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MINUTES AND AGENDA FOR RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD 13 MAY  
2010 NAS SOUTH WEYMOUTH MA  
05/13/2010  
NAVAL AIR STATION SOUTH WEYMOUTH



# Naval Air Station South Weymouth, MA Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes May 13, 2010

## 1. INTRODUCTIONS/ APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

John Goodrich, RAB facilitator, opened the meeting at approximately 7:00 PM. He requested that all attendees, including RAB members, regulators, and audience members, introduce themselves. He noted that the meeting agenda, handouts, and the sign-in sheet were available on the front table. The sign-in sheet for the meeting is provided as Attachment A to this meeting summary. J. Goodrich asked if everyone had time to read the minutes from the March 2010 RAB meeting and if there were any comments. There were no comments on the minutes.

J. Goodrich reviewed the ground rules for the meeting and reminded the meeting attendees that the focus of the meeting is cleanup issues. Any issues and/or comments not related to base cleanup will be noted and referred to the appropriate agency or organization. He reviewed the guidelines for the meeting and reminded the participants when asking questions to wait to speak until they are acknowledged, to state their names and affiliations, and to speak clearly or into the microphone when they have questions.

He then reviewed the agenda for the meeting. The meeting agenda and the Action Item Tracking List are provided as Attachment B to this meeting summary. In accordance with the agenda, the presentation and discussion would be followed by the Updates and Action Items portion of the meeting.

## 2. PRESENTATION

J. Goodrich introduced the presentation on the Small Landfill. Selected slides from the presentation are provided as Attachment C. J. Goodrich introduced Ron Kenyon of Shaw Environmental, Inc. to give the presentation.

R. Kenyon stated that Shaw has mobilized to the Small Landfill project. The removal action at AOC 55C is coming to a close, so equipment is being moved to start the closure activities at Small Landfill.

The Small Landfill is a little less than 0.5 acre in size, and is located at the end of the runway on the eastern portion of the Base east of Old Swamp River (Slide 2). The Small Landfill received general debris (woods, concrete, and metals); no evidence of chemical deposition was found during the various site investigations. The Small Landfill was initially identified as IR Site 3, but was moved out of the

CERCLA program after a No Action ROD was signed in 2002. Groundwater monitoring and site closure under Massachusetts Solid Waste regulations were required by the ROD. In 2005 a Corrective Action Alternatives Analysis (CAAA) was performed consistent with the Massachusetts Solid Waste regulations. The selected alternative included waste consolidation and a landfill cap. The final Corrective Action Design for the landfill was submitted in December 2009 and provisional approval was received from the MassDEP Department of Solid Waste Management in April 2010.

Slide 3 shows the pre-existing conditions, including the test pits (rectangular shapes) excavated to determine the extent of the waste in the landfill. One test pit was also excavated across the road from the landfill due to indications of debris in that area. The boundary of the Small Landfill was determined from these findings. Slide 4 presents the final construction plan for Small Landfill. The peak of the landfill is in the northeast corner near the road and the cap tapers on all sides in a trapezoidal shape. The existing topography was taken into consideration in developing the contours of the cap. There will be swales constructed around the edges of the landfill, with discharge points designed to help diffuse the surface water runoff flow. Debris located across the road and outside the planned cap area will be excavated and included in the capped area. A gas venting system will be installed, with three strategically placed vents. At this landfill, gas venting from the peat beneath the fill is more likely than gas generated from the debris in the landfill. Slide 5 presents the cap elevation profile. The total elevation is about 10 to 15 feet and should be unobtrusive.

The first work task was to install sediment/turtle barrier fencing. Turtle surveys are conducted on a daily basis, and turtles removed from the work area as necessary. The existing vegetation and undesirable materials will then be removed from the current landfill limits. Monitoring well MW-23 will be abandoned and a replacement well constructed north of the cap. The next step is to excavate and consolidate the remaining landfill debris and grade the debris. Geotextile fabric will be installed, followed by a 6-inch sand layer serving as the gas collection layer.

