



Naval Air Station South Weymouth, MA Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes July 9, 2009

1. INTRODUCTIONS/ APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

John Goodrich (Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution & Public Collaboration facilitator) opened the meeting at approximately 7:00 PM. He requested that all attendees, including RAB members, regulators, and audience members, introduce themselves. He noted that the meeting agenda, handouts, and the sign-in sheet were available on the back table. The sign-in sheet for the meeting is provided as Attachment A to this meeting summary. J. Goodrich asked if everyone had time to read the minutes from the May 2009 RAB meeting and if there were any comments. There were no comments on the minutes.

J. Goodrich then reviewed the ground rules for the meeting and reminded the meeting attendees that the focus of the meeting is cleanup issues; redevelopment issues will be placed on the 'parking lot.' He reviewed the guidelines for the meeting and reminded the participants when asking questions to wait to speak until they are acknowledged, to state their names and affiliations, and to speak clearly or into the microphone when they have questions.

He then reviewed the agenda for the meeting. The meeting agenda and the Action Item Tracking List are provided as Attachment B to this meeting summary. In accordance with the agenda, the presentation and discussion would be followed by the Updates and Action Items portion of the meeting.

2. PRESENTATION

J. Goodrich introduced Phoebe Call (Tetra Tech NUS) to give the presentation, an update on the environmental sites at the Base. Selected slides from the presentation are included as Attachment C.

P. Call stated that the presentation would be an update for all of the sites that still have environmental activities associated with them. The objectives of the presentation are to describe the current and future planned activities at the sites, as well as summarize the conclusions and recommendations of the Five-Year Review (Slide 2). The presentation included an update and photograph for each of the sites described below.

Installation Restoration (IR) Sites

The IR Sites that have ongoing environmental activities include Building 81, Building 82, Solvent Release Area (SRA), West Gate Landfill (WGL), former Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Small Landfill, and the Rubble Disposal Area (RDA). For the Building 81, Building 82, and SRA sites, Remedial Investigations/Feasibility Studies are underway. The WGL and STP sites are both in the Remedial Design/Remedial Action stages. The Small Landfill is in a design phase in accordance with state solid waste regulations. The RDA is in the post-closure phase. There are RODs in place for these four sites.

A Work Plan Addendum for the Building 81 RI is being finalized and the supplemental field program is planned to begin in August 2009. Both the draft final RI and draft FS are scheduled to be issued in November 2009, and the final versions are scheduled for January 2010 and May 2010, respectively. The proposed plan is anticipated for August 2010 with the ROD in November 2010 (Slide 3).

The supplemental field program for the Building 82 RI was conducted in May 2009. The draft final RI and draft FS are both due in August 2009. The Final RI is scheduled for completion in October 2009 and the Final FS is scheduled for completion in February 2010. The proposed plan is anticipated for May 2010 and the ROD for August 2010 (Slide 4).

The supplemental field program for the SRA RI is scheduled to begin in July 2009 with the draft final RI and draft FS anticipated for completion in October 2009. The Final RI is scheduled for December 2009; the Final FS is scheduled for April 2010. The Proposed Plan is anticipated for July 2010 and the ROD for October 2010 (Slide 5).

The WGL is in the remedial design stage; this process began in December 2008 with the installation of fencing and erosion control (Slide 6). The Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) field program was conducted from April to June 2009 and the draft and final PDI report are scheduled for August and December 2009, respectively. The draft RD is scheduled for October 2009, with the final design anticipated in February 2010. The remedial action (RA) is planned to be completed from March to July 2010 and the RA Completion Report is scheduled for September 2010. D. Galluzzo asked if the WGL was fenced and there was signage. D. Barney responded that the fence was in place and there was a sign along Trotter Road.

The STP final PDI report was completed in March 2009 (Slide 7). The RD/RA work plan will be finalized and the RA construction/excavation will begin in July 2009. For the RA, soil will be excavated to approximately 1 foot and will likely be transported offsite for use at an asphalt patching plant. It is anticipated that the RA completion report will be completed in October 2009.

The Final Corrective Action Design for the Small Landfill is scheduled for September 2009. The site was closed out under CERCLA, but the ROD required that the landfill be capped consistent with state regulations. Construction of the cap is anticipated to begin in November 2009 and should be completed in April 2010 (Slide 8). After the cap is completed, long term monitoring (LTM) and operations and maintenance (O&M) will begin in May 2010.

The remedy for the RDA has been completed. Following two years of quarterly monitoring, the long-term monitoring program changed to semi-annual events in March 2009. Landfill repairs, maintenance, and a wetland inspection were conducted in June 2009. The Land Use Control Implementation Plan is scheduled to be completed in July 2009. There will be another semi-annual LTM event and a Wetland Functions and Values Assessment performed in September 2009 (Slide 9). The Wetland Functions and Values Assessment will assess the wetland conditions now that the remedy has been in place for 5 years.

Areas of Concern (AOCs) Sites

A Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) is being prepared for the Industrial Area (AOCs 14 and 83). Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) documents are being prepared for AOC 55C and the Main Gate sites to evaluate alternatives for removal actions. A streamlined risk assessment is being performed for Hangar 1.

