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NAS WHITING FIELD  
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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA 15 APRIL 1997 NAS WHITING  
FIELD FL  
4/15/1997  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA  
**NAS Whiting Field RAB Meeting**  
**Pensacola Junior College, Milton Campus**  
**April 15, 1997, 5:30 P.M.**

- *Welcome* Pat Durbin  
Navy Co-Chair
- *RAB Administration* Pat Durbin
- *Fact Sheet 4* Bill Kollar  
ABB Environmental Services
- *Presentation and Discussion*
  - Hydrology/Groundwater Overview Gerry Walker  
-Clear Creek investigations ABB Environmental Services  
-technical briefing
  - Private Property Access Report Pat Durbin
- *Break*
- *Discussion*
  - Process for RAB Document Review RAB Members
- *Presentation and Discussion*
  - The General Information Report Terry Hansen  
(15 minutes) ABB Environmental Services
- *General Discussion* RAB Members
  - Upcoming agenda topics/speakers
  - Other topics

**Naval Air Station Whiting Field  
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting, 15 April 1997  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**RAB members attending:**

Craig Benedikt	Logan Fink, Community Co-Chair
Anita Breeding	Archie Hovanesian, Jr.
Sam Buckman	Linda Martin
Jim Cason	Sam Vickers
Pat Durbin, Navy Co-Chair	

**NAS Whiting Field representatives:**

CDR Guy Miller, Executive Officer  
Senior Chief Dave Youngquist, Public Affairs Officer  
Jim Holland, Environmental Engineer, Public Works Department

**Support personnel and others:**

James Sparks, NAS Pensacola  
Terry Hansen, ABB Environmental Services (ABB-ES)  
Bill Kollar, ABB-ES  
Gerry Walker, ABB-ES

10 members of the general public were also in attendance. Pat Durbin opened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. and welcomed the RAB and others in attendance. RAB members, NAS Whiting Field representatives, and support staff introduced themselves for the benefit of the community members. Ms. Durbin noted that Linda Martin has replaced Jeff Adams as the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southern Division representative on the RAB. The January RAB meeting minutes were approved without comment. Bill Kollar, ABB-ES project community relations specialist, was then introduced.

**Fact Sheet 4 Presentation**

Mr. Kollar discussed the recent fact sheet prepared to support Installation Restoration community relations efforts at NAS Whiting Field. He noted that the fact sheet was the fourth in a series and that all fact sheets are available in the station's Information Repository at the West Florida Regional Library, Milton branch. Mr. Kollar explained that the fact sheet was distributed to the station's mailing list of over 250 addressees. These include community members, local schools, government officials, local media, and business and environmental organizations. The fact sheet includes articles on the RAB, recent investigations and site status, and on sources for public information and opportunities for public involvement. He concluded by stating that the fact sheet was designed to increase public awareness of the environmental program at NAS Whiting Field, and encouraged RAB members and others in attendance to take extra copies and distribute them in their workplaces, neighborhoods, and other appropriate locations.

### **Hydrology Briefing and Groundwater Flow Model Demonstration**

Gerry Walker, ABB-ES project geologist, presented an overview of groundwater flow and contaminant movement through groundwater. Mr. Walker began with some general concepts and definitions, including the hydrologic cycle, groundwater recharge, and aquifers. He explained that regional groundwater in the Northwestern Florida Panhandle generally flows north to south and that local characteristics such as surface topography can cause variations.

Mr. Walker then discussed specific conditions at NAS Whiting Field. He described the contaminant distribution at the station as currently known, and focused on the Clear Creek floodplain (Site 39). Preliminary sampling data from intermediate and deep wells in the nearby South Field area show some chlorinated solvents (used as a degreaser) and fuel-related compounds in the groundwater. These wells range from 25 feet to nearly 120 feet below land surface. Surface water samples taken to date from Clear Creek have not shown any of these contaminants. Potential contaminant discharge into Clear Creek will be evaluated further following analysis of groundwater samples from monitoring wells west of the creek. Mr. Walker noted that contaminants have been detected in Clear Creek floodplain sediments. If contaminants are in fact discharging into Clear Creek, Mr. Walker said the mixing action of the creek water with the comparatively small amounts of chemical contaminants might disperse them enough to make them undetectable. Mr. Walker reiterated the need to install monitoring wells and sample groundwater on the private properties west of Clear Creek to further assess groundwater contaminant movement.

