

**Meeting Minutes
Travis Air Force Base
Environmental Restoration Program
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
27 January 2005**

RAB members present:

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Col Scott Hanson	Travis Air Force Base (AFB), RAB co-chair	✓
Whalen, Jim N.	Mayor Augustine's Office in Vacaville/RAB Community co-chair	
Call, Ray	Northern Solano County Association of Realtors	✓
Foster, John	Northern Solano County Association of Realtors	✓
Kanouff, David F.	National Association of Retired Federal Employees	✓
Lucey, John	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)	✓
Marianno, David	Suisun City Resident	✓
Moriarty, Eamon	Goodrich Corporation	✓
Morad, Cyrus	Fairfield Resident	✓
Alan Friedman	SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board)	✓
Mike Reagan	Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee	
Root, Rev. David	Crosswinds Church	✓
Rundlett, John	Suisun City Council	
Salcedo, Jose	Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)	✓
Taylor, William W.	Travis Unified School District	✓
Tolentino, Ron	Solano Garbage Company	
Velez, Phil	Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee	✓

Public Members present:

Agencies and Contractors present:

- Lt Col Richard Houghton Travis AFB
- Mark Smith Travis AFB
- Glenn Anderson Travis AFB
- Wilford Day Travis AFB
- Linda Weese Travis AFB
- Tom Sreenivasan Travis AFB
- Steve Stopher Travis AFB
- Gregory Parrott Travis AFB
- Kristine Escarda DTSC

- Elizabeth Allen TechLaw
- Eric Rixen Shaw
- Mike Wray CH2M Hill
- Nick Sjaarda Jacobs
- Amir Matin URS
- Jim Jerrell Fairfield resident
- Sheila Smith Fairfield resident

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Mark Smith welcomed the attendees and introduced the new Air Force Co-Chair, Col Scott Hanson. Col Hanson is the Vice Wing Commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing at Travis AFB.

Mr. Smith gave the purpose of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The RAB serves a two-fold purpose. Firstly, by providing a forum through which members of the public, representatives of the community and installation, and regulatory agencies can all discuss and exchange information about the Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Program. Secondly, the RAB gives the stakeholders an opportunity to participate in the cleanup process and make their views known to the decision makers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The October 2004 RAB meeting minutes were approved and went final.

Additional Agenda Items, Comments, and Questions

None

DISCUSSION TOPICS

NEWIOU Soil ROD Status

Mr. Sreenivasan gave an update on the North, East, West Industrial Operable Unit (NEWIOU) Soil Record of Decision (ROD).

The remaining key steps are completing the Ecological Technical Memorandum and issuing the Draft Record of Decision (ROD).

Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum – the Air Force issued the revised draft Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum on 12 November 2004. It incorporates agency comments on the draft Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum, provides updates for the ecological risk assessment based on the results of the 2004 sampling of Union Creek, and identifies the selected remedy and supporting rationale for each of the 18 sites. The agencies are in the process of completing their review and providing comments.

Draft Record of Decision – the draft ROD will incorporate all data, comments, and agreements. The Air Force has developed a working copy of the ROD for review by Air Mobility Command (AMC) and Air Staff. Travis AFB anticipates that the Air Force’s comments will be resolved and the draft ROD will be submitted to the agencies by 10 February 2005.

RAB (Last 10 Years)

Mr. Anderson gave a presentation on the involvement of the Travis AFB Restoration Advisory Board during the past ten years.

Mr. Anderson stated that it is the Air Force's vision to build partnerships with interested stakeholders.

The Air Force started with the Technical Review Committee as a means to make stakeholder connections. These meeting encompassed technical presentations and answered questions; however, there was no real public participation involved.

On 12 January 1995, Travis AFB formed the Restoration Advisory Board which encouraged public participation.

Mr. Foster gave recognition to Mr. David Marianno and Mr. David Kanouff for their participation for the last ten years. (Mr. Marianno and Mr. Kanouff are original RAB members.)

