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NCBC GULFPORT
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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 11 JUNE 1996 SITE 5 NCBC
GULFPORT MS
7/11/1996
NCBC GULFPORT

Minutes
NCBC Gulfport Rab Meeting
July 11, 1996
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi

Restoration Advisory Board Meeting
6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board met in the Building 1 conference room of NCBC Gulfport on July 11, 1996.

Gordon Crane	Joyce Shaw
Eddie Dreher	William Spaulding
Bob Merrill	CDR Zink

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

Debbie Conrad	George Page
Clyde Page	Kimberly Olier
Reba Page	Stephanie Rager

Support personnel attending the meeting included:

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

Welcome: CDR Zink, the Navy Co-Chair, welcomed the RAB and opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m. A special welcome was extended to guests from the community-at-large.

Installation Restoration Program Update: Art Conrad of Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, provided an update on the Navy's Installation Restoration Program, including:

Status of Response to the MSDEQ Administrative Order: The Navy has developed three workplans in response to the order. The plans have been reviewed by MSDEQ. The Navy is currently revising the workplans to address MSDEQ comments. Responses to MSDEQ comments will be submitted in the middle of August. The Navy expects the plans to be implemented in October 1996.

Site 5 Removal Action: A removal action is currently being planned at Site 5. Site 5 is a landfill where drums of DDT were reportedly buried. Site 5 is the most recent landfill and is therefore the most likely to have intact drums.

The first step in the removal action is to collect additional samples by using a probe that pushes into the ground, called "direct push" sampling. The next step is to dig test trenches to see what is in the landfill. The RAB and the community at large will be involved in reviewing the results of the investigations and providing input on the recommended action at the site.

Training: *Fate and Transport of Dioxins in the Environment:* Dr. Marland Dulaney of ABB Environmental Services described "transport" by asking the questions "where did it come from and how did it get there" and "fate" by asking "what happens when it gets there". The following questions, answers, and comments followed the training session:

Q: A study has shown that problems associated with runoff from the local papers mills is associated with Kepone rather than dioxins. What can you tell us about Kepone?

A: Kepone is used to control fire ants. Kepone is more sensitive to photolysis (breakdown of the chemical by sunlight) than dioxin, which means that it may not remain in the environment as long.

Q: How readily available was dioxin as an herbicide in the 70's?

A: The most readily available herbicide was 2,4-D. Dioxins are not present in 2,4-D.

Q: Is the concentration of dioxin in Vietnam embarrassingly high?

A: We don't know the answer to that question.

Q: Is there a way to check for dioxin accumulation in humans?

A: Yes, there is a blood test available.

Q: We need as much information as we can get. Has there been any scientific study on how TCDD can deform a gene?

A: I don't believe that dioxin causes direct gene damage.

Q: If dioxin were poured on the ground, how deep could it sink?

A: The dioxin would stay close to the surface (within 6 feet of the surface).

A community member stated that he was around when dioxin was spilled in the 70's and has knowledge of how the spill was managed. He also expressed concern that his family has used sediment from the ditches in their vegetable garden. He stated that the Navy was "covering up" information about dioxin contamination. CDR Zink explained that the Navy was sharing information as it becomes available and requested that the community member remain after the meeting to share more historical information about the site. He also said that he would like to visit the garden referred to by the community member.

Conclusion

CDR Zink stated that we need to re-evaluate the mission statement. We need to look at our overall focus and continue the training process. We should also consider adding site tours to the meeting agenda.

Art Conrad will discuss the relative risk evaluation process used by the Navy to prioritize sites for cleanup at the next meeting.

Gordon Crane will present the IR training segment to Eddie Dreher's garden club at her request.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved as written.

The meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.