

**Travis Air Force Base
Environmental Restoration Program
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting**

Final Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2022

Name	Affiliation	Present
Lt. Col. Nikki Droney	USAF, Travis AFB (Air Force Co-Chair)	✓
John Foster	RAB Member	✓
W.T. Jeanpierre	RAB Member	
Thomas Randall	RAB Member	
Mike Reagan	RAB Member	✓
Patricia Shamansky	RAB Member	✓
Adriana Constantinescu	SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	✓
Nadia Hollan Burke	US Environmental Protection Agency	✓
Kimiye Touchi	Department of Toxic Substances Control	✓

Public Members Present:

- Mark Goltz Community Member
- Rosemary Ingram Community Member
- Jared Neumayer Community Member
- Mark Smith Retired Travis AFB staff

Agencies and Contractors Present:

- Mobashir Ahmad Travis AFB
- Lonnie Duke Travis AFB
- Kim Rasmussen Travis AFB
- Chet Storrs Travis AFB
- Angel Santiago Travis AFB
- Lou Briscese Travis AFB PAO
- Kerry Klosterman DTSC
- Megan Duley SRS/Oneida
- Chris Coonfare FPM
- Jill Dunphy Jacobs
- Leslie Royer Jacobs
- Jessica Faragalli USACE

1. Administrative Notes

Mr. Chet Storrs, Restoration Program Manager, called to order the regular meeting of the Travis AFB RAB at 7:00 p.m. on April 21, 2022. The meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Mr. Storrs introduced himself and provided a brief overview of the Travis AFB Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) and its duties. He noted that the ERP team works collaboratively with the regulatory agencies. He added this evening's meeting is one component of the ERP's community outreach activities.

An Agenda overview was provided for attendees.

(Note: The presentation slides are included as an attachment after the meeting minutes.)

Mr. Storrs gave instructions for participating in the virtual meeting.

2. Welcome Remarks and Introductions

Mr. Storrs noted the following:

Colonel Melvin Maxwell Jr. of the 60th Mission Support Group Commander, is the official Air Force RAB co-chair for Travis AFB, but he was unable to attend.

Lt. Col. Nikki Droney is present and is representing the Air Force at this meeting.

Lt. Col. Droney thanked the RAB Members for welcoming her and was looking forward to the evening's meeting.

The Community Co-Chair role is currently vacant.

RAB Members and community members in attendance were announced.

Regulatory agencies attending the meeting were listed and introduced themselves.

Government agencies and contractors in attendance were noted and introduced themselves.

3. RAB Discussion

RAB Members from the community are always sought and welcomed.

In October an in-person RAB meeting is scheduled.

The RAB Charter utilized by Travis Air Force Base was established July 21, 1995.

The RAB's purpose is to establish and maintain a forum with the Air Force, regulatory agencies and the community, including fostering relationships, involving the community, exchanging information, and sharing decision-making.

RAB membership criteria were discussed.

A slide with links to salient records and documents was shown.

4. Overviews

Per-and polyFluoroAlkyl Substances (PFAS)

PFAS compounds have existed since the 1950s.

These chemicals are used for non-stick cooking surfaces, electrical wire insulation, waterproofing, food packaging, in clothing and furniture and various other applications.

There are over 4,700 chemicals in the PFAS family.

This evening's primary discussion will be around PFOA, PFBS and PFOS.

The EPA has established a health advisory for regional screening levels for these chemicals.

PFAS chemicals do not readily break down in the environment. They are known as Forever chemicals.

They can move through soils and impact drinking water sources as well as build up (bio-accumulate) in fish, wildlife and humans and are found in water bodies globally.

These compounds are linked to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and to kidney, testicular, prostate, breast, liver and ovarian cancers.

AFFF Remedial Investigation

Aqueous Film Forming Foam contains PFOS, PFOA and PFBS.

This foam was developed in the 1960s by the Navy and the Air Force started using it in the 1970s.

It is used extensively in fire response around the world on military bases, chemical refineries, sea going vessels, and civilian airports.

Once the foam is applied to a fire it can work its way into groundwater supplies.

Remediation of these chemicals is measured in parts per trillion (ppt)

The Air Force uses the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) protocol as well as applicable state laws and the EPA's screening values in dealing with these chemicals. This protocol promotes accountability, community involvement and long-term protection of human health and the environment.

The Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC) is the lead Air Force agency for environmental work.

Travis Air Force Base has advanced significantly along the CERCLA process.

In the time period 2018-2021 the Air Force replaced the legacy AFFF formula with environmentally responsible fire-fighting foam.

Project Manager Megan Duley with Oneida presented the following:

One of the primary steps in the CERCLA process is the Remedial Investigation.

Performance of the Investigation is directed by CERCLA.

The Remedial Investigation at Travis AFB concerns 16 AFFF past release areas and was started in July 2020.

The 16 AFFF areas were identified in the 2017 Site Inspection.

Additional off-base site inspection activities occurred in 2020 and 2021 and that data is being considered as the process moves forward.

A slide with a map showing the areas pertinent to the Remedial Investigation was shared with attendees.

AFFF Remedial Investigation activities include soil/sediment sampling, on-base/off-base groundwater sampling, stormwater discharges into Union Creek sampling and installation of new groundwater monitoring wells.

These activities will help develop an understanding of the horizontal and vertical extent of PFOS/PFOA/PFBS impacted media.

