

4/1/96-3194



Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune Restoration Advisory Board

April 1996

This Fact Sheet provides information regarding the formation of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) at Marine Corps Base (MCB), Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The RAB is comprised of Marine Corps representatives, Federal and State regulators, the former Technical Review Committee (TRC) and additional community members. MCB Camp Lejeune formed the RAB to provide increased community participation in the Department of Defense (DoD) Installation Restoration (IR) Program. The goal of the IR Program is to identify, assess, characterize, and clean up or control contamination from past hazardous waste disposal operations.

Overview

Marine Corps Base (MCB), Camp Lejeune is a training base for the U.S. Marine Corps, located in Onslow County, North Carolina. The facility covers approximately 236 square miles and includes 14 miles of shoreline. MCB, Camp Lejeune has invited the community to actively participate in the base environmental restoration program, the Installation Restoration (IR) Program, through community meetings, and the Technical Review Committee (TRC) meetings. This fact sheet provides information regarding the IR Program at MCB, Camp Lejeune, the TRC, and the conversion of the TRC to a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) to encourage additional community involvement.

The RAB

The RAB was formerly organized as the TRC, which consisted primarily of Marine Corps representatives and federal and state regulators. To encourage community participation, the group was reorganized to include more emphasis on public involvement. The RAB now includes representatives from civic and special interest groups as well as general community members. The purpose of the group is to review and discuss the progress of the IR Program at MCB, Camp Lejeune. The RAB members can pass along to their groups the information they learn and provide MCB, Camp Lejeune with the

ACRONYMS

AR	Administrative Record
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
FFA	Federal Facilities Agreement
IR Program	Installation Restoration Program
MCB	Marine Corps Base
NPL	National Priorities List
PA/SI	Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection
PRAP	Proposed Remedial Action Plan
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD/RA	Remedial Design/Remedial Action
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
TRC	Technical Review Committee

RAB Continued

community ideas and opinions regarding studies and cleanup options at the base. This information exchange between RAB members, their neighbors, colleagues, and civic group members is encouraged. Members will be provided with documents for review in advance of the RAB meetings. The RAB meetings will be held in the evenings to accommodate schedules. The location, date, and time of the meetings will be published in the Jacksonville Daily News.

IR Program

In the past, the Marine Corps, like many businesses and industries of the time, employed practices that today's science has shown may be potentially harmful to people or the environment. MCB, Camp Lejeune manages past hazardous waste disposal investigations through the Department of Defense (DoD) IR Program. The goal of the IR Program, initiated in 1975, is to identify, assess, characterize, and clean up or control contamination from past hazardous waste disposal operations. Phases of the IR Program are listed on page 4.

Environmental Management

Since 1981, MCB, Camp Lejeune has had a comprehensive hazardous waste management program to ensure proper handling, collection, and disposal of waste to prevent releases to the environment. The base Environmental Management Department also manages programs to ensure compliance with all laws and regulations regarding the quality of water, soil, and other natural resources.

Applicable Laws

Two federal environmental laws, which were enacted at approximately the same time as the IR Program, are the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). RCRA, passed in 1976, established a national strategy for the management of solid and hazardous waste. RCRA provides for "cradle-to-grave" tracking of hazardous materials and includes record keeping on the generation, transportation, storage, and disposal of these materials.

In 1980, CERCLA was passed to investigate and clean up sites resulting from past, formerly accepted, hazardous waste management practices. A Superfund was established by Congress to fund environmental cleanup. Federal facilities such as MCB, Camp Lejeune have a separate source of funding called the Defense Environmental Restoration Account or DERA. In summary, RCRA is designed to manage the present and future disposal of hazardous wastes while CERCLA is designed to ensure past waste disposal areas are not posing a threat to the community or the environment.

