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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 7 OCTOBER 2003 NCBC  
GULFPORT MS  
10/7/2003  
NCBC GULFPORT

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**NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting**  
**Naval Construction Battalion Center**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi**  
*October 7, 2003*

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met at Isiah Fredericks Community Center on October 7, 2003:

JoAnn Casey	Skip McDaniel
Gordon Crane	Cherie Schulz
Marie Hansen	Joyce Shaw
David Marshall	Philip Shaw
Bob Merrill	

Administrative and technical support for the meeting were provided by:

Art Conrad (Naval Facilities Engineering Command)  
Mike Hawkins, Air Force (AF) Public Affairs  
Nancy Rouse, Navy Community Relations

Other attendees included:

Audrey Applewhite	Donna Nicholls
Coy Burney	George Otis
Suzanne Collums	James Otis
La Freta Dalton (ATSDR)	Kimble Otis
Suzanne Davis	Isabella Otis
Judy Dauro	Howard Page
Robin Diggs	Patrick Peterson
George Estes III	Jean Remley (NCBC Gulfport)
Debra Ford	Angel Sanchez (ATSDR)
Michel Gielazyen (NOAA)	Otis Sanders
David Hadden (AF)	Robert Shiyou
Hattie Hockenhull	Scott Sudweeks
Felicia Johnson	Darla Summers
Rufus Johnson	Michelle Thornton (USEPA)
Belinda Head	Mary Wilson
Rachael Mestas	Len Young (ATSDR)
Joseph Mitchell	Pauline Young

**Welcome:**

Skip McDaniel, the RAB Community Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. Gordon Crane, the Navy's Installation Restoration Program Manager, introduced guests from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Control (ATSDR) and gave a brief explanation of their role and recent activities.

## **ATSDR Presentation:**

Scott Sudweeks, a toxicologist for ATSDR and head of the investigation at NCBC Gulfport, introduced each of the ATSDR speakers and guests, described their respective roles, and briefly summarized the events that lead ATSDR to Gulfport.

He then turned the meeting over to Angel Sanchez, who summarized ATSDR's mission, defined an ATSDR Public Health Assessment, and outlined the steps in the health assessment process. Mr. Sanchez stated that the public health assessment consisted of a review of available information about hazardous substances at a site and an evaluation of whether exposure to those substances might cause any harm to people. He identified the following four steps in health assessment process:

- Identify and obtain data;
- Characterize human exposure;
- Evaluate health impacts; and
- Recommend action to mitigate or stop exposure.

He closed by emphasizing that an unbroken exposure pathway must be present for exposure to occur.

La Freta Dalton of ATSDR explained the role of their Community Involvement Branch. Responsibilities include finding ways to involve communities, informing and updating the community, and facilitating collaboration with other agencies. She explained the importance of involving the community in the Public Health Assessment process and stated that community members provide important information about health concerns and potential human exposures.

Scott Sudweeks then explained the milestones in the Public Health Assessment process. He stated that the first step was a site visit completed in July 2003. Initial findings from that visit were summarized in a draft site summary report. A second site visit was conducted in October 2003 in conjunction with this RAB meeting and the following Public Availability Session. Future steps will include presenting validated data to the public in a Public Comment Draft during a public comment period. A final report will be the concluding step. The status of the Public Health Assessment process at NCBC Gulfport follows:

Public Health Assessment activities completed include:

- Met with base team members
- Began gathering needed data and information
- Began review of IR sites and cleanup program status
- Met with remedial project team, local health officials, community members
- Visited surrounding community and areas of concern

Remaining Steps include:

- Continue to identify and obtain necessary information
- Characterize human exposure
- Evaluate human health impacts
- Recommend appropriate public health response actions
- Release data validation, public comment and final documents
- Work with stakeholders to implement recommendations

## **Conclusion**

The RAB meeting adjourned at 7:45 to prepare for the Public Availability Session.