

NAVAL BASE CHARLESTON
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Minutes of 8 December 1998
Live Oak Community Center
2012 Success Street
North Charleston, SC

RAB Members Attending

Mr. Bobby Dearhart
Mr. Tom Fressilli
Mr. Tony Hunt
Ms. Jeri Johnson
Ms. Wannetta Mallette
Mr. Louis Mintz
Mr. Henry Shepard
Mr. Dann Spariosu

Guests Attending

Mr. Paul M. Bergstrand	SCDHEC
Mr. Larry Bowers	EnSafe
Mr. Paul Calligan	Tetra Tech
Mr. David Dodds	Southern Division
Mr. Billy Drawdy	Southern Division
Mr. Keith Johns	EnSafe
Mr. Joseph Land, Sr.	Galileo Quality Institute
Mr. Johnny Tapia	SCDHEC
Mr. J. Michael Reubish	Citizen

Introduction of the RAB Members and Guests

Mr. Louis Mintz, Community Co-Chair, brought the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Member and audience introductions were made.

Administrative Remarks and Discussion of Last Meeting Minutes

Mr. Mintz called for discussion and/or comments on minutes from previous meeting. Hearing no comments, the minutes of 13 October 1998 were made final.

Subcommittee Reports

Community Relations Subcommittee

Regarding the Navy's Technical Assistance in Public Participation program, Mr. Mintz advised members to submit any questions that needed to be answered. He noted that the questions would be routed to the appropriate state or federal agency, the Navy or EnSafe for answer.

There were no other subcommittee reports.

Environmental Cleanup Progress Report

Mr. Tony Hunt presented progress of environmental cleanup since last RAB meeting.

Zone A: The Navy is in the process of beginning Corrective Measures Studies to address solid waste management units (SWMUs) 39 and 2. SWMU 38, a pesticide soil contamination and possibly some ground water contamination.

Zone B: Investigations governed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act are complete, and the site is essentially clean. However, there are still lead-based paint and asbestos issues. Once those have been resolved, Zone B will essentially be ready for transfer.

Zone C: Contains the old Navy Hospital, and was also is used for coal storage. Investigations have found very low concentrations of metals, in the soil and ground water, and some levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH).

Zone D: This Zone is essentially free from RCRA regulation. Also, there are no underground storage tanks. The Zone is ready for transfer.

Mr. Shepard raised a question about the investigations into the possibility of contaminants from a neighboring site (Hess Oil) migrating onto the base, and if conclusions had been reached. Mr. Hunt advised that a number of investigations had been completed which delineated characterized releases. There is migration onto Navy property and a fairly large dissolved phase plume. The Navy is looking now into methods to remediate the groundwater contamination, such as pumping ground water and doing vapor extraction to remove volatile organic compounds from the soil. Work plans have been submitted to the regulatory agencies.

Zone E: The Shipyard. EnSafe has finished the facility investigation and a report has been submitted. Review of the report will begin after the first of the year.

Zone F: The middle part of base that contains the old public works facilities. Investigations are addressing an old dry cleaners where a solvent release appears to have taken place. Contaminated groundwater seems to be getting into the sanitary sewer system on base, and that appears to be putting sort of hydraulic containment on that plume. The plume is not migrating far from the dry cleaner. The Project Team will be addressing this issue.

Zone G: In Zone G, the fuel farm turned out most of the contaminants, and these were mostly petroleum hydrocarbons. The Navy is expediting investigation and cleanup so the site can be transferred to the UST program. Transferring it to another program will allow whatever corrective action is necessary to begin. The Detachment is on the final phases of debris removal in that area and an old corral area which public works had used for storage. Investigations found pesticides and PCB contamination in soil. A lot has been removed.

Zones F and G: The RCRA Facility Investigation report (RFI) was submitted and reviewed. Review of this report will probably not start until sometime after the first of the year.

Zone H: A Corrective Measures Study is in process for Zone H.

Zone I: The Navy has finished discussions with the state and EPA on comments they had on the RFI. Mr. Hunt said they hope to resubmit the report in the near future to resolve any other issues and proceed with corrective measure study.

Underground Storage Tank Program

Mr. Paul Calligan of Tetra Tech was introduced. He stated that Tetra Tech had been asked by the Navy to investigate former underground storage tank (UST) sites. The site investigation approach will be in two phases. First: There will be a soil assessment to delineate any contaminated soil. Also, there will be a preliminary assessment of the ground water. After the preliminary assessment, permanent monitoring wells will be installed and samples collected. Assessment reports on those will be submitted to DHEC. Once the reports are approved, Tetra Tech will come back and formulate corrective action plans based on level of contamination found.

Mr. Mintz expressed concern that the sampling and testing that had already been done would not be considered or used in the UST program, for reasons of sampling accuracy and cost. Discussion followed, and Mr. Calligan noted that Tetra Tech is working with EnSafe to use any information already gathered. He also said that additional samples and wells were likely to be needed because Tetra Tech's investigation is focused on the USTs, while in some cases EnSafe's sampling did not include USTs. Mr. Spariosu provided a clarification of UST program vs. RCRA program, and the requirements of each. The two programs focus on different types of contaminants and do not often overlap.

Chicora Tank Farm

Mr. Shepard provided an update on the Chicora Tank Farm property. He has been in touch with Charleston County School District's representative. The School District is planning to submit an application to the redevelopment authority. They do want to acquire part of the property. Mr. Hunt read letter from Charleston County School District from Jerry Urbanic that stated the School District's interest in the property.

Discussion of Technical Assistance in Public Participation (TAPP) Program

Mr. Mintz again asked for RAB members to submit questions that they would like to see addressed. The Community Relations subcommittee will look at the questions and see if the questions can be addressed by the technical staff of the RAB (EPA, SCDHEC, Navy, or EnSafe). If not, then there may be need for assistance. If there are no questions, the RAB will leave the TAPP program behind.

Mr. J. Michael Reubish, citizen, voiced concern over storage of transformers and associated potential PCB problems on leased property.

Mr. Shepard discussed the risks involved with leasing property. As long as the Navy owns all the real estate, any leasing action taken inherits a certain amount of risk that the site could possibly be contaminated. The Navy's position has been that it's better to go ahead and get tenants in the property for revitalization purposes and have them responsible for the maintenance and protection of the facilities.

Comments and Questions

A question was raised by member about attendance of RAB members at the meetings. Discussion followed. This will be addressed at the next RAB meeting.

Meeting adjourned.