Slide 6 presents the cap construction details and Slide 7 lists the major tasks in constructing the cap. An impermeable geomembrane will be installed and overlain by a 12-inch drainage layer. A 6-inch layer of select fill will then be installed and graded. The final layer will be 6 inches of topsoil which will be graded and then seeded. R. Kenyon noted that the select fill and topsoil that will be brought to the site is tested before it is approved for use in the construction of the cap. The gas vent stick-ups and drainage swales will then be completed and the post and rail fencing surrounding the site will be installed.

A turtle fence, or barrier, has also been installed along the sides of the access road (Slide 8). The interior of the turtle fence is walked on a daily basis before work begins. To date, one turtle has been found and removed from the work area (Slide 9). Slides 10 and 11 are photos showing site prep and

clearing of the area prior to cap construction. The landfill fence and gate will be similar to those at the Rubble Disposal Area (RDA). The project schedule is included as Slide 12. At the time of the meeting, Shaw was working on debris consolidation at the site.

M. Bromberg asked if the gas vents can be moved so they are not so obvious. R. Kenyon stated that since gas rises naturally, the gas vents are put in the positions that gas would naturally rise to. To divert the flow of gas, there would have to be a power source, which would mean maintenance. The vents may not be visually appealing, but that is how they need to be designed from a safety perspective.

M. Parsons asked if the vents would be fenced. R. Kenyon responded that yes, they would be fenced. He also mentioned that jersey barriers were installed to keep ATVs out of the construction area. J. Cunningham asked if the turtle barrier fence would be permanent. R. Kenyon responded that it would be removed when the project is completed.

H. Welch asked whether heavy rains would cause runoff from the debris while the cover is being worked on. R. Kenyon stated that there would be some grading and consolidation of the waste, but there will not be much exposed material. Most of the work will be on top of the waste. H. Welch asked why the area across the road is being excavated. R. Kenyon stated that based on the test pits there was a limited amount of debris discovered in that area (no chemicals). The area will be excavated and soils placed in the landfill. Then confirmatory samples will be collected. D. Barney added that when the test pits were conducted, material was observed in this specific area. The excavation will be conducted until the area is visually clear, and then post-excavation sampling will be conducted.

P. Scannell asked about the fill layer, where is the fill coming from. D. Seitz responded that Shaw has submitted soils for testing from a borrow area in Plymouth. It is still being tested, but so far materials tested have been clean, and thus are suitable as fill. D. Barney stated that the borrow soils will be from off-site locations.

M. Parsons asked who was performing the turtle study. D. Barney said he didn't know who put the transmitter on this turtle. When the ENSR work for the Navy was completed, many of the transmitters were collected. He noted that subsequent studies have been performed by others.

J. Cunningham asked for clarification about the location of Small Landfill versus Old Swamp River. D. Barney indicated the locations of Old Swamp River and Small Landfill on Slide 3.

M. Bromberg asked if Mass Natural Heritage is involved and whether biologists out there checking for the turtles. D. Barney said no, they are following the turtle protection Standard Operating Procedure

developed by ENSR for the RDA. M. Bromberg stated his concern that the turtle fence along the road blocks the turtles off from each other. R. Kenyon noted that the fence only runs along the road for about 500 feet and doesn't go past Old Swamp River.

Information was requested about when the turtles lay eggs and if Small Landfill is a good habitat for them. H. Welch asked what the turtle studies tell us about where they are. D. Barney stated that the turtles cover a large range, and that the Navy did the study voluntarily. The study helped develop a protocol used when doing construction on the Base that involves the least amount of impact to the turtles. The protocol involves meander surveys and then moving any turtles found out of the work area. Only one turtle has been found in 2.5 months of work at the Small Landfill. The base developer will follow the same protocol.

A. Malewicz suggested having a biologist onsite to evaluate the situation. D. Barney responded that Navy can reevaluate this.

