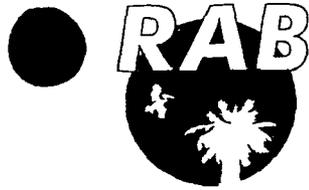


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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 6 JUNE 2002 SITE 8 NCBC
GULFPORT MS
6/6/2002
NCBC GULFPORT

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Gulfport, Mississippi

NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi
June 6, 2002

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board met at Isiah Fredericks Community Center on June 6, 2002:

Gordon Crane
Edie Dreher
Joseph Ford
Joe Halasz
Art Holzweissig
David Marshall

Skip McDaniel
Ron Schmittling
Joyce Shaw
Philip Shaw
Jeffery Stawowy
Earl Whittemore

Administrative and technical support for the meeting was provided by:

Art Conrad, Navy Remedial Project Manager
Robert Fisher, Navy Consultant
Mike Hawkins, Air Force Public Affairs
Nancy Rouse, Navy Community Relations

Members of the community who attended the meeting included:

Cliff Bates
James Black
Mike Cummings
Judy Dauro
Susanne Davis
Marie Erickson
Michael Erickson
Becky Gillette

Sandra Guerra
C.L. Hansen
David Hansen
Judy Hansen
Marie Hansen
Rose Johnson
Helen Jones
John Leyerhin (sp?)

Donna Nichols
Sue Papania
Billy Robbins
Cherie Schulz
Katrina Smith
Henry Windham
Mabel Zambrowski

Welcome:

Skip McDaniel opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the process for responding to public comments on the proposed plan for Site 8 and to receive any additional comments from the community. (The meeting was held on the last day of the public comment period.)

The RAB members each introduced themselves to the members of the community members who attended the meeting.

Public Meeting Presentation

Because many of the community members present did not attend the public meeting in April, Gordon Crane of the Seabee Center, and Robert Fisher, Navy consultant, gave a slightly shortened version of the presentation.

At the close of the presentation, Mike Hawkins of AFCEE explained that the public comment period had been extended because of new information that had been provided by community members as part of the commenting process. As a result, additional dioxin sampling would be conducted in some areas around the Seabee Base. The Navy and Air Force stated that they were committed to quickly sampling and making the new data available to the community.

Representative Questions and Answers

Q: What levels of dioxin were in the environment from the time between the dioxin release and incineration at Site 8?

A: The levels are documented in a report that is located in the library. The document, published in 1979, describes the first sampling that was done by the Air Force.

Q: Were all of the samples taken inside of the ditches? The ditches often flood over their banks.

A: About 1/3 of the samples off base were taken outside of the ditches.

Q: I have a business on 28th Street. My business is flooding for the first time in years without very much rain. I think the water is coming from the base, which is located right across the street from me.

A: While this is a slightly different issue, the Navy will look into these flooding concerns.

Q: What about drinking water? Is it safe?

A: The dioxin we're finding is unlikely to be found in drinking water. The water is pumped from deep underground and the dioxin is only found within the first few inches of the soil. In addition, dioxin is not water-soluble. It is much more likely to find dioxin where it can be attached to soil particles, such as ditches. Further, dioxin doesn't go up into the air, nor does it break down. In undisturbed areas, the dioxin numbers would not change much over time.

Q: Was there any sampling south and west of the base?

A: Yes, dioxin was not detected.

Q: What would happen to dioxin in standing water?

A: It would tend to settle out.

Q: Why was there no sampling between 43rd and 51st Streets?

A: Sample locations were selected by following known drainage paths from the source (Site 8) until we no longer found detectable levels of dioxin. In the case of areas east of 51st Street, we had followed the ditches to non-detects.

Q: What about cancer clusters in our neighborhood?

A: The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) will be involved. ATSDR will also look at the results of any additional sampling.

Q: How did you come up with the number that 1/3 of the samples were to be taken outside of the ditches?

A: That information is in the Delineation Report, which is available in the Information Repository.

Q: What about the illegal dump north of Martin Luther King Boulevard? The military [allegedly] illegally dumped drums there. Is there someone that can show the folks on the base when the dump happened?

A: That is new information. We'll need to look into that.

Closing

The next RAB meeting will be held when new information is available on the sampling plan. The meeting closed at approximately 8 p.m.