



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
NAVAL BASE NORFOLK
1530 GILBERT ST. STE 2200
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2797

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NB NORFOLK
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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N452A/341

Mr. Randy Jackson
Naval Facilities Engineering Command (Code 18224)
1530 Gilbert Street, Bldg. N26
Norfolk, VA 23511-2699

Dear Mr. Jackson:

SUBJECT: RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING MINUTES

Enclosed please find minutes of the January 21, 1999 RAB meeting. Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-July 1999 and will include a tour of the Camp Allen Water Treatment Plant. A letter and meeting agenda will be mailed to you two weeks prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Dianne Bailey at (757) 444-3009, extension 394 or Ms. Paula Keicer at (757) 322-2853.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sean Heaney".

SEAN HEANEY
Director, Hazardous Waste Division
By direction of the Commander

Enclosure

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 1999

Commander, Naval Base (COMNAVBASE) Norfolk, conducted a Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 1999, in the Navy Lodge on Hampton Boulevard. The meeting commenced at 7:10 p.m. with the following people in attendance.

RAB ATTENDEES:

Dianne Bailey, Navy Co-chair	COMNAVBASE Environmental Programs
Randy Jackson, P.E.	Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Paula Keicer	COMNAVBASE Environmental PAO
Dr. Carl Fisher	Elizabeth River Project

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Don Joiner	Baker Environmental
Bill Hudson	EPA Philadelphia PAO
Kimberly Lane	EPA Philadelphia PAO
Michael Tilchin	CH2M Hill
Anna Lee Bamforth	Old Dominion University Student

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Devlin Harris	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Nathaniel Riggins	Titustown Civic League
Claud "Okie" Thompson	Elizabeth River Project
Harry Harbold	EPA Region III
Howard L. Porter, III	Virginia Department of Health
Aneil Kumar	Old Dominion University Student
Kenneth Teets	Glenwood Park Civic League
Encie Teets	Glenwood Park Civic League
Bertram Myers	Algonquin Park Civic League
Dr. Raymond Alden	Old Dominion University
Lee Rosenberg	City of Norfolk, Environmental Service

RAB Presentation Summary:

The RAB meeting was held in conjunction with the "public comment period" for the proposed remedial action plan for the NM Slag Pile at Norfolk Naval Base. At this session, Mike Tilchin, CH2M Hill gave a briefing on the NM Slag Pile and the Glenwood Park Groundwater Sampling Results. Don Joiner, Baker Environmental gave an update on the Camp Allen Salvage Yard. Randy Jackson, LANTDIV, gave a remediation update on the Camp Allen Landfill Treatment Plant, the LP-20, and Q-Area Air Sparging System. Questions and comments from the public were entertained during and after the presentations.

NM Slag Pile – Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP)

Mike Tilchin, CH2M-Hill, gave a presentation on the NM Slag Pile – Proposed Remediation Action Plan (PRAP). He summarized the finding and results of the Preferred Remedies for the Subsurface Soil, Groundwater, and Sediment and Surface Water, based on the Feasibility Study. The purpose of the PRAP is to provide an opportunity for public participation. The Feasibility Study is located at the Mary Pretlow Branch Library and the Kirn Memorial Branch Library.

The preferred alternative for soil includes construction of an asphalt cover over contaminated soil, incorporating land use restrictions into Navy's planning documents, long-term groundwater monitoring, and operations and maintenance of the asphalt cover. The preferred alternative for groundwater includes construction of an asphalt cover over contaminated soil, long-term groundwater monitoring, and operations and maintenance of the asphalt cover. Based on analytical results received during the remediation investigation, surface water contamination will likely be eliminated by remediating the underlying contaminated sediment and by preventing erosion of contaminated soil. The preferred alternative for sediment includes excavation and disposal, overlay of clean imported fill over areas with deeper contamination, stabilization of the west bank of the upstream section of the drainage channel adjacent to the Slag Pile, and annual monitoring of surface water and sediment contaminant levels.

The Department of the Navy and the U.S. EPA, with the concurrence of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will select final remedies after the review and consideration of public comments, which may propose different remedial actions than were presented during this RAB meeting. The final remedies, state acceptance, and public comments/responses will be documented in the Record of Decision (ROD).

Question: What are the Navy's long term plans for the asphalt covered area?

Answer: The area will continue to be a parking lot. The cars are now parked on gravel. The asphalt pavement will limit any possible exposure to lead found in the subsurface soils.

Question: It seems like in our prior efforts, the decision has been related to risk to any maintenance personnel. If deemed that the parking lot should have street lighting in the future will there be controls for the workers so they will not be exposed to the lead in the soil?

Answer: Yes, we note these sites on a document. Whenever any utility work is done the workers must contact the Navy and we will tell them what might be at the site and the precautions to take. Since the site is next to the weapons compound, construction activity is limited. There is a sewer main that runs under the site and if that broke the least of the problems would be the lead in the soil.