H. Welch commented that if you are in a dozer you won't see a turtle. R. Kenyon responded that a crew of six people walks the site every morning and they are always on the lookout for turtles. D. Barney stated the protocol is the same one that has been followed on all of the base construction sites. The first step is always to put up the turtle fence and then monitor on a daily basis. The important thing is to provide for the protection of the turtles while fulfilling clean up goals.

M. Bromberg asked whether the developer will need a biologist. R. Daniels stated that the protocol was based on the Natural Heritage protocol. M. Bromberg asked where they nested. D. Barney stated it was very hard to find the box turtle nesting areas. In the past, ENSR tied thread to the back of the leg of some turtles in an attempt to track them but thought they were not able to determine where they nested.

### **3. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS**

Action Items: No Action Items.

MassDEP Update: None.

RAB Administrative Actions: D. Barney stated there was a two page RAB update on the table on all the sites that are still open on the Base.

He stated that Shaw is onsite doing a lot of work on the Base. Work is ongoing at two sites on the Base (STP and AOC 55C) that required excavation of impacted soil. Shaw is also working on the WGL and

that cap design needs fill. As a value engineering option, Shaw proposed taking the excavated soils from these two sites and using the soil as a subgrade fill layer underneath the WGL cap. A proposal will be submitted to the regulators for discussion. This option will save the Navy money and Navy could apply the money saved to other NAS South Weymouth projects. Use of the excavated soils at the WGL would avoid the need for off-site disposal and movement of trucks with contaminated soil out on Route 18. The soil would be placed at WGL above the groundwater table and would also be covered by the impermeable liner and other cover layers. Approximately 600 truck trips would be eliminated between disposal of soil off-site and bringing clean borrow soil in for the WGL cover.

P. Scannell stated he was concerned about this plan. D. Barney responded that the original re-use plan for the STP soil was either asphalt batching or potential use as daily cover at an active operating landfill. The current circumstances now have the Navy considering another option. If used at WGL, the site will still not pose a threat to human health and the environment. There is a slight risk to the Navy since long term monitoring will be performed at the WGL and any problems that arise will be Navy's responsibility.

J. Goodrich asked for B. Olson's input about this. B. Olson stated that the EPA is okay with this concept, but they wanted the public's input. The material was analyzed and the levels that were detected would not cause leaching. He stated that these are not high level contaminant soils and should not be a risk underneath the cap. EPA's concern is that this option is different than the original plan for handling of the excavated soils.

M. Parsons asked why the soils were excavated in the first place. D. Barney stated that there were five distinct areas identified at STP that demonstrated an actionable level of risk. The soils were impacted with PAHs and PCBs, but at WGL the STP soils would be under the protected layers of the cap which as designed does not allow infiltration of water. The other reason for excavation was that if the contaminated soils were left in place and covered Navy would have to perform long term monitoring at these sites. Long term monitoring needs to be conducted at WGL anyway since wastes are left in place. He noted that the Navy is funded to take all of the excavated soil off-site, but due to the circumstances this new option makes sense.

H. Welch was concerned that with this option you are concentrating the contamination and increasing the risk. D. Barney stated that there is certain amount of risk that the Navy would incur. But consolidation and management at one location makes sense and the WGL will be controlled and monitored.

M. Parsons asked for a chain link fence around the WGL. D. Barney stated that the plan as of now is a post and rail fence. B. Olson stated that the post and rail is okay with EPA. He commented that WGL is not a particularly bad landfill in terms of the levels of contaminants and after the cap is constructed there

should not be a risk with people walking on the landfill. A. Malewicz added that the WGL cover would eliminate routes of exposure.

D. Barney noted that for AOC 55C, to locate clean backfill Shaw had samples tested from five borrow pits in the local South Shore area and the samples failed the 'clean fill' criteria (e.g. had higher concentrations than the conditions at the site after the removal action). It was hard to find 'clean' soil to use for fill. It is a difficult process to get clean soil to put on top of landfills. D. Barney said that Navy will continue to evaluate this option and discuss it further with the regulators.

