

N62604.AR.000622
NCBC GULFPORT
5090.3a

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES 23 AUGUST 2005 NCBC
GULFPORT MS
8/23/2005
NCBC GULFPORT



Gulfport, Mississippi

Minutes
NCBC Gulfport RAB Meeting
Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi
August 23, 2005

The following members of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met at Isiah Fredericks Community Center on August 23, 2005:

Gordon Crane
Edie Dreher
Marie Hansen
Belinda Head
David Marshall
Skip McDaniel

Joseph Mitchell
Cherie Schulz
Ron Schmidling
Joyce Shaw
Phillip Shaw
Earl Whittemore

NCBC Gulfport Administrative Record
Document Index Number

39501 - GENERAL
13.03.00.0065

Administrative and technical support for the meeting were provided by:

Bob Fisher, Tetra Tech NUS

Joe Shaiman, Environmental Chemical Corporation (ECC)

Other attendees included:

Lottie B Davis
Lattie Grubbs
Gary Hollimon
Ella Holmes-Hines
Toni Miles (WLOX)
Patricia Spinks

Robert Travenicek
George Washington
Flora Windham
Henry Windham
Eileen Whittemore

Welcome

Skip McDaniel, the Community RAB Co-Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Remedial Action Update

Joe Shaiman of ECC provided an update of the dioxin cleanup activities as follows:

- Excavation is proceeding rapidly. Off base areas and on-base ditches are currently being excavated.
- A new, higher-strength cement mix is being tested to be used as the top layer of the cap.
- Most of the 23,000 cubic yards of ash from the 1988 incineration of dioxin-containing soils has been solidified on Site 8. The ash contains dioxin concentrations in the 5-6 ppt range.
- Approximately 20,000 tons of the total 25,000 tons of the dioxin-contaminated sediment has been excavated and removed from the ditches.
- Approximately 30,000 tons of the total 38,000 tons of contaminated sediment has been excavated and removed from the off-site areas of concern.
- As each area of excavation is completed, the off-base areas are being backfilled with 12 inches of clean sand, covered with 6 inches of topsoil, then seeded with temporary plantings to control erosion.

Question: Is there a count of the trees and species that were removed from the area of excavation north of the base?

Answer: Yes, we have a count and the plan is to plant many more trees than we removed.

Question: Have you contacted the state nursery for plants?

Answer: We attempted to contact them, but they are closed.

Gordon Crane added that we're in the process of working with a Wetlands Restoration Committee to determine first if the Wetlands Restoration Plan should be revised and secondly, if revision is needed, what species of plants should be used.

Sampling Update

Bob Fisher of Tetra Tech NUS provided an update of recently completed and upcoming sampling activities:

Sites 8 B&C: Approximately 200 samples were collected from this site and are in the process of being analyzed in a laboratory.

Canal Road Dirt Piles: A path has been cleared to the dirt piles along Canal Road. Sampling is scheduled to begin in the next few weeks.

Question: Does dioxin break down in the environment?

Answer: Dioxin does not break down very quickly. Concentrations of dioxin will not change significantly over time in the absence of erosion.

Question: How are we doing with respect to communicating with the City of Gulfport?

Answer: Communication with the City has improved dramatically since we improved our communication processes the city began work on Canal Road without our knowledge of their intent.

Question: What about the off-base dump and reports that drums of Herbicide Orange was disposed there?

Answer: Gordon Crane spoke with NCBC personnel who were responsible for waste removal from 1966 to 1988, and was informed that no drums were taken off base during those years. Despite repeated efforts, Gordon has not been able to verify this anecdotal information.

Comment: Councilwoman Ella Holmes-Hines stated that the Mayor of Gulfport and the new members of the City Council would like to have a briefing on the dioxin cleanup efforts currently underway.

Conclusion

The meeting closed at 8:30.