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Ser 1843.1/L6101  
January 31, 1996

Dear RAB Member:

On behalf of the Moffett Federal Airfield (MFA) Base Closure Team and the Community Co-Chair, you are invited to our next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting. This meeting will debut Mr. Robert Moss' first meeting as our Community Co-Chair. Welcome Mr. Moss.

Our last RAB meeting was held on January 11, 1996 at the City of Mountain View Police/Fire Administration Building in Mountain View, CA. The meeting summary is provided as enclosure (1). Our next RAB meeting will again be held on the second Thursday of the month, **February 8, 1996**, at the **City of Mountain View Police/Fire Administration Building**. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

7:00-7:02 PM Meeting Overview  
7:02-7:04 PM Minutes Approval  
7:04-7:20 PM Remedial Project Managers Meeting Report  
7:20-7:40 PM Subcommittee Reports  
7:40-7:55 PM OU5 and OU1 Status  
7:55-8:25 PM Post-ROD Public Participation Presentation  
8:25-8:55 PM Post-ROD Public Participation Discussion  
8:55-9:00 PM Agenda/Schedule for March RAB Meeting

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (415) 244-2563, Mr. Hubert Chan of this office at (415) 244-2562, or Mr. Robert Moss, Moffett's Community Co-Chair, at (415) 852-6018.

Sincerely,

**Original signed by:**

STEPHEN CHAO  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
Moffett Federal Airfield

Distribution:  
Moffett Federal Airfield RAB Members  
Maurice Bundy, Potential RAB Member

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PRC Environmental Management Inc. (Attn: Michael Young)  
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**MOFFETT FEDERAL AIRFIELD  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW POLICE/FIRE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
1000 Villa Street  
Mountain View, California**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1996**

**I. INTRODUCTIONS AND MEETING OVERVIEW**

The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for Moffett Federal Airfield (Moffett Field) met at 7:15 p.m. on January 11, 1996, in the City of Mountain View Police and Fire Administration Building. The Navy RAB Co-Chair, Mr. Stephen Chao, began the meeting by introducing himself and reviewed the following agenda items for the meeting:

- Meeting Overview
- Minutes Approval
- Remedial Project Manager's (RPM) Meeting Report
- Subcommittee Reports
- Elections of Community Co-Chair/Vice Co-Chair
- Ecological Assessment
- Agenda/Schedule for February 8 RAB Meeting

Mr. Chao announced that the public meeting regarding Operable Unit (OU) 1 Sites 1 and 2 landfills is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, January 16, 1996 at the Mountain View City Council Chamber. He encouraged all interested RAB members to attend the public meeting.

**II. MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL**

Mr. Chao announced that the meeting minutes for the December 13, 1995, were distributed at the door. He noted that the RAB will approve these meeting minutes at the next RAB meeting, February 8, 1996.

### **III. ELECTIONS OF COMMUNITY CO-CHAIR/VICE CO-CHAIR**

Mr. Paul Lesti, Community Co-Chair, asked for nominations to fill the new community co-chair term. Mr. David Glick moved, and Ms. Cynthia Sievers seconded a motion to nominate Mr. Bob Moss for community co-chair. Mr. Moss was approved by unanimous acclamation.

Mr. Lesti asked for nominations to fill the community vice co-chair position. Ms. Sievers moved and Ms. Mary Vrable seconded a motion to nominate Mr. David Glick for the community vice co-chair position. Mr. Glick was approved by unanimous acclamation.

Mr. Lesti thanked the RAB members for their support. All those present applauded Mr. Lesti for his service as community co-chair.

### **IV. REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGER'S MEETING REPORT**

Mr. Michael Bessette, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), summarized the Moffett Field RPM meeting held on January 10, 1996.

#### **A. Site 2 - Landfill**

Mr. Bessette announced that a security fence will be built to protect the area surrounding Site 2, to keep outside parties from disposing of waste at the landfill. The fence is expected to be constructed in the next two months.

#### **B. Record Of Decision (ROD)**

Mr. Bessette reported that the RPMs discussed the language to include in the proposed ROD for OU 1. Three key concerns related to the wording within the ROD were discussed. First, the RPMs discussed the requirements for continued pumping operations at building 191. The second concern discussed was the assurance of public participation after the ROD is signed. The third concern discussed was that of financial assurance for long-term implementation of the remedy. At this time, Mr. Chao cautioned that all

that the Navy can do is to request the funds necessary from Congress. The Navy's ability to perform future work will depend on the money allocated from the Congress annually.