M. Bromberg would like to know what Dave Chaffin thinks of this plan. Also if the caps are so protective then why were the PCBs excavated and removed offsite at RDA? D. Barney responded that at RDA the PCBs were in the wetland and the RDA cap was not specifically designed for PCBs. B. Olsen stated that PCBs have their own rules and require a different type of cap than was planned for the RDA.

P. Marchessault stated that the EPA has asked for detailed data on each soil pile associated with the STP. Some of the soil piles could be okay for use at WGL and some may end up going offsite.

P. Scannell asked why some soil piles would be okay and some not. D. Chaffin stated that the concern would be if any of the concentrations of the contamination might pose a risk to groundwater or surface water in French Stream. The material has to be looked at to see if there could be a potential problem. The DEP has asked the Navy to develop and propose a process to evaluate the data from each soil pile to determine if the soil is usable for this purpose. D. Chaffin has compared the data to some state levels and so far his preliminary review indicates this may be an acceptable option.

H. Welch restated his concern that this would be adding even more contamination to what is already present in the WGL. D. Chaffin responded that they need to evaluate this concern but reminded everyone that the impermeable cap will keep water out and long term monitoring (LTM) will be conducted at the WGL. LTM at the Site will ensure that if any issues come up in the future, the Navy will be responsible. P. Marchessault stated that one of the conditions is that none of this material would be installed below the water table. He also stated that at the Mass Military Reservation a similar landfill with the same cap design has been in place for many years of monitoring and there are no issues. D. Barney said that common fill for the subgrade layer was going to be brought in for contouring and the regulations for common fill are less strict than the regulations for clean fill, which goes above the impermeable membrane. The other option for the STP soils would be transport off-site to a landfill for daily cover on an active landfill.

J. Marques remembered a meeting when SSTTDC said they would put \$12 million to dig up the landfill.

A. Malewicz stated that the Navy is moving forward with the cap, though removing the waste was once an option. This proposal will be evaluated very carefully. This is a very recent option and it needs to be more fully evaluated.

The option to reuse STP and AOC 55C soils at WGL will be discussed again at the July RAB.

B. Olson stated that they also need to consider an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for STP and AOC 55C. D. Chaffin added that they need to figure out the regulatory basis for this.

D. Barney presented a series of photos of STP and AOC 55C (including the vernal pool) that show the current conditions at the sites. H. Welch asked if the water would be pumped out of AOC 55C. D. Barney stated that it wouldn't be; the groundwater will either evaporate or continue to go down and then they will backfill and plant wetland vegetation to complete the restoration.

Shaw's biologist/botanist went out and looked at the invasive species around AOC 55C. There will be an invasive species control plan developed to manage the species within the site. A nearby stand of common reed will be removed to reduce the possibility of reeds spreading into the restored area.

J. Cunningham requested some of D. Barney's pictures be included in the RAB minutes (vernal pool and flooding, especially) (see Attachment D).

#### IR/EBS Program Site Update:

D. Barney stated that Building 81, Building 82, and Solvent Release Area were in the paperwork/data reduction stage.

A soil delineation work plan is being prepared for STP, to determine the extent of additional excavation.

The long-term monitoring at RDA continues and a soil gas investigation will be conducted in the area surrounding the landfill in the next month or so.

The Hangar 1 ROD is being prepared and will include responses to comments submitted on the Hangar 1 Proposed Plan.

#### FOST Update:

There are no active FOSTs. The next FOST is FOST 5C, which extends north to south along French Stream into the new Rockland Town Forest. It should be out for comment within about 1-1.5 months.

B. Olson asked about the status of TAG. He asked why they aren't at the RAB. M. Parsons responded that CDs for Building 81/Building 82/Solvent Release Area were given to the TAG for review. B. Olson suggested having the TAG look at WGL soil consolidation option. M. Parsons stated the TAG wants a copy of the EBS Phase I and II.

