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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 13 JULY 2004 NCBC GULFPORT MS

7/13/2004

NCBC GULFPORT

Gulfport, Mississippi

Minutes
NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi
July 13, 2004

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met at Isiah Fredericks Community Center on July 13, 2004:

Gordon Crane
Edie Dreher
Marie Hansen
David Marshall
Skip McDaniel
Joseph Mitchell
Cherie Schulz
Joyce Shaw
Earl Whittemore

Administrative and technical support for the meeting were provided by:

Jason Brown (Tetra Tech NUS)
Art Conrad (Naval Facilities Engineering Command)
Bob Fisher (TTNUS)
Mike Hawkins, Air Force (AF) Public Affairs
Nancy Rouse, Navy Community Relations

Other attendees included:

Marie Erichson
Helene Fryou Hart
Otis Sanders
Robert Travnicek
Eileen Whittemore

Welcome

An informal social event was held from 6:30 to 6:50 pm. Skip McDaniel, the RAB Community Co-Chair, opened the formal meeting at 6:50 pm. The minutes from the April RAB meeting were approved without changes.

New Sampling Along Canal Road

Bob Fisher, of Tetra Tech NUS, summarized the next phase of community sampling. The next phase will focus on soil and sediment near ditches that are attached to Site 8. The goal of the sampling is to gain historical information related to the practice of cleaning out ditches and piling the sediment removed from the ditches along the sides of roads. Old sediment piles along 46th and 53rd Avenues and Canal Road were selected to be sampled and tested for dioxin. Because dioxin is slow to degrade, if any dioxin is found in the piles, it is expected to be representative of the concentrations originally dredged from the ditches.

A new method (Method 4025), as well as our previously used method (Method 8290), will be used to analyze for dioxin. The new method, which is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency, will

be half the cost of the older method and will produce results within 24 to 48 hours. This will allow more samples to be collected and in a shorter amount of time.

Question: How many samples will be collected?
Answer: Approximately 30 to 40, 10% of which may be sent to an off-site lab.

Site 4 Remedial Investigation

Bob Fisher presented plans for the upcoming Remedial Investigation (RI) at Site 4, the Golf Course Landfill. The goal of the investigation is to identify any contaminated soil or water, evaluate what happens to chemicals once they're released into the environment, determine potential risks to the environment, quantify ecological and human health risks, and to collect the information needed to support potential cleanup activities.

Site 4 currently houses a driving range and clubhouse and is covered with a thick layer of soil. The former landfill reportedly received mostly disposed paints, solvents, and refuse. Dioxin is not the main concern at this site. Prior investigations indicated that there might be some solvents about 40 feet below the surface of the land.

Because Canal Road runs along the west side of the site, carbon filters were placed along the bank to filter potentially contaminated water before it reached the canal. These organic carbon beds, which look like a rock mattress, were placed along the banks to filter out organic chemicals.

Question: Could contaminated water get to the lake?
Answer: No, groundwater turns away from the lake as it moves towards Canal Road. As an added measure of safety, samples will be collected to confirm our current knowledge about groundwater flow in the area.

Question: How much does groundwater co-mingle with Canal One?
Answer: When groundwater levels are higher than water levels in the Canal, seeps will form and send water into the Canal. This situation typically occurs following periods of higher precipitation.

Question: What, if anything, would we need to do to the carbon bed?
Answer: The carbon beds have a limited lifespan. We will need to remove the carbon bed and replace it with a more permanent solution. Options for the permanent solution needed will be evaluated in the Feasibility Study.

Question: What would you do with the carbon from the beds?
Answer: The carbon would be properly disposed as a hazardous waste by either incineration or by placing it in an engineered landfill.

The RI will include a variety of sampling and testing methods. Geophysical tools will be used in an attempt to find drums and other indicators of what may have been deposited in the landfill. (Extensive geophysical testing was conducted in the mid-1990's in the attempt to find disposed dioxin drums. None were found.)