Linda Martin added that groundwater contamination may be degrading naturally, but that the offsite sampling to evaluate contaminant movement west of Clear Creek is necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment. Craig Benedikt noted that investigators assume contaminants are being discharged into Clear Creek until additional study proves otherwise.

Mr. Walker next demonstrated groundwater flow and contaminant movement using a glass display model of an aquifer system. Colored dye was introduced into the model to simulate a contaminated groundwater plume. As the plume moved through the various layers of the model, Mr. Walker explained the general hydrogeologic principles of contaminant migration through groundwater.

### **Questions from the Public**

*A community member whose home abuts NAS Whiting Field's western border asked if a drinking water well on her property could be sampled?* NAS Whiting Field officials agreed to sample the well. The well location (as described by the questioner) is in an area that is hydraulically downgradient of NAS Whiting Field and sampling may provide some useful water quality data.

### **Community Involvement and Private Property Access Report**

Pat Durbin described Installation Restoration community outreach efforts for the members of the public in attendance. She noted that media releases and a mailing to approximately 750 addresses were conducted to publicize the RAB's formation and recruit members in 1995. Since that time, the RAB has met quarterly to discuss the environmental program with station and regulatory agency officials and provide community input on the cleanup. She added that new applicants for RAB membership are welcome.

Ms. Durbin then summarized recent efforts to obtain private property access for groundwater sampling west of Clear Creek. These efforts included letters and telephone contacts with several property owners immediately west of NAS Whiting Field, and follow-up letters inviting property owners to the April RAB meeting. Ms. Durbin expressed her appreciation that several of the property owners were in attendance and hoped that the information provided at the meeting would address any questions or concerns they may have on the proposed private property sampling. Jim Holland added that the station has been working hard to obtain property access, and stressed the importance of the proposed sampling in determining if contaminants have moved west of Clear Creek.

### Questions from the Public

*What is involved in property access and monitoring well installation?* The well installation sites would be accessed using existing logging roads with some additional vegetation removal required to accommodate a drill rig and support trucks. Drilling would take one or two days, after which time the wells would be sampled periodically by field personnel accessing the site by standard size pickup truck. After the sampling program is completed, the wells would be permanently abandoned in accordance with Northwest Florida Water Management District and Florida Department of Environmental Protection regulations. The well sites and the access roads would be restored to their original condition as practical.

### **RAB Document Review Process**

Bill Kollar led a discussion on ways for the RAB to review documents. The RAB members repeated an earlier preference to review document summaries rather than the complete reports. Mr. Kollar distributed mail reply forms on which the RAB could submit their comments to NAS Whiting Field. The members agreed this was a good way to provide their feedback, and suggested that the station's Public Affairs Office electronic mail address be included on the form as another reply means. Mr. Kollar advised members they would be receiving executive summaries of the draft General Information Report (GIR) for review and comment shortly.

### **General Information Report Overview**

Terry Hansen, ABB-ES project manager, briefly summarized the forthcoming GIR for NAS Whiting Field. The report contains background information common to all sites, including:

- geography and climate
- investigation and data assessment methods
- risk assessment methods
- geology and hydrology
- background investigation findings

Mr. Hansen distributed the table of contents to the GIR. He suggested that members could review the table of contents and request report sections of specific interest. He added that the complete report will be available in the public Information Repository. He concluded by saying that the GIR will streamline future report preparation, since the background information collected in the GIR will not need to be repeated in subsequent reports. These reports will instead focus on site-specific findings and recommendations, with GIR information referenced as needed. For example, the methodology for performing risk assessments will be presented in the GIR, and risk assessment findings will be presented in the site-specific reports. Linda Martin added that future reports or sections thereof can

be presented to the RAB as requested.

**RAB Business**

The next RAB meeting was scheduled for, Thursday, July 24 at 5:30 p.m. at Pensacola Junior College/Milton Campus, Building 4900, Room 4902. Pat Durbin asked that members contact her with suggested agenda topics or speakers. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.