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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 1 JULY 2003 NCBC GULFPORT  
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NCBC GULFPORT



**NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting**  
**Naval Construction Battalion Center**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi**  
**July 1, 2003**

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met at Isiah Fredericks Community Center on July 1, 2003:

JoAnn Casey  
Gordon Crane  
Marie Hansen  
David Marshall

Cherie Schulz  
Ron Schmidting  
Jeffery Stawowy  
Earl Whittemore

Administrative and technical support for the meeting were provided by:

Jason Brown, Navy Consultant  
Robert Fisher, Navy Consultant  
Mike Hawkins, Air Force (Air Force) Public Affairs  
Nancy Rouse, Navy Community Relations

Other attendees included:

Betty Baily  
Hattie Burton  
David Hadden (AF)  
Art Hatfield (AF)  
Belinda Head  
Laura Johnson

Jim McClain (AF)  
Donna Nicholls  
Rob Pope (USEPA)  
Jean Remley  
Patricia Spinks  
Robert Travnicek

**Welcome:**

David Marshall opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Rob Pope introduced himself as the representative from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**Administrative Order/Installation Restoration Program Update**

**Remediation of Site 8**

A thorough, thoughtful response to each of the comments received during the public comment period is being prepared and will be included in the decision document as an appendix called the Responsiveness Summary. These responses are taking longer than usual because the Navy and Air Force decided to conduct additional sampling in response to comments received from the community.

## Off-Site Cleanup

Sediment Recovery Trap Construction Near Canal Road: Gordon showed a photo of the completed sediment recovery trap (SRT) that was installed near the new culvert on Canal Road. Thanks to an alert from the community, the Navy was able to respond by constructing an SRT at the culvert location to prevent any contamination from the Arndt property to migrate into the canal leading to Turkey Creek. The City was then able to install the culverts and repave Canal Road.

Health Assessment: The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) was petitioned by Marie Hansen to conduct a preliminary health assessment in the areas around the base. The ATSDR responded by contacting Marie and scheduling a team to visit NCBC Gulfport during the second week of July 2002 to review the Seabee Base records. ATSDR was clear that they cannot look backwards to determine if the residents have health problems today because of past contamination from the base. That kind of information may or may not be able to be reconstructed. Additional information has been requested from the State Department of Health to help answer some of these questions.

Turkey Creek Issues: There is currently a growing tension between the Gulfport community members concerned about flooding in Turkey Creek and the current city administration. Gordon noted that the off-site cleanup work north of the Seabee Base has been extremely mindful of the Turkey Creek water basin with a goal of no net gain of water into the creek. This goal will be accomplished with strict stormwater controls. Further, Gordon will be contacting city and county officials to maintain communication between the base and any city officials who may be planning projects in dioxin-contaminated areas.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Involvement: The EPA is joining the state to review some of the documents associated with the Site 8 cleanup.

Funding: Plans are being made to adjust the funding process between the Air Force and the Navy. To aid in maintaining a smooth flow of funds, the Air Force will fund their share of the cleanup in a lump sum rather than in smaller increments. We expect that this change will allow the cleanup to proceed more quickly and should minimize the threat of budget cuts. As a result, the Air Force may have less of a presence during future meetings.

## Installation Restoration (IR) Program

**Site 10:** A Remedial Investigation has been funded and a team will be in the field shortly to collect samples.

**Site 6:** The enhanced bioslurper continues to work effectively.

**Site 4:** An investigation has been planned. This is a former Hurricane Camille disposal area.

### Other Areas Under Investigation:

- A potential new site, a former PCB storage area near the fence line, is being assessed. We may need to do some more sampling off of Canal Road as part of this assessment.
- From the aerial photos we can see that there are some areas within the base that have been disturbed that may have been landfills.

*Question:* Do some of the sediments that we're trying to stop with the SRTs get out into the drainage system? If so, what levels can we expect to get past the traps? There are a lot of people on shallow well water that may be affected.

*Answer:* We have past studies that showed that after these traps are installed we are not seeing recontamination on the downstream side of the SRTs. Also, there will be a study after the cleanup to see if there is any recontamination.

*Question:* Will the SRTS be monitored, especially after big floods and hurricanes?

*Answer:* We do keep a close eye on the SRTs, however, it is important to note that these are not silt traps. We will see the SRTs gradually fill up with silt. We have had to remove and replace SRTs in the past as silt filled in behind them.

*Question:* What is the red stuff in the streams?

*Answer:* The red in the streams is from the dust from the bauxite ore, the large orange "hills" that were recently removed from the base. This is not a toxic material.

*Comment:* David Marshall commented that we should be mindful of Turkey Creek as we proceed with our investigations and cleanup.

*Comment:* Marie Hansen stated that she would like for the city not to pile dirt in people's yards when they clean the creek.

## **Remedial Design**

Jason Brown of Tetra Tech-NUS presented an update on the design up the Site 8 cleanup. He described the remedial design process and outlined the actions to be performed at Site 8:

- Consolidate ash and contaminated sediment at Site 8.
- Mix materials with cement (stabilize) and place resulting Material Blend in layers called "lifts."
- Cover with 12 inches of roller-compacted concrete.

Mr. Brown explained that contaminated sediment will be taken out of the drainage pathways and moved on base for consolidation and stabilization. The construction of the cap will be followed with long-term monitoring to confirm that no dioxin is leaving the site.

## **RAB Membership**

There is room to add members to the RAB. David Marshall asked for people who are interested to apply for membership.

## **Conclusion**

The members recommended Tuesday, October 7, 2003 as the date for the next RAB meeting. The meeting will be a joint meeting with ATSDR who will be discussing the health assessment.

RAB members also recommended that we add the representatives from the city of Gulfport, particularly engineers, planners, and elected officials, to the mailing list.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45.