

NAVAL BASE CHARLESTON
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
Minutes of June 8, 1999
Live Oak Community Center
2012 Success St., North Charleston, SC

RAB Members Attending

Ms. Ann Clark
Mr. Bobby Dearhart
Mr. Tom Fressilli
Mr. Louis Mintz
Mr. Arthur Pinckney
Mr. Dann Spariosu
Mr. Henry Shepard

Guests Attending

Mr. Mihir Mehta	SCDHEC
Ms. Melissa	SCDHEC
Mr. Charles Watson	SCDHEC
Mr. Michael Reubish	Citizen
Mr. Gabriel Magwood	Southern Division
Mr. David Dodds	Southern Division
Mr. Larry Bowers	EnSafe Inc.
Mr. Paul Bergstrand	SCDHEC

Introduction of Rab Members and Guests

Mr. Louis Mintz brought the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Mr. Mintz apologized that timely notice was not sent out to everyone. Member and audience introductions were made.

Administrative Remarks, Comments of the Last Meeting Minutes

Mr. Mintz asked for comments on the minutes that were distributed at the meeting along with a verbatim transcript of Mr. Rick Davis' presentation on April 13, 1999. Mr. Shepard commented that on page 3, Redevelopment report, it should read that the RDA is three weeks away from signing with a "breakbulk" facility. Mr. Mintz commented that the \$10 million gift reported as being from Senator Hollings should be corrected to read that the \$10 million was from the Navy.

Mr. Mintz advised he would like to have another community meeting next month since the June meeting was not properly announced to the membership. Mr. Hunt agreed and a meeting was set for July 13.

Environmental Cleanup Progress Report

Mr. Hunt informed the members that the Navy is expecting the Finding Of Suitability to Transfer for the credit union and the marina to be ready by July. This will be the first property transfer to other

than a federal agency.

RCRA Corrective Action Report

Mr. Dodds gave the members a slide presentation of their progress along with a chart for dates of the CMS significant events.

- ★ SWMU 1 - They are preparing for lead removal.
- ★ SWMU 2 - anticipate significant removal. These Corrective Measures Study (CMS) reports will be out in June or July.
- ★ SWMU 38 had elevated levels of pesticides in the soils. Environmental Detachment did the removal. The interim measure report said the objective has been met.
- ★ SWMUs 42 and 505 - the Corrective Measures Study report is due.
- ★ AOC 607 - In the next two weeks, EnSafe will be starting a study that entails dewatering and soil vapor extraction. More vent and extraction wells will be put in.
- ★ Zone H Corrective Measures Study reports coming out in June or July.
- ★ SWMU 166 - The aerobic/anaerobic treatability study is nearing completion. One more permit needs approval. Also, Navy will be completing the RFI study.

Mr. Spariosu inquired about the dispute in Zone A with Mayor Summey and the RDA. Mr. Dodds advised that the area is cleaned up for unrestricted use, but a draft report has not yet been issued.

Mr. Dearhart inquired about the river and Mr. Dodds advised they're taking quite a bit of data and selecting screening objectives to compare the data to. Research Lab has been doing studies in the Cooper River for contamination and sources of contamination. SouthDiv is going to wrap up that study into the Navy's proposal. SouthDiv is expecting to receive this report in November.

Mr. Dearhart wanted to know if SouthDiv will be doing sediment investigation in the Cooper River deeper than six inches if the Ports Authority dredges deeper. Mr. Hunt stated that SouthDiv's assessment is to only look at existing conditions. When the Ports Authority gets their dredge permits, they have to sample the full dredge depth.

Mr. Gabriel Magwood announced that:

- ★ Zone 8 work has been completed.
- ★ at Zones D, C, E & G, they will start putting in monitoring wells next week.
- ★ Zone I - just received approval to begin work.
- ★ Zone F - 40 percent completed with the field work.

Chicora Tank Farm Report

Mr. Magwood provided an update to the RAB on the progress at the Chicora Tank Farm.

- ★ Tanks P, K & L have been permanently closed and will be demolished.
- ★ Tank M is in the process of being closed and demolished.
- ★ Tank N is being unearthed.
- ★ The fuel line on the Chicora property and the transfer lines that run from the Chicora tank farm to the Naval base have been pigged and cleaned. The foam contractor has

started filling the field lines with foam.

Pictures were presented of uncovering the tanks, demolition of tanks, pigging the lines and grading the property. As SouthDiv was pigging the lines, they found three new areas of soil contamination near tank M. SouthDiv has removed 900 tons of contaminated soil out of one of the valve pits they uncovered, and the soil is now slightly above the risk-based screening level (RBSL).

Back in the '92-'93 time frame, petroleum contamination was not detected in these areas. Mr Magwood says what happened is the fuel sat in the tanks and pipelines and caused the tanks and lines to corrode, creating spots where fuel could leak out. That's why there are now pockets of contamination near these leaking spots.

Tetra Tech is doing an assessment plan on these areas and expect approval soon from DHEC. The target date for them to be in the field is June 30th.

