



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE
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COLTS NECK, NEW JERSEY 07722-5001

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NWS EARLE

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From: Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station Earle

To: Distribution

Subj: MINUTES OF NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING OF 23 MARCH 2000

1. A meeting of the Naval Weapons Station Earle RAB was held on Thursday, March 23, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. in Building C-2 (Conference Room), Naval Weapons Station Earle. The following Station and community representatives attended:

Table with 2 columns: NAME and ORGANIZATION. Lists attendees including Capt Honey, Kevin Bova, Deborah Sciascia, August Hermanni, Gregory Goepfert, Nancy Eldridge, Jessica Mollin, Mary Lanko, John Kolicius, Russ Turner, Carole Balmer, Mary Jo Christian, Janet Coakley, Michael Heffron, Rich Goldbeck, John Mayerski, and Thomas Hennessy.

2. The minutes of the December 9, 1999 meeting were reviewed and entered into the record without change. Mr. Mayerski was recognized as a new RAB member. Ms. Lanko presented Ms. Jean Montgomerie's RAB membership interest form to Mr. Goepfert.

3. Mr. Goepfert asked for any comments on the RAB Charter. There being no specific comments from the community, Mr. Goepfert suggested two modifications to the charter that seem to be included in the charters of other active RABs: note that copies of program documents are sent to the Government Repository at the Monmouth County Library, Eastern Branch, and that review of the prior meeting's minutes will always be an agenda item. Ms. Balmer motioned that these recommendations be adopted in the Charter. The motion passed. The RAB Charter will be revised to include these changes.

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4. Mr. Goepfert provided an update as follows:

(a) Wayside Area: Naval Weapons Station Earle has provided an estimate to the U. S. Army, Fort Monmouth to fund the completion of environmental investigations in the Wayside Area. Mr. Kolicius advised that a contract award can be made within 30 days of receipt of funding from the Army.

(b) The updated Community Relations Plan for Naval Weapons Station Earle's Installation Restoration Program has been placed in the Monmouth County Library, Eastern Branch, and has also been sent to the Navy's Northeast Region.

(c) As a previous NWS Earle employee, Mr. Mayerski participated in an "oral history" project. The goal of the project was to identify past disposal practices on the Station. Two other career employees of the Station also participated in the project, Mr. Richard Coveleski (Safety Specialist) and Mr. Thomas Gentile (Forester). This study has not uncovered much added information as compared to the Initial Assessment Study performed in 1983. Mr. Kolicius advised that NWS Earle was taking a proactive posture to make sure that all sites are properly identified.

5. Several briefing charts were displayed with the following information:

(a) The environmental investigation of the "Mine Battery Site" will take place subsequent to a contract award for the work. Mr. Kolicius advised that contract award will take place by the end of April 2000.

(b) Remediation work on the pesticide shop (Bldg. S-86) commenced. The contract task was awarded at \$251,168. Site work will be completed by the end of April.

(c) Mr. Heffron advised of the finding of a compound called "perchloroethylene" in groundwater, just south of Site 26. The finding was incidental to preparation work for the installation of air sparging / soil vapor extraction remediation work planned at the original site. It was theorized that the perchloroethylene--a solvent--may have been deposited years ago in a septic field; Mr. Bova pointed out that a painting/stenciling operation was carried out in Bldg. GB-2 (a demolished building) in the vicinity of that septic field. Thus, it appears that the source has been confirmed. A complete investigation report will be provided by Foster Wheeler, and a subsequent recommendation will be coordinated with the EPA and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection with regard to remedial options. Mr. Kolicius advised that this finding should not stop progress on the remediation work previously scheduled at the northern end of the site, since concentrations of the contaminants of concern are two orders of magnitude greater at the northern end of the site. The cost of remediation for Site 26, prior to this finding, was \$871,607. It is expected that an additional cost impact will be incurred for this site, to be determined upon remedy selection. A Site 26 tour will be provided at the next RAB meeting.

(d) Battelle Laboratories has undertaken an optimization study of the Bioslurper operations at Site 16/F. Several recommendations included: running the process more than eight hours per day, drill more extraction wells and perform some process modifications. Battelle will complete a cost / benefit analysis concerning these recommendations by 3 April 2000.

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(e) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representatives, Ms. Jessica Mollin and Mr. Robert Wing, along with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection representative Mr. Robert Marcolina, visited Sites 3, 10 and 13 on March 8, 2000. Ms. Mollin advised that EPA had reviewed the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency's (NOAA's) comments on the Feasibility Study for Sites 3, 10 and 13. EPA supports the recommendation to perform additional sediment sampling for "PCBs" adjacent to Site 13. Mr. Goepfert advised that he was not aware of any transformers buried at Site 13. Other than PCBs in transformer dielectric fluid, the only other possible source could be a lubricant. Completion of the PCB sampling at Site 13 will serve to complete the feasibility study phase for Sites 3, 10 and 13; Sites 3 and 10 did not pose any added EPA concerns.

6. Mr. Bova initiated a discussion regarding RAB membership, specifically with regard to continued community outreach. Mr. Goepfert advised that most of our membership has come from initial member solicitations when the NWS Earle RAB first formed, and subsequently, from recommendations of other RAB members. All RAB meetings are announced via the Public Affairs Office in the Asbury Park Press. Ms. Balmer asked about the membership of environmental groups. Mr. Kolicius advised that NWS Earle meetings are open to the public, therefore, you do not have to be a RAB member to attend. Further, the Navy recognizes RAB members as individual voting members, with environmental group members permitted to allow one representative as a voting member. Mr. Goepfert advised that he has surveyed local environmental groups for interest such as Clean Ocean Action, the Baykeeper and the Monmouth County Friends of Clearwater; the interest of these groups has been expressed in intermittent RAB meeting attendance. Mr. Goepfert noted that the leadership of these groups has not changed since membership information was provided to them. Mr. Kolicius advised that the NWS Earle RAB attendance and interest rate has generally been good. He pointed out that the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard had only three (3) RAB members. Mr. Goepfert advised that he would work with the Community Co-Chair and the Station Public Affairs Officer in an attempt to foster additional interest in the NWS Earle Installation Restoration Program.

7. Mr. Bova requested that the issue of environmental clean up work associated with the Monmouth County pistol range (Route 33), adjacent to Earle, be followed up.

8. Milestones

- (a) Mr. Kolicius to arrange for award of the Mine Battery Site Investigation.
- (b) Mr. Goepfert to follow up on Army funding of Wayside Area Site Investigation.
- (c) Foster Wheeler to complete a report of findings at Site 26.
- (d) Battelle Labs to present a bioslurper cost / benefit analysis.
- (e) Mr. Goepfert to complete oral history project.
- (f) EPA to formally present, via letter, additional sampling requirements at Site 13.

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(g) Mr. Goepfert to coordinate community outreach requirements with NWS Earle Public Affairs Officer and the Community Co-Chair.

(h) Mr. Goepfert to coordinate with Monmouth County representatives concerning clean up plans for the Route 33 pistol range and its impact on NWS Earle property.

9. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

10. The next RAB meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 29, 2000 in Bldg. C-2 Conference Room, Naval Weapons Station Earle, at 7:00 P.M.

Submitted by:


GREGORY J. GOEFFERT
Navy Co-Chair
Restoration Advisory Board

Reviewed/Approved by:


A. L. HERMANNI
Safety Director
By direction of
the Commanding Officer

Distribution:

RAB Members/Attendees