A. Malewicz suggested an email to follow up on the turtle efforts and how it is being dealt with.

J. Cunningham noted that he put a notice in the Weymouth News regarding RAB. On behalf of the Navy, Tetra Tech also placed a notice about the May RAB meeting in the Weymouth News and on the Town of Weymouth website.

#### Conclusion/Next Meeting

J. Goodrich wrapped up the meeting.

Suggestions for topics for the next meeting include:

- Main Gate
- SRA RI
- Building 82 Feasibility Study

The next RAB meeting will be the second Thursday in July (July 8th, 2010). The meeting will again be held at the New England Wildlife Center, 500 Columbian St., Weymouth, MA.



# AGENDA

## Naval Air Station South Weymouth, MA Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Agenda

May 13, 2010

New England Wildlife Center, Weymouth, MA

7:00 PM

<i>Agenda Items</i>	<i>Item Lead</i>	<i>Projected Time</i>
1. Introduction, Review of Meeting Notes	Facilitator	7:00 - 7:15
2. Small Landfill Design/Cap Construction	Navy	7:15 - 8:15
3. Updates and Action Items	Navy	8:15 - 8:30
4. Questions, Agenda Items, Next Meeting	Facilitator	8:30 - 9:00

**Facilitator:** John Goodrich, Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution & Public Collaboration

### Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Members:

**Abington:** James Lavin, (Alternate: Steve Ivas); Phil Sortin (Alternate: Beth Sortin)

**Hingham:** no current representation

**Rockland:** no current representation

**Weymouth:** James Cunningham (Community Co-Chair); Ken Hayes; Dan McCormack; Steve White

**Navy:** Dave Barney (Navy Co-Chair)

**EPA:** Kymberlee Keckler (Alternate: Bryan Olson)

**MA DEP:** David Chaffin (Alternate: Ann Malewicz)

### BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) Points of Contact:

**Navy:** Dave Barney, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, Base Realignment and Closure, Program Management Office, Northeast (617) 753-4656  
Email: [david.a.barney@navy.mil](mailto:david.a.barney@navy.mil)

Brian Helland, Remedial Project Manager, Base Realignment and Closure Office, Program Management Office, Northeast (215) 897-4912  
Email: [brian.helland@navy.mil](mailto:brian.helland@navy.mil)

**MassDEP:** David Chaffin, Environmental Engineer, Federal Facilities (617) 348-4005  
Email: [david.chaffin@state.ma.us](mailto:david.chaffin@state.ma.us)

**EPA:** Kymberlee Keckler, Remedial Project Manager, Federal Facilities Section (617) 918-1385 Email: [keckler.kymberlee@epa.gov](mailto:keckler.kymberlee@epa.gov)

Paul Marchessault, Remedial Project Manager, Federal Facilities Section (617) 918-1388 Email: [marchessault.paul@epa.gov](mailto:marchessault.paul@epa.gov)

**MassDEP Ombudsman:** David DeLorenzo (617) 292-5774, Email: [david.delorenzo@state.ma.us](mailto:david.delorenzo@state.ma.us)



# ACTION ITEMS

## Naval Air Station South Weymouth, MA Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

### May 13, 2010 – Next RAB Meeting

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Item Lead</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>		
None.		Next RAB
<b>UPDATES</b>		
RAB Administrative Actions	D. Barney	Each RAB
MassDEP Update	D. Chaffin	Each RAB
IR Program Sites Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
EBS Review Item Areas/ Various Removal Action Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
FOST/FOSL Update	D. Barney	Each RAB
SSTTDC Update	J. Young	Each RAB
<b>RECENTLY COMPLETED ITEMS</b>		
Evaluate possible methods to solicit new RAB members (3/10)		
Review of metals uptake by AOC 55C wetland trees (3/10)		