Question: Doesn't excavation of sediment initially release high concentration levels of contaminants?

Answer: That is a good question. The way in which the work will proceed is when we excavate we will do it in segments. Areas will be dewatered before they are excavated and will progress downstream for that exact reason -to prevent exposure to heavy concentrations of contaminants. There might be some new technologies of hydraulic dredging that wouldn't leave high suspension levels. But the method of sediment excavation will progress in segments that are relatively dry. The Navy has had prior experience with that at the CD Landfill area.

Question: Does the dewatering have to be hauled off and disposed of?

Answer: Here we actually will be drawing off surface water, but we will probably also do some well points for groundwater dewatering. The water that is pumped out will be treated, at least through settling, before it is discharged. It will be treated and discharged beyond the end of the area of excavation.

Question: So essentially it will be an onsite treatment system for the water.

Answer: Yes, that water won't just be shipped off without treatment. Basically what we will do is put out above ground swimming pools and pump the water into there and monitor the water in them. We will make sure it is clean before the water is discharged. Another thing is that we are keeping tabs on the flow of water and will choose a dry period of weather.

Camp Allen Salvage Yard Update

Don Joiner, Baker Environmental, gave a project update of the Camp Allen Salvage Yard. The Camp Allen Salvage Yard was used from 1940 to 1972 as a salvage yard and disposal area. In 1972 to 1994 the site was managed by the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office. The Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection was completed in 1993. A Remedial Investigation was started in 1996. A decision was made to have a removal action of PCB contaminated soil. Approximately 2,800 cubic yards of PCB contaminated soil was removed and disposed of offsite in accordance with Federal and State regulations. Approximately 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil remains, mostly located at the southern end of the site. The new driving force of the cleanup action is based on the Naval Base's preliminary plans to convert the site into a recreation area that would include four baseball fields, two soccer fields, a jogging trail, and parking area. The goal is to have the northern half of the site available for construction in late 1999. Some type of remedial action will be required prior to develop the southern portion. The Navy is working with the State and EPA to complete the required documentation for closure of the site. Prior to closure the following must be completed, a Remedial Investigation Report, Risk Assessment, and Feasibility Study, PRAP and the ROD

Question: Since there will be some Navy public usage here, some of the terms that are used should be defined. Some possible questions you might get from the public – Are the soils clean? Is there risk to human health? Are they detectable levels at all? Are you dealing with a criterion like ERM? And, therefore, the public has to understand that?

Answer: Probably the better way to say it is that there are no unacceptable human health risks at the site.

Question: But that is a quantifiable?

Answer: Right. The risk/exposure scenarios will of course include recreational use. We are actually going beyond that and including a residential exposure scenario, which has higher usage level duration exposure factors in the event that if in the future the area was used as a residential area. So, yes, when you say there are no health risks, there are no unacceptable human health risks, which is how EPA defines risk to carcinogens and non-carcinogens compounds.

Question: I was just thinking that you shift the whole dialogue when it becomes public usage. I know it is sometime difficult to explain the criterion that has been set up. Even though there is a detectable level, even when the EPA has said that the level is not considered harmful.

Answer: You are right it is very difficult to explain it. You could study someone's backyard and come up with some risks. There has to be something to measure it against and EPA sets those levels. They are very conservative. In addition, when the ball fields are built they will add 10 to 12 inches of soil on top of the site.

Question: Was the soil removal delay driven by disposal costs?

Answer: Yes, specifically since we found Cadmium in the soil. It drove the cost up. There were four waste-streams that I can think of. The Cadmium problem could be called a RCRA waste, and PCBs are a TSCA waste. The non-RCRA and the non-TSCA waste could go to a non-hazardous landfill, that is permitted, they had acceptable levels for disposal. Because of the metals problem with the RCRA waste, it had to go to South Carolina to a RCRA waste landfill. Then there was one high spot that had PCB that needed to be incinerated in Utah somewhere. The problem with these projects is you never know until you get out there. During the study phase you can't sample every square foot. So, when you dig, you sample, then dig, then sample. There were just a lot of unexpected levels out there. The entire clean up will be a little more complicated than we thought.

Naval Base Remediation Update

Randy Jackson, LANTDIV, gave a brief site update for

- LP-20 Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction (AS/SVE) System – Began operating in April 1998 and 3,500 pounds of VOCs have been removed as of December 1998.
- Q Drum Storage Area - Air Sparging/Soil Vapor Extraction (AS/SVE) System – There are two sites AOC 1 began operations on Aug. 19, 1998 and AOC 2 on Aug. 20, 1998. The system is performing as it was designed.

Question: You are quoted on how much removed. Is this a way of measuring what comes up in the air?