Mr. Peter Strauss asked Mr. Bessette whether it is feasible to develop a contingency plan within the ROD that includes the requirement for community input. Mr. Michael Gill, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), stated that the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) mandates many requirements for the Navy during post-ROD work, including public participation.

Mr. Lenny Seigel noted that the Navy has committed to cleaning up to a standard based on the anticipated land use. But, he cautioned, the Navy has not committed to cleaning up the area to a different standard if the land use changes. For that reason, Mr. Seigel stressed, the community may recommend to clean up to a higher standard.

Ms. Sievers suggested that the RAB contact Congresswoman Anna Eschoo to discuss the status of the cleanup at Moffett. Ms. Sievers also recommended that the RAB consider meeting with the congresswoman to require the Department of Defense (DoD) to submit an annual public report detailing the status of the cleanup at Moffett Field. Mr. Seigel noted that DoD publishes an annual report describing the cleanup activities at various bases. However, he stated that he supported contacting Congresswoman Eshoo and arranging a meeting for interested RAB members.

Mr. Thomas Harney asked that the Navy provide specific documentation showing why the Navy can not provide the funds required by California law for financial assurance of closure. Mr. Chao suggested that this issue may be placed on the next agenda. He also requested that Ms. Susan Jun, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) make a presentation on public participation during the post-ROD period at the February meeting.

### **C. Field Work Update**

Mr. Bessette updated the RAB on field work activities. He stated that the second tracer test will be conducted in the area of the Iron Curtain. Mr. Bessette announced that there will be an upcoming field trip in late February or early March at the Iron Curtain area.

Mr. Bessette reported that there are continuing operations at the Site 9 source control measures. Issues regarding the overflow of the systems into storm drains were also discussed.

Mr. Bessette noted that some contaminants have been detected in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Area of Investigation (AOI) 6, the storm drain channel which parallels Lindbergh Avenue. Metals, petroleum hydrocarbons (oil and grease) were detected at AOI 6. Mr. Bessette closed by noting that the next RPM meeting will take place on February 8, 1996.

## **V. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Chao asked the subcommittee chairs to deliver their reports.

### **A. Technical, Historical, and Educational (THE) Subcommittee**

Dr. James McClure, Harding Lawson Associates (consultant to the MEW companies) and THE subcommittee chair, began his report by noting that the next meeting for the THE Subcommittee has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, at 7:00 p.m., at the Mountain View Senior Center.

Dr. McClure noted that the THE Subcommittee expressed concern over the revised fact sheet regarding the proposed plan for OUI. He stated that the THE Subcommittee members discussed their concerns with the Navy's consultants. Dr. McClure stressed there were several concerns including the perceived need to improve the definition of the edges of the landfill, the need for a more robust monitoring network, and the requirements for continued public participation.

Mr. Strauss suggested that the Navy consider presenting the ROD as an interim ROD, due to the uncertainty of the data. Mr. Chao responded that the Navy would review this issue, but that it was his belief that the ROD will provide a strong framework to address future contingencies.

Mr. Strauss recommended that the Navy consider structuring a more specific ROD. He expressed concern that the ROD be comprehensive and to include any findings from the upcoming field work, in particular any leachate migration detected. Mr. Chao explained that the ROD will include broad language and general terms so that it may be more inclusive.

Mr. Moss stressed defining issues and potential problems at the ROD stage. He noted that the contaminants of concern should be known at the time of the ROD approval.

#### **B. Communications, Media, and Outreach Subcommittee**

Ms. Leslie Byster, chair, Communications, Media, and Outreach Subcommittee, reported that the subcommittee completed its draft of the Moffett Field RAB brochure. Ms. Susan Jun stated that DTSC had not reviewed the text of the brochure. Mr. Chao offered to send via fax the brochure to Ms. Jun. Ms. Jun agreed to expeditiously review the brochure. Mr. Chao noted that when he received Ms. Jun's comments, that he would print copies in time for distribution at the public meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 1996.

Mr. Glick announced that he completed a fact sheet that discusses the RAB's concerns with OU1. This fact sheet will be available at the January 16 public meeting.

#### **C. Cost Subcommittee**

Ms. Christina Scott, chair, Cost Subcommittee stated that the subcommittee did not have any new reports since the last RAB.

