (NWSY) Cheatham Annex (CAX) Commanding Officer
Steven Oyer	Citizen and RAB Community Co-Chair
Bryan Peed	Navy Remedial Project Manager (RPM)
Jennifer Podbesek	Navy Environmental Director for CAX
Leslie Jones	United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) RPM
Wade Smith	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) RPM
Stephanie Sawyer	CH2M HILL Inc. (CH2M) Program Manager
Betsy Collins	CH2M Deputy Program Manager
Caroline Broun	Citizen
Beverly Webb	Citizen
Jenna O'Brien	USEPA
Jason Oliver	NWSY/CAX Water Program Manager
LCDR Jonathan Horner	Public Works Officer

Due to travel restriction associated with the COVID-19 pandemic this RAB meet was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Mr. Bryan Peed started the meeting with introductions and welcoming everyone to the meeting. Captain Schenider says he is glad to be here and looks forward to the presentations and Mr. Steven Oyer agrees.

Environmental Restoration Program Update

Mr. Peed presented an overview of the active CAX sites. This overview included the work completed since the last RAB and work that is currently in progress at Site 4, Site 7, Site 9, AOC 1 South, AOC 6, AOC 8, and AOC 9.

Site 9 – Transformer Disposal Area Field Work Update

Ms. Stephanie Sawyer presented recent expanded site investigation (ESI) activities and path forward:

Site 9 is a former transformer storage area. Between 1973 and 1980, electrical transformers, some of which contained PCBs, were reportedly stored at the site for repair or disposal. The storage area was not paved; however, it was enclosed by an earthen wall. An ESI is currently underway to determine the nature and extent of soil and concrete contamination, determine the extent of site-related sediment contamination, determine if soil outside the site boundary has been contaminated by historical site activities, and determine if groundwater has been contaminated by historical site activities. These objectives will be achieved through three phases of sampling.

The first phase, which began in May 2017 and was completed in April 2020, included soil and sediment sampling. The second phase, completed in May 2020, included the installation of sampling of groundwater monitoring wells. The results of Phase 1 and 2 will be used to determine the parameters analyzed during the third phase of sampling, which will include downgradient surface and subsurface soil and sediment samples.

An attendee asked if there was concern for migration into the York River. Ms. Sawyer clarified that this pathway is always considered and based on current knowledge, the York River has not been impacted.

An attendee mentioned the downgradient ditches that run towards the river and asked if there are retention ponds in place before the water enters the York River. Mr. Peed responded that there are no retention ponds; although the water is slowed when it reaches the wetlands along the edge of the river there is a defined channel between Outfall 2 and the river.

AOC 9 – Penniman Lake Historical Industrial Areas Field Work Update

Ms. Sawyer presented recent ESI activities and path forward.

AOC 9 was originally defined as Penniman Lake, a 48-acre surface water body located in the southeastern portion of CAX that was created in 1943 when a portion of King Creek was dammed. However, Penniman Lake is a downgradient receiving body and not a source of contamination. An Expanded ESI is underway to identify the current and/or historical sources of contamination and other, non-CERCLA-regulated inputs to Penniman Lake, determine if groundwater has been contaminated by historical AOC 9 activities, and fill data gaps in the understanding of the nature and extent of contamination. These objectives will be achieved through two phases of sampling. The first phase, completed in May 2020 included the following soil and sediment sampling:

- Source Area identification
 - 64 surface soil samples
 - 82 subsurface soil samples
 - 14 surface sediment samples
 - 15 subsurface sediment samples
- Watershed operational input

- 16 surface soil samples
- 16 subsurface soil samples
- Fingerprint Analysis
 - 4 surface soil
 - 4 subsurface soil
 - 11 surface sediment
 - 11 subsurface sediment

After analysis and review of the Phase 1 data, the Navy, EPA, and VDEQ will agree to Phase 2 sampling which is expected to include

- Up to 40 source area release soil and sediment samples
- Up to 7 data gap soil samples
- Up to 15 data gap sediment samples
- Up to 20 source area groundwater samples

An attendee asked how long there have been activities with the potential for contamination at CAX. Ms. Sawyer responded that the base came into existence in 1943.

Final Comments/Closing Remarks

Captain Schneider thanked everyone for joining the call and for the work being done. He stated that great work is underway and we still have work ahead of us. Steve thanked the presenters for the information and Captain Schneider for making these meetings happen. Ms. Podbesek agreed and said she was pleased to see community members on the call. Ms. Sawyer asked community members how they had heard about the RAB and one responded that he saw the notice in the paper.

Action Items: None

Next RAB Meeting: To be determined (November 2021)
(Will be advertised on the public websites and
in the Daily Press and Virginia Gazette newspapers)

Location: York County Public Library

Points of Contact for Questions, Comments, or to Request Additional Information:

Mr. Bryan Peed, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Mid-Atlantic Remedial Project Manager for CAX, bryan.peed@navy.mil or (757) 341-0480

Public Websites:

CAX: <http://go.usa.gov/DynP>

ATTACHMENT 1

Public Notice



**Public Notice of
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
for Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Yorktown
Cheatham Annex (CAX)**

Thursday, November 5, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Call in Phone Number: 1-469-214-8538
Conference ID Number: 492 910 923#

The Public is Invited to Attend

NWS Yorktown CAX is inviting the community to participate in the RAB meeting to be informed of Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) issues, investigations, and cleanups. The ERP addresses past contamination to protect human health and the environment and relies on public awareness and engagement in the process. This is your opportunity to participate by providing direct input during this meeting. NWS Yorktown CAX, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are committed to the RAB, which symbolizes our commitment to maintaining open dialog with local communities as we work together to Clean, Protect, & Restore.

To join the meeting by telephone only, please call 1-469-214-8538, and enter conference ID 492 910 923#. A link to the virtual meeting and presentations for the meeting will be posted to the public website. To request a mailed hardcopy of the presentations, please contact the Navy's contractor, Ms. Stephanie Sawyer, at (757) 671-6273.

For additional information regarding the RAB Meeting or the ERP at NWS Yorktown CAX, visit our website:

<http://go.usa.gov/DynP> (CAX)

or contact the Navy Public Affairs Officer
Phone: (757) 887-4939

#MissionCleanup – Clean, Protect, & Restore

Notice published in the Virginia Gazette and Daily Press on October 31 and November 1, 2020, respectively. (In addition, notification letters are mailed to the Community Co-Chair and community members on the mailing list.)