Answer: There are two ways that we monitor. One is for the Soil Vapor Extraction systems, we are basically blowing air down to the ground and then we have a separate system that vacuums out the air. We measure the concentrations in the vacuum, we know

the flow of air, and we know the concentrations, so we can do a mass balance to figure out the number. The other way we measure it is that we have monitoring wells out there, twice a year we go out and measure the levels in the monitoring wells.

- Camp Allen Landfill Treatment Plant – At the last meeting it was mentioned that there were some mechanical problems at the treatment plant. Repairs and modifications were made and since November it has been running. Between November 98 and January 99 approximately 6,600,000 gallons have been treated. All effluent test results were well below state requirements.
- CD Landfill CAP – Construction to start spring 1999

Groundwater Sampling Results at Glenwood Park

Mike Tilchin presented the Groundwater Monitoring results within the Glenwood Park area. CH2M-Hill is actively doing long-term monitoring at the Camp Allen Treatment Plant, Q area, and LP-20. We evaluate the groundwater in detail prior to the start up of the treatment facilities. Once up and running, we monitor the effectiveness of the treatment system, and finally identify design changes and modifications to the system to enhance the goals.

At Camp Allen area we installed new wells where there were “gaps” in the monitoring well/water levels. We placed some new wells and piezometers in Glenwood Park, beyond the line of extraction wells. We analyzed all the wells for 42 different chemicals. Vinyl chloride was found in a monitoring well at Glenwood Park above the Maximum Contaminant Level, but below the nonpotable groundwater use cleanup goal. The well MW31B installed in the Yorktown Aquifer, at 515 Glendale Avenue, detected vinyl chloride at 4.3 parts per billion. The 4.3 parts per billion is between the goal for the Yorktown Aquifer, which is 2 parts per billion, and the nonpotable usage, which is 9 parts per billion. All other chemicals tested below the cleanup level. The Navy uses the Maximum Contaminant Level at 2 parts per billion based on the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act standard. The Maximum Contaminant Level is used even though there are no water supply wells in the Yorktown Aquifer. For the water table aquifer, the cleanup goal of 9 parts per billion, was based on assumptions for nonpotable use scenario. Some of these scenarios include lawn watering, car washing, swimming in pools, and some drinking during those activities. The exposure assumption and risk assessment were used to determine the cleanup goal.

COMMENT: A second sample was taken in February 1999 and showed no levels of vinyl chloride or any other chemical. The Navy will continue to monitor these wells on a yearly basis.

Question: What do you know about the gradient? If you extract, will it cause a reversal gradient?

Answer: We know a little bit about that, but that is critical. We are modifying the gradient. We have piezometric data from June 1998 when the system was not up and running and from data from November 1998 when the system was running. It takes a long time for a new water table equilibrium, but there is some indication that the system is pulling the water back from that location.

Question: Do you think there are any instances, in this community, where people could be receiving water from a potable source and a nonpotable source?

Answer: A key point that I didn't say is that every house at Glenwood Park is served by city water. Glenwood Park is the focus of concern because it is down gradient of the extraction well system and the people do have possible exposure with their wells.

Question: I am glad to see the concern.

Answer: Yes.

Question: What are the possible/potential gradient levels?

Answer: Good Question. The water is flowing in the direction of decreasing water levels. It is roughly flowing to the west. You can see how the lines are modified as a result of the extraction. How the contours are changed on the diagram.

Question: Where does the water go that is being pumped out?

Answer: It is all going to the treatment plant. There is no recharge component to the system, except that the clean water is released into Bousch Creek. I think the system is pulling a lot of contamination out of the ground water. We don't have enough data just yet.

Question: The extraction wells are part of the remedial action? Do they run continuously?

Answer: Yes, the remedial action is in place. They act continuously, but have float controls in them so they don't burn out the pumps.

Question: This system will be run for a number of years.

Answer: Yes, for a big number of years. These systems can be used for 30 years or more.

Comment: It seems to me that the issue here is to make sure that there is no undue alarm. These levels are way below some of the Elizabeth River figures.

Comment from Randy Jackson - The Navy has been proactive in this by installing the wells in the neighborhood. We are actively looking for the edge of the contamination. We want to state the facts and tell everyone what we are doing. As you get further into the phases of the project it gets more and more accurate.

Administrative Issues

Dianne Bailey thanked everyone for coming. The environmental office is going through big changes with regionalization. The offices have moved and phone numbers have changed. The long-term goals of the regionalization are to have the Installation Restoration Program moved up to Yorktown. Which means all the IR managers will be together and able to talk about sites together.

Question: Will the Navy Yard be a part of the regionalization?

Answer: No, the Navy Shipyard is not included. The bases that are involved are Yorktown, Cheatham Annex, Sewells Point, St. Julians Creek, Little Creek, Oceana and Dam Neck.

The RAB will meet again in July. At that time a tour will be given of the water treatment plant at Camp Allen, and the meeting held at the trailer on site.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.