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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 6 JUNE 1996 SITE 6 NCBC
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MINUTES
NCBC GULFPORT RAB MEETING
JUNE 6, 1996
NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board met at the Gaston-Hewes Recreation Center in Gulfport, Mississippi on June 6, 1996:

Gordon Crane
Steve Dickerson
Eddie Dreher
Retha Longmire
Rudy Merrell
Bob Merrill

Carolyn Rushing
Joyce Shaw
William Spaulding
Barbara Thomas
CDR Jack Zink

In addition, the following guests were welcomed from the community:

Coy Burney
Corrine Carter

George Page
Cherie Schulz

Support personnel attending the meeting included:

Nancy Brooks, NCBC Gulfport
Art Conrad, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Marland Dulaney, ABB Environmental Services
Nancy Rouse, ABB Environmental Services
Phillip Weathersby, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Lt. Carol Womack, NCBC Gulfport

Welcome: Mr. Steve Dickerson, the community Co-Chair, welcomed the RAB and opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. A special welcome was extended to guests from the community-at-large.

Training Topic - The Installation Restoration (IR) Program: Mr. Dickerson introduced the training topic by explaining that, even though the program included the word "restoration", that we were not going to discuss rebuilding old buildings. Mr. Crane opened his training program with a video describing the Navy's IR Program. He then presented the process used by the Navy to implement their IR Program. The IR Program is designed to identify, investigate, and, if needed, clean up sites contaminated by past practices that, while considered safe at the time, are no longer acceptable. A handout explaining the process was made

available to all attendees. Ms. Edie Dreher requested that the presentation be made available to her garden club.

Administrative Order Update: Mr. Art Conrad of Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, provided an update on the work being done to respond to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Protection's administrative order. The order required that the installation move forward more rapidly with the IR Program. The order also helped that process by providing a mechanism to increase available funding for the program. Questions and answers:

Q: What about testing of drinking water and underground water?

A: Mr. Conrad responded that testing of the water would be accomplished as part of the response to the administrative order. Testing will "track" contamination from the possible sources.

Q: Hasn't the water already been tested?

A: Testing to date has not been comprehensive. Much of the testing that you've heard about has been to test soils, sediment, and surface water in the ditches. Groundwater in the vicinity of Site 6 has been fully tested. At this site the water is currently being pumped out of the ground and treated to remove contamination.

Q: Why don't we test from the outside towards the base instead of from the base outward?

A: By going from possible sources outward the scientists are able to "track" the contamination, thereby keeping a more focused investigation. If we went from the outside in, a huge number of samples would be required at great expense. Also, using an "outside-in" approach would require that the samples be spaced using a grid, which could result in contamination being missed.

CDR Zink added that the goal of the investigation is to find and take care of contamination -- and that the first step in accomplishing this goal is to keep the funding stream coming.

Exposure Assessment Update: Dr. Marland Dulaney provided a status report on the upcoming Exposure Assessment. He handed out Fact Sheet 16 entitled *The Exposure Assessment* for members in the audience who had not received it earlier. He recapped the exposure assessment process and solicited the audience's input on the intention to hire local community members to participate in the exposure assessment survey. Comments on the plan included:

- Door-to-door surveys are recommended over telephone calls and other means of obtaining information.
- Identify residents of the Ladner home neighborhood to participate in the survey.
- The Region VIII Housing Authority may be able to identify possible candidates to conduct the survey.
- Ask pastors of local churches to pass out the surveys to their congregations.
- It is important to consider the safety of both the neighborhood and the surveyors when conducting the door-to-door surveys. Surveyors should work in pairs.
- Schools would be a good place to begin the survey.

- Community RAB members would like to participate in the kick-off meeting with the surveyors.
- The neighborhood should get advance information about the upcoming survey to avoid any undue concern when strangers knock on their door.
- The survey should target residents of the Ladner Homes neighborhood by contacting as many residents as possible.

The survey is expected to take approximately three weeks.

Questions from the community guests:

Q: Where will the survey be conducted?

A: The survey will focus areas where scientists have identified potential pathways for contaminant movement away from the source, such as the ditch systems.

Q: Turkey Creek overflows all of the way back to the base. Residents on the northeast side of the base use sediment from the ditches in their gardens. Will the gardening areas be tested?

A: The information you provided will be very valuable in the exposure assessment. And yes, your neighborhood will be included in the exposure assessment.

New Members: Four community members were selected from applications, including:

- Barbara Dell
- Joe Halasz
- Huey P. Long
- Arthur C. Holzwelssigo

A representative from base housing will be recommended by CDR Zink.

Mission Statement: A discussion of the mission statement was postponed until the next meeting when the new members will be present.

July Meeting Agenda: The July meeting will include a discussion of the the mission statement and a training session on either the fate and transport of dioxins and pesticides or a field techniques training video. The July meeting will be held in the Building 1 conference room at NCBC Gulfport on July 11, 1996.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.