Additional investigation is planned for the central portion of the Base (Industrial Area). This area encompasses AOCs 14 and 83, as well as RIAs 33 and 82 (Slide 10). The draft SAP is anticipated to be completed in September 2009, with the final SAP anticipated in April 2010. The field program is also scheduled to begin in April 2010.

A public comment period for the AOC 55C EE/CA is anticipated for July 2009, and after public comments are received a responsiveness summary will be prepared (August 2009). The final EE/CA and Action Memo (which documents the selected remedy for the Site) are scheduled for September 2009, with the removal action planned for the winter of 2009/2010 (Slide 11). The proposed plan is scheduled for July 2010. Since the removal action will be completed prior to the proposed plan, the plan will recommend No Further Action, because the contaminants that drove the risk will have been removed. The ROD is scheduled for October 2010.

The Main Gate site is located directly behind the Southfield stone wall. The draft EE/CA was submitted in June 2009 and, after the 30-day public comment period (September), a responsiveness summary will be prepared (November 2009) (Slide 12). The final EE/CA and Action Memo are anticipated for December

2009, with the removal action planned for the winter of 2009/2010. Similar to AOC 55C, the removal action will occur before the Proposed Plan (May 2010), so the suggested action will be No Further Action. The ROD is scheduled for October 2010.

A draft Risk Assessment for Hangar 1 is scheduled for September 2009 (final in December 2009) to evaluate the concentrations of contaminants that were found at this site (Slide 13). The goal of the risk assessment is to document that, following a removal action at Hangar 1, No Further Action is necessary. This recommendation will be included in the Proposed Plan (pending the results from the risk assessment) anticipated for January 2010. The ROD will be prepared in June 2010.

Review Item Areas (RIAs)

Once the field investigations are completed at an RIA, the site is closed out through completion of a Decision Document. The Decision Documents for the following sites are in various stages of completion (Slide 14): RIA 10C, RIA 11, RIA 99, RIA 62 (French Stream), RIA 104 (Old Swamp River), RIA 110 (Southeast Antennae Field), and RIA 111. RIA 10C, RIA 11, and RIA 99 are all separate areas associated with Hangar 1, and were divided into unique sites based on the history of contamination found at those locations. A data gap sampling event is occurring at RIA 111 in July/August 2009 and the final Decision Document is anticipated for January 2010.

5-Year Review

The purpose of a 5-Year Review is to evaluate whether implemented remedies are protective of human health and the environment. At the Base the only site that currently has a remedy in place is the RDA, so that site was evaluated in detail. In addition, the remaining active sites were summarized in the document. With regard to the RDA, three questions needed to be answered (Slide 15).

- 1). Is the remedy functioning as intended? The 5-year review concluded, yes.
- 2). Are the assumptions used when the remedy was selected still valid? The 5-year review concluded, yes.
- 3). Has any other information come to light that could call into question the protectiveness of the remedy? The 5-year review concluded, no.

There were a number of recommendations in the 5-year review for the RDA, for example, replacing background monitoring wells, invasive species control and implementation of the land use control plan (Slide 16). The protectiveness statement (Slide 17) stated that the remedy currently protects human health because long term monitoring activities are being conducted and the property is under the control

of the U.S. Navy. To continue to remain protective long-term monitoring needs to continue, the land use control implementation plan needs to be put into place, landfill gases need to be monitored (incorporated into LTM events), and future 5-year reviews should include an evaluation of contaminants in groundwater and surface water at the RDA that do not have associated RGs, MCLs, MMCLs, or NRWQC criteria.

T. Pries asked if the beetle found at RDA that naturally controls purple loostrife was native or introduced. P. Call responded that the beetle is native and was not manually introduced to the RDA wetlands.

Will the 2009 Wetlands Inspection Report be available to the public? P. Call stated that it would be available by Monday (7/13/09) at the public libraries.

What are the land use control measures going to be for RDA? P. Call responded that the land use control implementation plan prescribes the actions needed to be taken to maintain the protectiveness of the remedy, i.e. periodic inspections of the landfill cap.

Are there additional restrictions for public use of the landfill? There are no motorized/snowmobiles allowed on the landfill cap. The land use control implementation plan contains a bulleted list of acceptable, as well as restricted, activities.

P. Call showed photographs of the June 2009 RDA inspection and the WGL field activities including test pitting, debris survey, transformer soil sampling, soil borings, bedrock monitoring well installation, and groundwater sampling.

J. Cunningham asked how deep the cap will be from the surface. D. Barney estimated that the RDA cap is approximately 2 feet thick; he expects that the WGL cap will be thicker. He noted that a cap is constructed of various layers, which will be adequate to avoid possible exposure to the materials in the landfill.

A question was asked if you can look for transformers in another way besides visual inspection. In response, it was noted that a geophysics survey was conducted and soil samples were collected as methods used during the WGL PDI to investigate the presence of transformers. The cap and design will not allow any surficial exposure of the debris buried at the site. Long term monitoring will be conducted to ensure that contaminants are not leaving the site.