# Small Landfill Closure

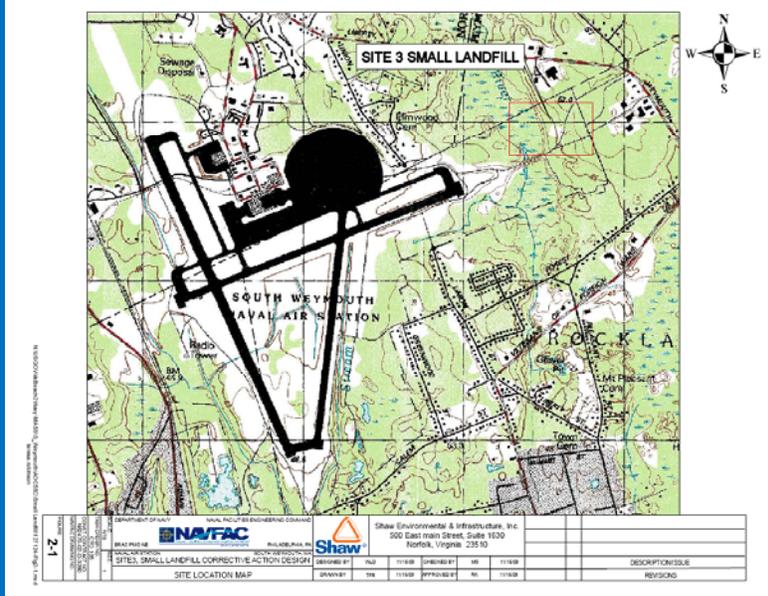
Former Naval Air Station  
South Weymouth, MA



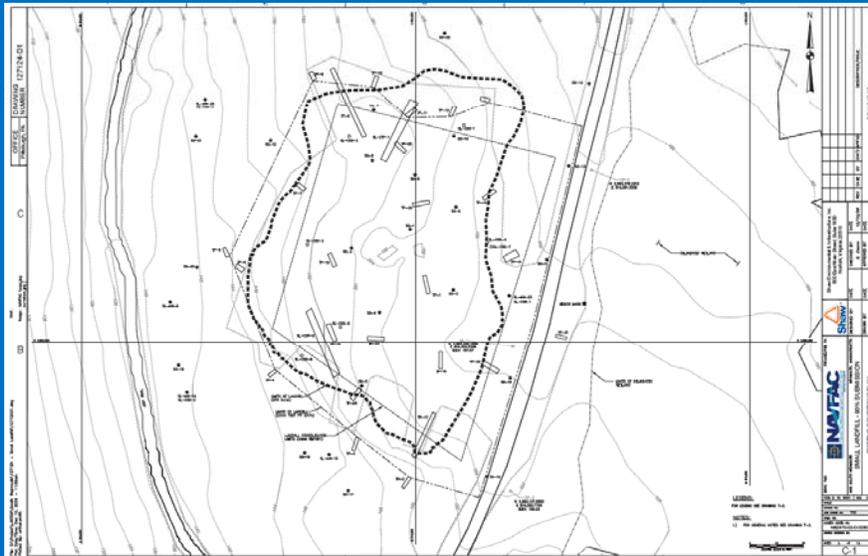
## Small LF – Background

- The landfill is approximately 1.23 acres in size
- Located on the eastern area of NAS, near Old Swamp River
- Landfill received demolition debris during the 1980's
- LF originally known as IR Site 3
- The March 2002 Record of Decision (ROD) selected:
  - “No Action with Groundwater Monitoring”, and specified
  - Closed under Massachusetts Solid Waste regulations
- The 2005 Corrective Action Alternatives Analysis (CAAA) selected remedy includes waste consolidation and a landfill cap
- A Draft/ Final Corrective Action Design (CAD) submitted in December 2009
- Permit approval received from MADEP in April 2010