Federal Facilities Agreement

In October 1989, MCB, Camp Lejeune was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of facilities or sites proposed to the Superfund list. These sites receive funding priorities for investigation and cleanup. The U.S. Department of the Navy (DoN), USEPA Region IV, and the State of North Carolina signed a Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) in February 1991. The purpose of the FFA is to ensure that environmental impacts associated with past and present activities at MCB, Camp Lejeune are thoroughly investigated. If necessary, appropriate corrective action alternatives will be developed and conducted to protect the public health,

welfare, and the environment. The FFA identified 34 sites to be investigated and potentially cleaned up in accordance with CERCLA.

FFA and Site Management Plan

The sites identified under the FFA were evaluated with respect to their location, potential for risk to human health and the environment, types of contamination, and disposal methods. Sites with similarities were grouped together to form 13 Operable Units (OUs). By combining the IR sites into OUs, the study and remediation could be conducted in a more efficient and cost effective way. Since the FFA was published, four additional OUs consisting of 15 sites have been added to the Site Management Plan (SMP). The SMP outlines a 5-year action plan for the investigation of and remediation of sites identified under the FFA and the newly identified sites. Under the IR Program, a typical (“generic”) timeframe to achieve cleanup is approximately 65 months. The FFA identified a more aggressive schedule: approximately 53 months to reach the cleanup phase.

Partnering Team

Spurred on by a nation-wide interest in spending less time and money on study, and more effort on cleanup of sites, The IR Project Team was formed to expedite cleanup. The team is comprised of the following members:

- ❖ *MCB, Camp Lejeune IR Division, Neal Paul*
- ❖ *USEPA Region IV, Gena Townsend*
- ❖ *NC Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources (NCDEHNR), Patrick Watters*
- ❖ *LANTDIV Environmental Quality Division, Katherine Landman*
- ❖ *Baker Environmental, Inc. (Investigation and Design Contractor), Matthew Bartman, Richard Bonelli*
- ❖ *OHM Remediation Services Corporation (remediation contractor), Jim Dunn*

The project team identified a number of actions to significantly reduce the overall timeframe to achieve cleanup. By implementing these actions, the timeframe to reach cleanup has ranged from 24 months to 39 months, a significant improvement.

The project team is fortunate to have members who work together toward the common goal of expedited cleanup. In July 1994, the project team began participation in a “partnering” program. The team has learned partnering skills including decision making and conflict resolution. These skills have resulted in a more effective and efficient project team that is able to resolve problems without raising them to a higher authority or level. The project team will be working with the RAB to continue efforts at MCB, Camp Lejeune.

Administrative Record

The RAB and community members can learn more about the IR Program at MCB, Camp Lejeune through reviewing program documents, located in the Administrative Record (AR) file and information repository. The AR and repository are available for review at the following locations:

Onslow County Library	MCB, Camp Lejeune
58 Doris Avenue East	Environmental Management Division
Jacksonville, NC 28540	Building 67, Room 237
	Marine Corps Base
	Camp Lejeune, NC 28542

IR Program Study Process:

Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI):
identifies potential threats to human health and the environment

Remedial Investigation (RI):
analyzes contaminants and evaluates potential contamination migration from site and risks to human health and the environment

Feasibility Study (FS):
evaluates feasible cleanup methods to achieve environmental standards for human health and the environment

Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP):
outlines feasible alternatives and recommends remediation or cleanup method, if necessary

Public Comment Period/Meeting:
allows for public examination of the PRAP and expression of comments; public meeting held to present plan and answer questions

Record of Decision (ROD):
specifies the cleanup method after evaluating public comments

Remedial Design (RD):
involves preparation of construction specifications and other design plans for remediation

Remedial Action (RA):
remediates or clean up the site to approved environmental standards

Points of Contact

For additional information about the RAB or the IR Program at MCB, Camp Lejeune, please contact either:

Ms. Katherine Landman, Code 18232 (804) 322-4818
Commander
Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
1510 Gilbert Street (Building N-26)
Norfolk, Virginia 23511-2699

or

Mr. Neal Paul, Director, Installation Restoration Program, (910) 451-5068
AC/S EMD (IRD)
Building 67, Room 238
Marine Corps Base, PSC Box 20004
Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0004