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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 12 SEPTEMBER 2011 NCBC  
GULFPORT MS  
9/12/2011  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD



**Minutes**  
**NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting**  
**Naval Construction Battalion Center**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi**  
*September 12, 2011*

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met at the Good Deeds Community Center in Gulfport, Mississippi on September 12, 2011. RAB members present at the meeting included:

Charles Cook (Navy Co-Chair)	Ron Schmidting
Gordon Crane	Joyce Shaw
David Marshall (Alt. Community Co-Chair)	Phillip Shaw

Administrative and technical support were provided by:  
Glenn Markwith, Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center  
Bill Olson, Tetra Tech  
Greg Roof, Tetra Tech  
Nancy Rouse, Tetra Tech

Guests in attendance:  
Cherie Schultz, Citizen

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Dave Marshall, Alternate Community Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Glen Markwith from the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center (NMCPHC) was introduced.

### **Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Update**

Charles Cook of NAVFAC provided an update of funding available for the ERP. Mr. Cook stated that \$100K has been allocated for long term monitoring and \$66K has been allocated for remedial design.

Greg Roof of Tetra Tech reviewed the CERCLA process and provided a site-by-site status of the NCBC Gulfport ERP as follows:

*Site 1:* The Proposed Plan will be available within the next three to six months.

*Site 2:* The Remedial Investigation is underway. The third round of field investigations is currently being conducted. No significant environmental concerns have been found to date at Site 2.

*Site 3:* The Decision Document for Site 3 is currently being reviewed by the Navy legal staff.

*Site 4:* Cap installation at Site 4 is 100% complete. Groundwater monitoring wells will be reinstalled around the cap as part of the long term monitoring program.

*Site 5:* The landfill cap has been installed and groundwater monitoring is underway.

*Site 6:* The Remedial Action is ongoing.

*Site 7:* The planning document for the Remedial Investigation is being reviewed by the team.

*Site 8:* The Site 8 cap was installed and monitoring is ongoing.

*Site 10:* The Remedial Action (lining of the ditches) is completed and Land Use Controls (LUCs) are in place.

*Munitions Response Program (MRP) Site Status:* The Preliminary Assessment for the MRP is being written. Ten MRP sites have been identified. Three of the sites have been identified on the northwest site of the base. Nothing on the southern end of the base was identified. Two sites have been funded for further investigation (Site Investigation), which will begin after the Preliminary Assessment is completed.

## **Community Involvement Plan Update**

Glen Markwith of the NMCPHC presented an update on the Community Involvement Plan currently being prepared by his agency.

Mr. Markwith reported that they had a remarkably high 40% response rate in their request for interviewed. In preparing for the interviews, 101 people were contacted in June of 2011. Of those, 43 people responded and granted interviews. Some of the interviews were completed over the phone, but most were completed face-to-face. Interviewees included 33% residents, 30% Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), 26% government; 7% Navy or former navy; and 5% businesses.

The interviews showed that the relationship between NCBC Gulfport and the local community is good in most areas, including community involvement, commitment to the environment, trust, and "in general." However, some community members feel that "open communication" is not as good as it has been in the past.

The most important environmental issues, in order of importance to the interviewees, included coastal resources and water quality (33 interviewees), NCBC/Agent Orange (13 interviewees), port development (9 interviewees), wetlands (8 interviewees), air (7 interviewees), flood control/drainage (5 interviewees), environmental justice (4 interviewees), and other (1 mentioned energy, and another mentioned the former bauxite piles).

When asked about the RAB, 62% of the interviewees stated that they were familiar with the RAB, however, 30% said that had not been to attend a RAB meeting because they were not concerned and 56% of the interviewees stated that they would be interested in serving on the RAB.

Interviewees were asked if they felt that NCBC Gulfport environmental issues have affected the community; there were 18 comments about cancer and Agent Orange, 3 comments concerning property values, 1 comment about other health effects and one comment concerning trust.

When asked if the interviewees had confidence in the Navy to address environmental issues on NCBC Gulfport, 86.5% said "yes."

Sixty three percent of the interviewees had seen public notices about the environmental program and 81% would like to receive more information on the ERP at NCBC Gulfport. The top two types of information that they would like to see were cleanup status/community updates and upcoming meetings/events. Community involvement, ways to contribute, contributions to economy, traffic/roadways, base expansion, science background, and off-base monitoring were also mentioned.

When asked how they would like to receive information the response was overwhelmingly via email and regular mail. Website/internet, phone, newspaper and ListServ were also mentioned. Seventeen of the interviewees wanted information only when new information was available, 9 preferred receiving information quarterly, and 2 preferred receiving updates monthly. When asked how information is currently received about the NCBC Gulfport ERP, Rip Daniels Radio (WJZD) was identified as the number one source. Cable 1 News, the Sun Herald, and mail, followed in frequency by online sources, environmental groups, base personnel, Facebook, and the church newsletter were also mentioned.

These sources are considered to be accurate and credible sources of information by 91.1% of the interviewees.

Additional comments or suggestions from community interviewed included:

- Exploring partnership opportunities with community groups
- Provided health care specialist for the community
- Include RAB notices in creative venues such as utility bills, church bulletins, pizza boxes/fliers, SMEACO list servers, banners at busy intersections, links to other community websites, and posting at other community locations such as Job Centers, WIC Centers, Health Department, Coastal Family Health Clinics, Food Stamp Offices, United Way, Grocery Stores, and Gas Stations.

*Question* (David Marshall): When will the NCBC Gulfport command get the briefing that we just saw? The command needs to hear this.

*Answer* (Gordon Crane): That is a good idea. We will make sure that the command is informed.

*Comment* (David Schmidling): It would be great to have an overall package, "Agent Orange 40 Years Later."

### **Conclusion**

The next meeting will tentatively be held on December 5, 2012, at 600 p.m.

The meeting closed at 7:30 p.m.

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