Is the east-west parkway designed to go over the WGL? D. Barney responded that it is not part of the Navy's design.

There was a concern about closing out RIA 62 (French Stream) before the WGL is capped. Might the work activities that are occurring at WGL affect RIA 62, shouldn't the Decision Document wait until after the landfill cap is constructed? D. Barney stated that WGL design would likely include surface water sampling so if the site impacts French Stream, the Navy would deal with it as part of the WGL actions. D. Chaffin added that if the actions at the WGL caused impacts in French Stream, then any follow up actions would become part of the WGL site.

D. Galluzzo asked if the data from French Stream could be used as a baseline for review for samples collected periodically after the landfill has been capped. D. Barney noted that LTM will be in place after construction and the details will be determined during the design.

P. Scannell was concerned about leachate from WGL impacting French Stream. D. Chaffin stated that if there was leachate entering French Stream they would see it in the samples and could perform a risk assessment using the data. This assessment would be performed to see if an action was necessary to stop the discharge. Monitoring wells will be in place between the waste and French Stream, and samples will most likely be taken from the stream (like RDA) to monitor the Site after the cap is in place.

H. Welch asked about the landfill design. D. Barney described the typical layers in an engineered cap, clay, crushed stoned, grading, etc.

M. Parsons asked who will do the WGL monitoring. D. Barney stated that Navy is responsible and will hire someone to perform the monitoring. The LTM requirements and terms have not yet been developed.

During the inspection drums were seen in WGL – are those Navy drums and what was in them? D. Barney stated that they were Navy drums, but there is no way to tell what was in them. P. Call added that during the inspection the drums were looked at carefully to see if there was evidence of contamination, and there was no evidence seen. D. Chaffin noted that sediment sampling was conducted around the perimeter of the landfill, so if something did get out of one of those drums you would expect to pick it up in the sample. The design of the landfill will include pulling back the debris, such as drums, that is in the wetland, and then confirmatory sampling will occur.

M. Parsons asked what the land use controls are. D. Barney responded that they are described in the ROD.

M. Bromberg asked if SSTITDC is performing the LTM at RDA. D. Barney responded that after the transfer SSTITDC may perform the LTM but that is not definite. The Navy will always remain responsible for the work to be done and the DEP and EPA will oversee whoever is doing the clean up work.

D. Galluzzo asked how the public will know when reports and information are available. D. Barney stated that the reports are always available in the local libraries. M. Parsons commented that they would like a notice in the newspaper when the documents are available.

3. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS

Action Items: There were no Action Items.

RAB Administrative Actions: D. Barney stated that there has been some discussion about how to solicit additional RAB members. For example, MMR did a press release soliciting new members just to put the word out. D. Barney and J. Cunningham will discuss this possibility further.

MassDEP Update: D. Chaffin stated there was nothing to report.

IR/EBS Program Site Update: D. Barney stated that P. Call gave a general update but he wants to emphasize that Navy is performing actions on all remaining sites that require assessment, investigation, remediation, and clean-up. The Navy is moving forward with all the sites discussed tonight. Maps were provided at the meeting which show where all the sites are. D. Barney indicated that people should feel free to use him as a resource if you want/can't find any information. D. Barney stated he met with the designers for the WGL cap (Shaw Infrastructure and Environment from NJ) and they are very experienced with landfill capping. They walked the Site and are moving forward with the design.

FOST/FOSL Update: D. Barney stated that Navy would be submitting a FOST 5B for public comment within the next week or so. This is a small 36-acre group of parcels that includes RIA 110 (by Oregon St), RDA, RIA 104 (Old Swamp River), and portions of the TACAN and East Mat Ditch area. Not all of the East Mat Ditch area is being transferred; the areas within the confines of the SRA site are not included. The legal notice announcing the FOST will be in the papers next week.

SSTTDC Update: There were questions about the land that was transferred using the public benefit conveyance (PBC) and when that would be available to the public. J. Young responded that the PBC land (225 acres) that was transferred to Tri-Town is still owned by Tri-Town. This land was not transferred to LNR. An application to the National Park Service has been completed, and there are a number of regulatory requirements that are imposed on the land. SSTTDC is trying to phase in areas of the parkland in conjunction with the build out of the property. Right now the northern portion of the Base has fairly easy access and is planned for development, so hopefully that will be available to the public first. The remaining land associated with the PBC was not ready for public access when prior FOSTs were transferred. There are access issues and safety issues that are being worked on.

There was a question concerning the yellow areas indicated on the map posted on the wall, which are the sites still requiring clean up. Will those sites remain with the Navy until cleanup is completed? D. Barney stated yes, they will remain Navy property until all remedial actions are complete.

Conclusion/Next Meeting

J. Goodrich wrapped up the meeting. Suggestions for topics for the next meeting include:

- RDA wetland inspection
- STP remedial action
- WGL information/design plans (may be more information available for November)
- Main Gate
- Base security (holes in the fence and impact on wildlife)

M. Bromberg commented that he would prefer to hear more about WGL.

The next RAB meeting will be the second Thursday in September (September 10, 2009).