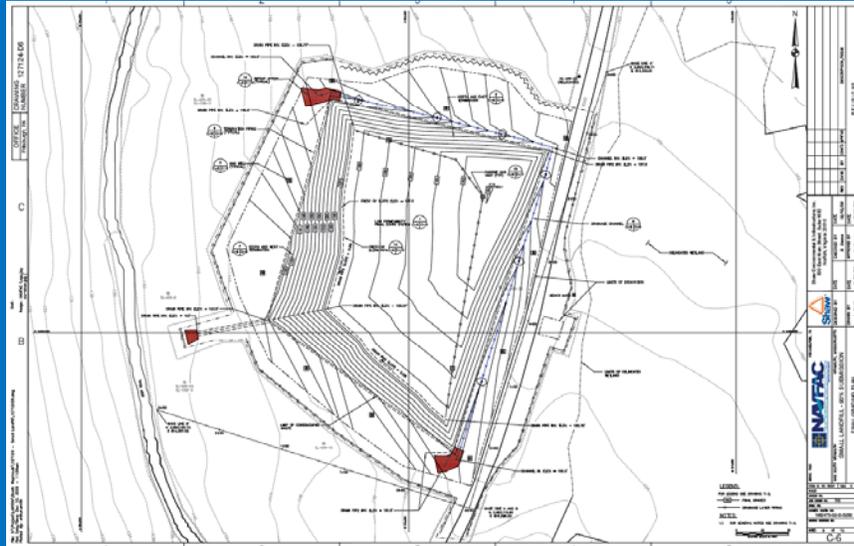
# SLF – Site Location



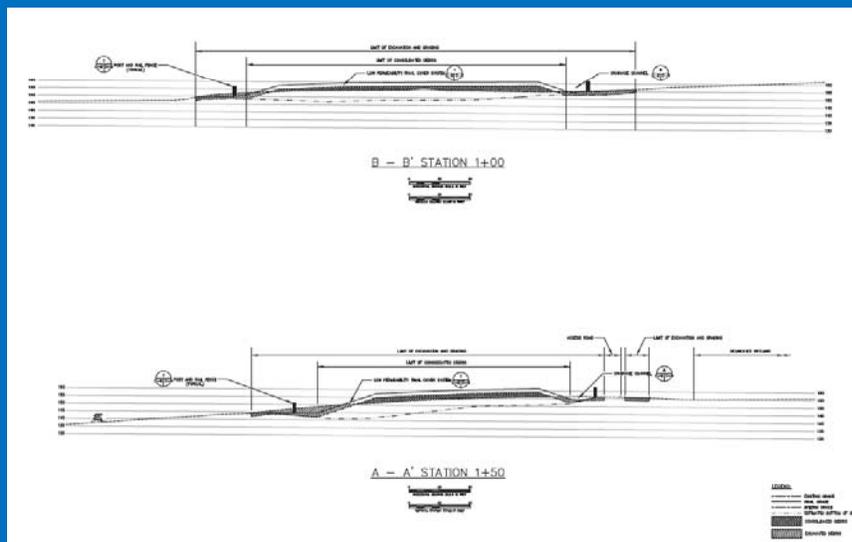
# SLF - Pre-existing Conditions



# SLF – Final Construction



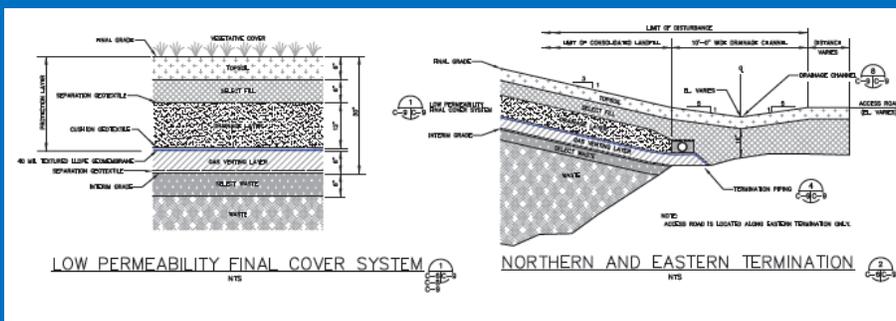
# SLF – Cap Elevation/ Profile



## SLF – Major Work Tasks

- Install sediment/ turtle barrier fencing. Conduct turtle surveys and removal daily
- Strip and remove existing vegetation from the current landfill limits. Also remove any undesirable materials from the cap area such as large stumps or wooden debris, and large concrete or metallic debris pieces
- Abandon MW-23 and re-establish the monitoring well North of the new cap
- Excavate and consolidate remaining landfill debris from the South, rough grade debris
- Install a geotextile fabric and a 6-inch sand layer serving as the gas collection layer