Direct push testing will be used to collect soil and water samples. A local laboratory will analyze the samples on the same day. Levels and types of contaminants will be delineated by drilling wells and collecting samples. We will also collect samples of surface water and sediments in ditches as well as groundwater. We'll also test the speed and direction of groundwater movement in the aquifer.

Because we may be dealing with solvents, we'll be looking at natural attenuation as a potential cleanup remedy. Natural attenuation, or letting the solvents breakdown naturally in the environment, can actually be faster than an active remediation (cleanup) system. The RI will assess the conditions at the site to determine if they can support the organisms that breakdown solvents.

Comment: I understand that the chemical may break down to something worse than the original chemical.
Response: Yes, vinyl chloride is a good example. The good news is that vinyl chloride volatilizes (becomes a gas) and is, therefore, not likely to be found in surface water.

Question: What is the timeline for the study?
Answer: The fieldwork begins the week of July 13, 2004. The direct push sampling will be conducted during the first two weeks in August. In late August, the permanent monitoring wells will be installed and we'll begin looking at the conditions needed to support natural attenuation. The following three months will be used to evaluate data and produce the RI report.

It is expected that natural attenuation will be the cleanup remedy at the site. Skip McDaniel explained how chlorinated solvents (the class of solvents potentially found at Site 4) are heavier than water and they tend to percolate down below the aquifer. Bob Fisher added that solvents at Site 4 would reach a layer of clay at about 45 or 50 feet and would not travel deeper.

Question: Do you know how much solvent was released?
Answer: No, we have no record of that information.

Bob Fisher added that groundwater flows very slowly. The fastest groundwater flows at a rate of less than a tenth of a foot per day.

Question: Is this plume close to Outfall 3?
Answer: No, it as at least 2500 feet south of Outfall 3.

Question: What would happen if you mixed vinyl chloride and dioxin?
Answer: If vinyl chloride was concentrated enough, it could dissolve dioxin. However, we don't think the levels are high enough.

Administrative Order/Installation Restoration Program Update

Gordon Crane of NCBC Gulfport provided an update on all of the sites under investigation:

Sites 1, 2, and 3 are on hold for future investigation.

Site 4: The RI begins the week of July 13, 2004 (this week).

Site 5: Currently we are looking at the existing Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment to determine if it will be adequate. Following the evaluation, an RI report will be prepared.

Site 6: The remediation system is still removing petroleum products from the groundwater at this site. A recent evaluation shows that the plume is changing shape.

Site 7: The RI has not been initiated at this site.

Site 8:

- The Remedial Design has been completed.
- The Ecological Risk Assessment has been expanded. The team is flushing out the details to make sure that the cleanup numbers are appropriate.
- The Remedial Action contractor recently published a work plan for his bench scale plane. The bench scale study will involve collecting materials from the site to determine how to handle the solidification of the material to avoid leaching dioxin at the site.
- The Remedial Action will most likely start in January. We will be excavating 27000 cubic yards excavated as the first cut. This excavated material will be brought to Site 8 where it will be mixed on site with Portland cement. This soil-cement will be used to begin creating the cap for the site.
- Gordon announced the ATSDR Public Meeting and passed out an ATSDR information sheet that compared and contrasted the ATSDR Public Health Assessment to the EPA's Human Health Risk Assessment.

Question: Didn't you already perform a bench scale test before you decided on the remedial action?
Answer: Yes. However, the new contractor is "proofing" the study to make sure that no adjustments need to be made.

Site 10: The RI is completed.

Possible Topics for October Meeting

The next RAB meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in October. The following topics were proposed for the October meeting:

- Information on the pilot scale and bench scale tests.
- Status of the Site 8 Ecological Risk Assessment.
- Status of the Canal Road and associated sampling.
- Summary of the Site 5 RI report, as well as the Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment results.
- Site 4 results.

Conclusion

The meeting closed at 8:30.