The sequence of events dictated by the CERCLA process was discussed.

Implementing the CERCLA process will utilize a collaborative process with appropriate agencies.

A Lysimeter is a percolation instrument used to measure surface water moving through an interim portion of soil/permeable rock etc. before it gets to the groundwater level or the levels being sampled.

Mr. Storrs detailed a number of sterilization and/or cleaning procedures needed to make personnel and equipment as free of PFAS as possible.

Non-PFAS related restoration activities have been happening at Travis AFB for the last 10 years.

Other non-PFAS Related Restoration Activities

Project Manager Leslie Royer with Jacobs presented the following:

An overview of the typical activities performed at the established environmental restoration program sites.

Common terms such as Land Use Control (LUC), Long Term Management (LTM), Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and groundwater monitoring were defined and discussed.

A slide showing the 21 established ERP site locations at Travis AFB was discussed.

A typical year of field activities was presented.

There are two types of main treatment types at Travis AFB. They are bioreactors and groundwater extraction and treatment systems.

The Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) is a site used to safely manage contaminated soil excavated from sites around the Base.

These sites are inspected monthly and annual reports are produced.

Details of planned 2022 Fieldwork were discussed.

5. Agency Updates

Remedial Project Manager, Environmental Engineer, Nadia Hollan Burke of US EPA presented the following:

Ms. Burke mentioned a number of sites she was managing and mentioned that Travis AFB was her largest, most complicated, and most beloved site.

A timeline showing EPA PFAS Related Actions was shown and discussed.

Criteria and conditions triggering EPA PFAS Related Actions were discussed.

The three primary contaminants (PFOA, PFOS, PFBS) that the Air Force is looking at is based on the EPA identification of toxicity levels of the COCs (chemicals of concern).

Updated screening levels for the existing PFOA and PFAS and new additional PFAS will be specified in May 2022.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) pertaining to drinking water for PFOS and PFOA is expected to be issued in fall of 2022.

Methodologies to analyze for 29 PFAS chemicals in drinking water were developed, validated, and published by the EPA. The EPA is also developing a new method to test for PFAS in environmental media besides drinking water, including wastewater, surface water, groundwater, and soils.

Pertinent links for information regarding these chemicals of concern were shared.

EPA links detailing past and present actions by EPA were shown.

CERCLA and RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) law is managed and overseen by EPA.

Mr. Storrs mentioned that DOD won't take action unless there is an MCL, Maximum Contaminant Level directed by EPA.

Ms. Kimiye Touchi of DTSC presented the following:

DTSC is a California regulatory agency and is part of the team at Travis AFB.

DTSC's role at the Base is protection of human health and the environment from toxic substances that were discharged into the environment by past Air Force activities that are being investigated and cleaned up.

The Travis team usually meets monthly to update progress and discuss current developments and potential mitigation efforts.

Engineering Geologist Adriana Constantinescu of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board presented the following:

Ms. Constantinescu has overseen the ERP Project at Travis AFB for the last 10 years at the San Francisco Region Water Quality Control Board.

The Regulatory Update covered a description of the Water Board's oversight of Phase I Remedial Investigation of PFAS, a discussion of an environmental investigation at a petroleum-only contaminated site - the Water Board's oversight of Former UST 1768 Environmental Investigation and the 2022 California Drought.

A timeline of historical PFAS evaluations and documents produced and evaluated by the Water Board was presented.

The Water Board has reviewed and provided comments on the main site documents presented on Slide 42.

The PFAS Remedial Investigation Process was reviewed and discussed. It will be a multi-year process.

A map of the locations of the PFAS groundwater samplings was shown and discussed. Proposed future PFAS sampling locations were also shown on this slide.

The State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water and the Division of Water Quality are working closely with the Department of Defense on identifying and sampling of appropriate drinking water systems and drinking water sources that may be at risk of PFAS contamination from historic military operations.

In July 2018 drinking water notification levels for two PFAS was issued by the Water Board.

The California PFAS Strategic Action Plan was adopted by the Water Board in March 2019.

Enforcement orders pertaining to PFAS issued by the Water Board exceeds 4,400 data points.

Water Board staff reviews the data and is moving into phases of development, management, monitoring and treatment strategies for PFAS constituents.

Former UST (Underground Storage Tank) 1768 is located on the western side of Travis AFB.

The Site Conceptual Model for UST 1768 will provide data to help understand the risks to human health and the environment.

There exists in California a drought state of emergency.

Drought relieving efforts are being encouraged by all California residents and businesses as well.

The Porter-Cologne Act also known as the California Water Code was adopted in 1969 before the Clean Water Act and is the law that governs water quality regulations in California.

6. Closing Remarks

Mr. Storrs noted that the RAB meeting is a community relations forum and it is open to public input and commentary.

He mentioned that they are still looking for a Community Co-Chair and they can't vote without a military, Air Force and community Co-Chair present. RAB members are also still being sought.

Mr. John Foster, a RAB member volunteered to be the Community Co-Chair. During the October meeting, the RAB members will vote to approve Mr. Foster as Community Co-Chair. Potential new members will also be voted in at that time.

Mr. Storrs thanked all attendees and noted that anyone with questions and comments, or is interested in becoming a RAB member, could call or send them via email, and provided a phone number and email address .

7. Adjournment

Mr. Storrs adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.