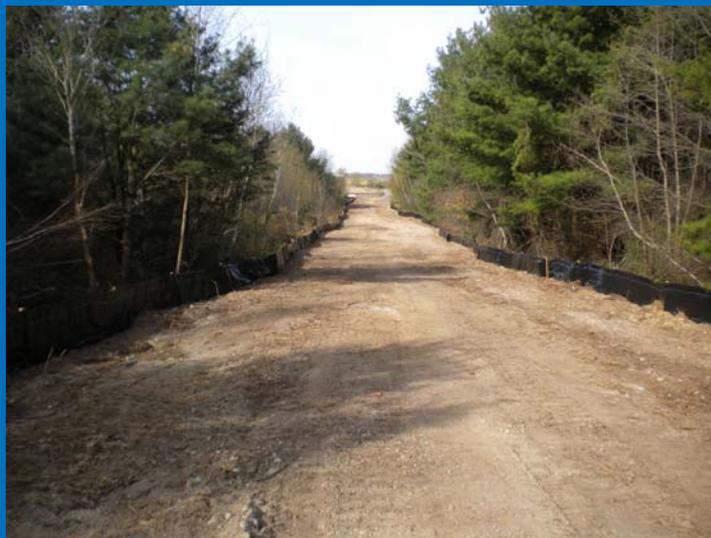
## SFL – Cap Construction Details



## SLF – Major Work Tasks

- Install an impermeable geomembrane overlain by a 12 –inch drainage layer
- Install a 6-inch layer of select fill with grading
- Install a 6-inch layer of topsoil with final grading and seed
- Complete finish work to include the gas vent stick-ups and drainage swales
- Install post and rail fencing

## SLF - Turtle fence installed along access road



## SLF – Turtle recovery



## SLF – Site prep looking West



## SLF – Clearing the cap area



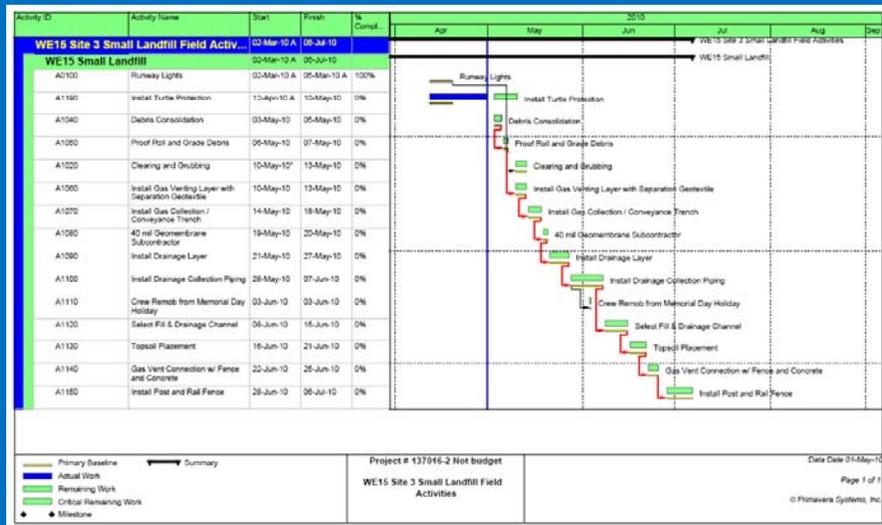
## Typical post and rail fence restoration



# Typical gate installation



# SLF – Project Schedule



# QUESTION and ANSWER