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NCBC GULFPORT  
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MINUTES FROM THE 13 JANUARY 2004 TIER I MEETING NCBC GULFPORT MS  
1/13/2004  
TETRA TECH

# Minutes

## NCBC Gulfport Tier I Meeting

NCBC Gulfport, Mississippi  
January 13, 2004

### Meeting Attendees

Jason Brown	Tetra Tech NUS Engineer
Art Conrad	Navy RPM
Gordon Crane	CBC Gulfport IRP Manager
Joe Ebert	AFCEE/ERDD
Bob Fisher	Tetra Tech NUS Project Manager
David Hadden	Portage Env. GEITA Contractor
Jim McClain	AFCEE/ERDD
Bob Merrill	MDEQ
Nancy Rouse	Navy Consultant (EnviroComs)

### Review of RAB Meeting Plan

The plan for the RAB meeting was approved without change. Bob Fisher reported that there were no elevated concentrations in the most recent samples (nine PCB and one dioxin sample along the north fence line). A discussion of the need to “wrap up” dioxin sampling followed. Bob Merrill pointed out that the ATSDR needs to document their justification for any additional samples if requested. Jim McClain suggested that we point out to the community that we need to move towards the cleanup to remove the risk to human health and the environment.

### Conclusion

If the next two samples (to be collected north of the base) do not show elevated concentrations of dioxin, we should conclude the characterization phase of the investigation and move towards mitigating the risk by implementing the cleanup.

In addition to requests for additional sampling, the ATSDR has asked for information about air monitoring. Bob Fisher said that air monitoring was conducted in 1995 during excavation activities to address community concerns (Air Monitoring Report, 28<sup>th</sup> Street Removal, ABB-ES, October 11, 1995). Jim McClain pointed out that the Air Force would like to review the draft Public Health Assessment to review any air quality or air monitoring issues.

### Action Item

The Navy will ensure that the AF has a review copy of the document.

## Partnering Agreement

A brief discussion of the partnering agreement resulted in the following conclusion:

### Conclusion

The draft agreement was approved with two changes:

1. The concept of consensus will be more fully defined.
2. Members shall be responsible for reviewing the agenda to determine their need to participate. If a member determines that they should attend yet are unable to attend, they may either participate by conference call OR they may review the meeting minutes and either approve decisions made in their absence OR refute decisions in writing with written justification.
3. E-mail correspondence is acceptable.

### Action Item

Nancy Rouse will revise the Partnering Agreement and bring a final copy along with a signature page to the next Tier I meeting.

## Day 2 January 14, 2004

### Meeting Attendees

Jason Brown	Tetra Tech NUS Engineer
Art Conrad	Navy RPM
Gordon Crane	CBC Gulfport IRP Manager
Bob Fisher	Tetra Tech NUS Project Manager
Bob Merrill	MDEQ

### Site 8, Area A Surface Soil Discussion

Bob Merrill asked about current dioxin levels in Site 8 Area A surface soils and whether or not the surface soils will be worked into the cement-amended material of the cap. Bob Fisher responded by noting that existing soil at Area A may have dioxin levels above 38 ng/kg, but would be either incorporated into the soil cement mix or covered by the cap.

### Conclusion

The cap will be sufficient to permanently entrain contaminated surface soil at Area A provided land use controls, to be specified in the Agreed Order, are met and long-term maintenance of the cap is implemented.

### Action Item

None.

## **Surface Soil at Site 8 Areas B and C**

Gordon Crane initiated discussion of soil conditions at Site 8 (Areas B and C) and future land use at those areas, noting that the base may be willing to discuss a soil cement action at these areas. Bob Fisher added that while the ditches have been remediated and confirmed (by 8290) to MDEQ industrial standards, the surface soil sampling necessary to confirm previous remedial actions was not performed due to an earlier agreement that the surface would be restored using soil cement. Without the soil cement, confirmation sampling of the surface soil (and remediation, if necessary) would be required. The MDEQ required sampling for these areas would include over 200 samples and cost nearly \$500,000.

Bob Fisher discussed a scaled-down random sampling of Area B and C surface soils to help support decision making for those areas if necessary.

### **Conclusion**

Bob Merrill stated that the proposed land use of Areas B and C needs to be resolved before any further remedial or regulatory decisions could be made.

### **Action Item**

Gordon Crane will write a position paper bringing out the facts so the discussion between Southern Division and the base can begin.

## **Dioxin Field Testing Kits**

Bob Fisher discussed the current state of technology for field testing of dioxin and the field kits demonstration project. In particular, one maker of the test kits is willing to provide cost-free duplicate analysis to demonstrate the viability of their method.

### **Conclusion**

Bob Merrill and Art Conrad agreed that these kits may lead to project cost savings and faster confirmation results during the remedial action.

### **Action Item**

Bob Fisher will move forward with the demonstration project during the offbase sampling efforts in February.

## **Comments and Responses to the 60% Remedial Design and Verification Sampling and Analysis Plan (VSAP) for Site 8**

The remainder of the Tier 1 meeting was devoted to discussion of EPA, NCBC, and Portage Environmental comments to the 60% Remedial Design and VSAP for Site 8. The responses to these comments will be issued at a later date.

During the discussion, Bob Merrill re-iterated that the stakeholders for this project have determined that an ecological pathway has been established, and that MDEQ Brownfield regulations require moving to a Tier 3 Ecological Risk Assessment. Art Conrad agreed, noting however, that certain Navy policies may require extra steps not prescribed in the Brownfields regulations.

While not necessarily comfortable working with non MDEQ policies, Bob Merrill agreed to let the process move forward, with the understanding that the Brownfields could not be completed if the specific requirements were not met. Art Conrad agreed, and stated that the Navy will not proceed with work not agreed to by MDEQ. Bob Merrill pointed out that remedial goals or maximum concentrations may ultimately be driven by ecological risk.

**Action Item:**

Bob Fisher will have an abbreviated workplan developed describing how the upcoming Tier 3 Ecological Risk Assessment will meet MDEQ requirements as well as discussing any potential conflicts with either EPA and/or Navy policy. This document will be the basis for further discussion and issue resolution before work is commenced.