### **VI. ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Mr. Chao introduced Ms. Kim Walsh, Montgomery Watson, to brief the RAB on the ecological assessment conducted at Moffett Field. Ms. Walsh discussed the Site-Wide Ecological Assessment (SWEA) conducted for Moffett Field. She stated that she would discuss how the SWEA fits into the overall cleanup process for Moffett Field, and would provide the RAB with an update for SWEA Phase I and Phase II.

**A. Moffett Field SWEA**

Ms. Walsh explained that the objective of the SWEA is to evaluate whether chemicals present at the site will cause harm to ecological receptors. She noted that both human health risk assessments (HHRAs) and ecological assessments (EAs) assess potential harm due to chemical exposure. She also explained that both HHRAs and EAs require that the risk assessor develop a conceptual site model to look at the relationships between chemical sources, exposure pathways, and receptors.

**B. Phase I SWEA**

Ms. Walsh stated that the objectives of the Phase I SWEA included the identification of chemical sources, chemicals of concern, exposure pathways, habitats, and receptors. The results included identifying 26 chemicals of concern and various chemicals requiring further evaluation including PCBs, pesticides, metals, and petroleum and petroleum associated compounds.

Ms. Walsh noted that the Phase I SWEA identified areas of greatest chemical concerns such as the northeast corner of the eastern diked marsh. Ms. Byster asked what were the highest levels of the chemicals of concern found in this site. Ms. Walsh replied that she did not have the data available, but would respond at a later date.

Mr. Strauss asked what the SWEA determined about a specie of concern, the clapper rail which had been potentially identified at the site. Phase I Site-Wide Qualitative Habitat and Receptor Characterization Report (October 1993) noted that one pair of clapper rail was observed in Stevens Creek near the pump station and the Cargill Salt Evaporation Ponds.

Ms. Scott asked whether the scientists considered incorporating the red fox and feral cats into the list of identified receptors and food chains. Ms. Walsh noted that the list of identified receptors and food chains was determined after receiving input from the regulatory agencies. It is important to note that ecological risk assessments generally focus on the most sensitive or ecologically significant species. Species such as the American kestrel and the burrowing owl are threatened or endangered species, therefore warrant special attention and protection. The red fox and feral cats are not as sensitive as the identified receptors. Further, cleanup goals based on the protection of sensitive species should be protective of all other receptors.

### C. Phase II SWEA

Ms. Walsh explained that the overall objectives of the Phase II SWEA are to quantify the potential for harm, complete risk characterization, and describe the uncertainty associated with the risk characterization.

Ms. Walsh reported that the preliminary bioassay results in the Phase II SWEA indicated that amphipod survival in sediment ranged from 44 to 92 percent. Mr. Strauss asked about the methodology used to determine the survival rate. Ms. Walsh explained that the animals are placed in a test sediment, and are exposed to the contaminants. The percentage is calculated by identifying the total number of amphipods that died versus the total number of amphipods exposed to the sample.

Mr. Moss asked whether comparisons could be made between the benthic community found at Moffett Field and the benthic community at similar habitat types such as those found in Palo Alto. Ms. Walsh noted that the Navy is trying to determine whether there is a point of comparison. It is important to note that there are numerous difficulties in making such comparisons. Benthic community structure can vary according to a number of different parameters, and not just according to contaminant levels. For example, slight changes in pH, salinity, temperature, and grain size can have dramatic effects on the benthic community structure.

Mr. Strauss asked whether migrating species were studied in either SWEA. Ms. Walsh responded that migrating species were addressed in the Phase I SWEA. It is important to note that the protection of migratory birds is also addressed in the feasibility study to be prepared concurrent with the conclusion of the remedial investigation. The protection of migratory birds will be considered in the selection of the final cleanup remedy.

## **VII. AGENDA/SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY RAB MEETING**

Mr. Chao announced that the next RAB meeting will be held on Thursday, February 8, 1996. Ms. Jun will deliver a presentation on post-ROD public participation. The agenda will also include a discussion on financial assurance.

## **VIII. ADDITIONAL ISSUES, MOTIONS**

Dr. McClure moved and Ms. Sievers seconded a motion to commend Mr. Lesti for his service as the 1995 community co-chair. The motion of appreciation was unanimously approved. Ms. Sievers announced that she prepared a presentation for Mr. Lesti. In addition, she noted that refreshments were provided to show the RAB's appreciation for Mr. Lesti's work and leadership.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Chao closed the meeting at 9:10 p.m.