Mr. Mintz wondered if there was a response back from the Board of Education on this property. Mr. Shepard relayed that it is in the process. Mr. Pinckney queried about the final look of the three tanks that were demolished. Mr. Magwood replied that the height of the mounds after demolishing the tanks is 16 feet at mean sea level. There is a slight rise for drainage reasons. The last tank is expected to be completed in August.

Outsourcing Discussion

Mr. Hunt described the insured, fixed priced contracts on the remaining environmental work. The insurance is for the financial liability of the company should unknown circumstances exist, and it would cover the cost of taking care of those unknown circumstances. The contract will not have any change clauses. The contractors will be required to get cost cap insurance, which means that whatever additional costs are associated, the insurance will absorb those costs. This also applies to any regulatory changes in the future.

SouthDiv is trying to complete the investigation phases of the RCRA program, the UST program, and the lead based paint work so that they can begin the corrective measures studies or actions. SouthDiv understands that the regulatory agencies deal with private industry much differently than they deal with federal facilities, so there will be some changes there.

The new contractor will be determining and negotiating with the regulatory agencies what sort of corrective measures have to be taken, the cleanup levels involved and essentially managing the program.

The Navy will be measuring their performance and mainly doing contract administration. The Navy will make decisions on whether the contractor's remedial alternatives meet the Navy's interest in reducing long-term liability. The Navy will still be involved with the RAB in soliciting questions and comments and making sure that those concerns are incorporated in the remedy selection. It will be the contractor's responsibility to attend the RAB meetings and provide information.

The biggest change will probably be the pace of the work. The contractor is going to do the work as fast and timely as possible.

The implementation schedule is to be incorporated into a draft request for proposals (RFP) issued from June 10th to July 7. After the final RFP is issued, there will be a proposal conference to answer any questions that the bidders may have. Then there will be a Phase 1 Request For Qualifications. There will be a screening of the potential contractors, narrowing the group to three. Those three contractors will prepare a proposal due in November and from that the Navy will make a selection in December.

The bidders will be given access to information on the base, the RFI investigation, corrective measure studies and corrective measure actions, the UST program, lead based paint abatement and asbestos surveys.

Mr. Mintz inquired if Bechtel had anything to do with this outsourcing program. Mr. Hunt responded they would have an opportunity to bid on this program.

Mr. Shepard asked why the Navy was doing more asbestos surveys. Mr. Hunt responded that the Navy needed updated surveys for the appraisal and for transfer of property.

Mr. Mintz inquired if DHEC or the EPA was enthusiastic on this program. Mr. Spariosu said the EPA is committed to cleaning up the site and will work with whatever mechanism that the Navy chooses. The EPA will still hold the Navy responsible for the cleanup. The Navy will continue to hold the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit.

There was discussion about Zone J (the water bodies) and Mr. Hunt recognized that there are some things that they can't define well enough to include in the new contract. Also, the Navy will have to apply some restrictions in the contract about unexploded ordinance.

Mr. Spariosu stated that EPA's concern is how the Navy will work out the issue if the community doesn't like the contractor's remedy. The way EPA looks at RFI law is the Navy is committed to the response of the community. EPA has worked hard to establish a partnering relationship with the Navy to do these cleanups without bringing lawyers to the table. He said he feels it works well.

Mr. Dearhart requested when the funding would be available. Mr. Hunt was assured that the Navy will have full funding available. Mr. Hunt said that the Navy was not providing cost estimates, but that one number was given out for this proposal at the industry forum: \$35 million.

DHEC's Cancer Investigation Report

Ms. Ann Clark spoke about a recent project that looked at incidences of cancer in the Neck area of Charleston. A copy of DHEC's report was also provided. DHEC found excess pleural cancer in the 29405 ZIP Code area, so they expanded the research to the Tricounty region. DHEC found 19 cases of pleural cancer, two-thirds of which were former shipyard workers. There will be a lot of follow-

up on this survey.

Ms. Clark also took the opportunity to remind the board, and the community, that there is still a fish advisory for Shipyard Creek. The advisory is to avoid eating shrimp or blue crab from Shipyard Creek because of chromium contamination.

Mr. Pinckney asked if the Navy was going to take any steps to check out more people or was looking at paying for people to check themselves out. Mr. Hunt provided information on a toll free number in Philadelphia to get directions and instructions on how to proceed if you think you have a medical condition. He noted that these inquiries would normally be handled locally, through the Personnel Office at the base, but that there are no longer representatives of Personnel on base.

Mr. Mintz asked how one might differentiate between the responsibility of the Navy or other industries and other factors (such as smoking). Ms. Clark responded that there are all kinds of factors that go into epidemiological studies and that further studies are being done.

Remaining Questions and Comments

There was a discussion about why the RAB meetings were moved to every other month. Mr. Hunt responded that it was decided to have meetings every other month because monthly meetings were becoming redundant, with not enough new information or updates available. He also noted that this could change.

There was a question from the audience about the property the School Board was going to buy and the members were advised that the School Board had put in their application.

Minutes approved by:

Tony Hunt
Navy Co-Chair

Louis Mintz
Community Co-Chair

NOTE: *The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 13 at 6:00 p.m. at the Live Oak Community Center, 2012 Success St., N. Charleston, SC.*