



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

8/8/95-02061

IN REPLY REFER TO

5090  
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08 Aug 95

From: Chief of Naval Operations  
To: Distribution

Subj: RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEMBERS ATTENDING BRAC  
CLEANUP TEAM (BCT)/REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGER (RPM) WORKING  
LEVEL MEETINGS

1. Some activities with installation restoration (cleanup) programs have reported RAB community member interest in attending working level BCT/RPM meetings. Public participation in the environmental cleanup process is beneficial to reaching a final cleanup decision faster by including consideration for the concerns of the local affected community. It should be emphasized, however, that the RAB is the primary forum for including the public in the environmental cleanup program.

2. The decision to allow community RAB member attendance at BCT/RPM working level meetings is a local issue. RAB member attendance at working level BCT/RPM meetings must have the concurrence of the full RAB and all the members of the BCT to ensure such participation is appropriate and beneficial to furthering installation cleanup goals. Permitted attendance at the BCT/RPM meetings should normally be limited to the RAB community co-chair or his/her designee. Should the decision be made to invite RAB members to BCT/RPM working level meetings, the BCT/PRM, in consultation with the community RAB members, should develop a protocol for community RAB member attendance. All parties should agree in advance to abide by those protocols. On rare occasions, where BCT/RPM working level meetings involve issues of national security or contracting and procurement, exclusion of public attendance may be required in accordance with applicable regulations.

3. There may be times when a community RAB member attending BCT/RPM working level meetings may fail to remain focused on cleanup or become disruptive. Work with the community members of the RAB and encourage them to supervise their own membership to avoid conflicts between special interests and cleanup.

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4. On a similar matter, there is no formal mechanism for handling disputes about general RAB functional issues. Disputes that cannot be resolved between the two co-chairs should be forwarded to the installation commanding officer. If a dispute cannot be resolved at that level, it should be elevated to the Regional Environmental Coordinator (REC) for resolution. In general, since the RAB is an advisory board, all views on an issue should be presented to allow the RAB to make the best recommendations.

6. My staff point of contact is Ms. Cindy Turlington, N453F, at (703) 602-5330.



L. F. SCHRIEFER  
By direction

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