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NAS WHITING FIELD
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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AGENDA 24 JULY 1997 NAS WHITING FIELD
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7/24/1997
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

AGENDA

**NAS Whiting Field RAB Meeting
Pensacola Junior College, Milton Campus
July 24, 1997, 5:30 P.M.**

- ***Welcome and RAB Administration*** Pat Durbin,
Navy Co-Chair

- ***Technical Update/Video***
 - Residential well sampling results Terry Hansen,
ABB Environmental Services

 - Clear Creek surface water sampling Gerry Walker, ABB

 - Monitoring well installation west of Clear Creek Larry Smith, ABB

- ***Break***

- ***Presentation and Discussion***
 - Status of Installation Restoration Program under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process Linda Martin,
Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

- ***General Discussion*** RAB Members
 - Engineering awards for Building 2894 barometric pumping project

 - Upcoming agenda topics/speakers

 - Other topics

8.4-472

**Naval Air Station Whiting Field
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting, July 24, 1997
MEETING SUMMARY**

RAB members attending:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Craig Benedikt | Robert Fowlkes |
| Ken Brooks | Archie Hovanesian, Jr. |
| Jim Cason | Linda Martin |
| Pat Durbin, Navy Co-Chair | Sam Vickers |

NAS Whiting Field representatives:

- Captain Richard Dick, Commanding Officer, NAS Whiting Field
- Senior Chief Dave Youngquist, NAS Whiting Field
- Jim Holland, NAS Whiting Field Public Works Department

Support personnel and others:

- Terry Hansen, ABB Environmental Services (ABB-ES)
- Bill Kollar, ABB-ES
- Larry Smith, ABB-ES
- Gerry Walker, ABB-ES

Two members of the general public were also in attendance. Pat Durbin opened the meeting at 5:38 p.m. and welcomed the RAB and others in attendance. The April RAB meeting summary was approved without comment.

Terry Hansen (ABB-ES project manager) and Larry Smith (ABB-ES project geologist) reported on the recent sampling of a residential well in the Point Baker community. The sampling was requested by the homeowner at the April RAB meeting. The request was prompted by a discussion of planned groundwater sampling on private land west of the station. Well water sample analysis showed no evidence of contaminants known to be associated with NAS Whiting Field. The sampling was performed because the private well is downgradient of NAS Whiting Field and potentially in the flowpath of contamination that may have moved offbase.

Video Presentation on Clear Creek Field Work

Mr. Smith presented a video on recent field investigations in and around Clear Creek, near the southwestern corner of the base. Mr. Smith explained that the purpose of the work was to assess whether groundwater contaminants from nearby NAS Whiting sites had discharged into the creek or into the underlying aquifer. The field work was conducted during the week of July 14.

The first portion of the video showed surface water sampling of Clear Creek. Mr. Smith noted that standard practice is to perform downstream sampling first in a moving stream or river, and then work upstream. This is done to prevent downstream samples from the effects (such as

sediment disturbance) of upstream sampling. Mr. Smith explained that three separate samples were taken at each location, and that each sample jar was labeled and packed in a cooler for shipment to a laboratory for analysis. Sediment samples were also collected at this time.

The video also showed students from the Career Linkage Program participating in the field work. Career Linkage is a combined effort of Santa Rosa County, the local Chamber of Commerce, and local businesses and institutions. This mentoring program is designed to introduce girls who are entering eighth grade to career tracks not traditionally pursued by women. NAS Whiting Field participated in the program by hosting several students from Radford Locklin Vo-Tech in Milton. The students were paired with mentors from various NAS Whiting Field operations, including the environmental restoration program.

The second portion of the video showed the installation of a groundwater monitoring well on offsite property west of Clear Creek. The video showed each stage of well construction, including drilling, casing installation, stabilizing the well with a sand pack, decontamination procedures, and installation of the surface pad and well head cover.

RAB Questions on the Clear Creek Field Work Video

Were samples taken from beneath the Clear Creek stream bed? Yes, samples were taken approximately 10 inches below the creek bottom. These were sediment samples and not surface water samples from Clear Creek itself.

Was the sampling affected by recent heavy rains? No. Clear Creek was at base level (normal) flow at the time of the sampling. Weather conditions were closely monitored prior to the sampling event. Water elevations in Clear Creek were also monitored through a gauging station on the creek before and during the sampling.

Why were multiple surface water samples taken at each location, and why were 31 different sampling locations selected? Three samples were taken at each location in case some of the contaminants evaporated, samples were damaged during shipping, or the integrity of the samples was otherwise compromised. 31 sampling locations were chosen to ensure that data representative of the entire sampling area was collected. The stretch of Clear Creek sampled was approximately 4800 feet long.

What detection limits were used for surface water sample analysis? Florida Department of Environmental Protection surface water detection limits were used for gasoline and trichloroethylene, the two primary contaminants that have been found at nearby NAS Whiting Field sites.

How will the groundwater monitoring well be located after the installation site has been covered by vegetation? The monitoring well location has been mapped by a professional surveyor. Global positioning system (GPS) locational coordinates were recorded when the well was installed, so GPS equipment can also be used to locate the well site.

When is the next round of sampling in and around Clear Creek planned? The need for additional sampling in the area will be determined after laboratory results from the July sampling have been evaluated.

Briefing on the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Process

As requested by a community RAB member at the April meeting, RAB member Linda Martin of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southern Division presented an overview of the BRAC process for closing Department of Defense (DOD) facilities. Key points of Ms. Martin's presentation included:

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) requirements for hazardous waste site investigation;
- the Environmental Impact Statement process for assessing community impacts at closing sites; and
- other BRAC-specific documents including the BRAC Cleanup Plan, Environmental Baseline Study, and Local Reuse Plan.

Ms. Martin noted her prior experience at a Navy facility in Louisville, Kentucky that was being privatized. That site went through a full investigation and cleanup process similar to the CERCLA process in approximately 18 months, a short time for that amount of work. That facility also remained operational during the environmental work. Craig Benedikt, RAB representative from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, added that Congress had recently voted to hold off on further base closures for the near future.

RAB Questions on the BRAC Process Briefing

Are reusers of former navy property liable for environmental cleanup? The Navy is responsible for cleaning up a site to baseline conditions (e.g., conditions that meet applicable regulatory requirements) before property transfer. Legal covenants and deed restrictions are also put in place to protect reusers from future liability for environmental cleanup. Environmental conditions at former military sites are being addressed by the Formerly Utilized Defense Sites program. This program is administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is similar to DOD's Installation Restoration (IR) program for active sites.

RAB Administration

Pat Durbin noted that Fiscal Year 1997 funds were still available for RAB support, and asked the members for ideas on using that money to further RAB goals. She offered some possible options, including: RAB training; presentations on topics related to RAB responsibilities; publicity to increase RAB visibility in the community; and equipment to improve presentation quality. Sam Vickers suggested using the money to increase community interest and involvement in the RAB. Other members thought that new equipment would be helpful. Ms. Durbin requested that members contact her with any additional ideas.

Captain Dick suggested that RAB news be included on the station's web site at www.navy.mil/naswf as a way to generate public interest. He also mentioned the local cable television community bulletin board as another way to publicize the RAB. The next RAB meeting was scheduled for October 7 at 11:30 a.m. at the NAS Whiting Field Wings Club. Lunch will be available, followed by a base tour of IR program sites. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m.