General RAB Contributions

The RAB has contributed advice on most aspects of the Travis Restoration program; established focus groups to address specific technical reviews, budget, relative risk, and community involvement issues; and provided an effective flow of information to and from other community members.

Specific RAB Contributions

The RAB provided an avenue in which the Air Force was able to communicate technical findings and answer questions surrounding the B-29 Crash; promoted the early cleanup of the Cypress Lakes Golf Course maintenance yard that resulted in reaching residential soil cleanup levels, and initiated community outreach programs at the Golden West Middle School developed by former RAB member, Ms. Emily Rued.

RAB members have an opportunity to voice their concerns at RAB meetings and through the Travis AFB environmental newsletter, *Guardian*.

The RAB Technical Review focus group reviewed draft documents and provided excellent suggestions for improving the documents. Two RAB members stood out in this effort, Mr. Jon Weiss and Mr. John Foster.

Other RAB Accomplishments

In 1996-1997 timeframe, the RAB pushed for stable funding through written communication with AMC. This resulted in field actions being completed without delays. RAB members worked with Travis AFB to select cleanup priorities and gain AMC's approval of the overall program.

Accolades were given to the Travis AFB RAB for promoting a friendly working environment and positive impacts on the Travis AFB's restoration program.

Mr. Foster stated *“It occurred to me is that this has been a forum because the advice is not necessarily just for us to hear, members of the public, but the forum of having regulatory agencies, the public, and Travis – everyone here, contractors in the room... that advice and interaction is heard by everyone and then questions can come up from agencies and can be answered. That forum has been a way to communicate that you wouldn’t normally have just in your normal communication. That forum, I think is what has helped you structure the RAB itself. I remember hearing the budget that came up time after time and I think that was a very positive experience for the chair and co-chairs to realize that there is a lot of people that put a lot of hard work in these programs and find another way to stretch the budget. Just having that forum, I think is a duly accomplishment.*

Mr. Marianno stated *“I’d like to commend Glenn on one of his shortest presentations. But, after serving ten years on the RAB, it has been a real pleasure. Probably my picture of the federal government spending money carelessly and for whatever reason, certainly has been dispelled over the ten years. That this group that has been involved in removing the waste at Travis’s contamination, has done everything and beyond what I ever anticipated to try to find more economic ways in doing it rather than what somebody else is doing. And I really pass that word along when I hear people say ‘oh, that damn government, they’re just out there spending...’ I’ve always told them that I’ve been impressed with them, with the group that has been working with eliminating the waste at Travis. It has been a learning experience for me, an eye opener, and so thank you all.*

RAB (Next 10 Years)

Mr. Smith gave a presentation on involvement of the Travis AFB Restoration Advisory Board for the next ten years.

Future Cleanup

Soil actions include those in the NEWIOU, and there is one remaining West/Annexes/ Basewide Operable Unit (WABOU) site to be cleaned.

As for groundwater, Travis AFB will continue pump-and-treat and monitoring efforts. Travis AFB will continue to look at more innovative technologies for groundwater cleanup, along with developing a Basewide Groundwater Record of Decision.

A map was shown that depicted the remaining soil and groundwater sites.

Note: Mr. Marianno announced that Ms. Barbara Settle recently passed away.

Mr. Velez asked whether this information has been incorporated with the BRAC coming up. Does Travis AFB have anything that will impact the BRAC procedure? Mr. Smith stated that it is his purpose to clean up as much land as possible for Travis AFB to use. Travis AFB does not have any drinking water wells, and as long as the ERP is able to make as much land as possible useable to support the base mission, the restoration issues should not work against us during a BRAC.

Mr. Foster stated that it is his knowledge that pump-and-treat will go on for 200 years; it is his opinion that Travis AFB should be kept open in order to complete the cleanup actions.

Mr. Morad asked for a map that shows the original sites and how the plumes had changed in the past ten years. Mr. Smith stated that he could show how the plumes had changed over the years at a future meeting.

A current cleanup timeline was shown that depicted future RAB involvement. RAB members will be asked to review and comment on the following documents:

- NEWIOU Record of Decision
- Remedial Designs
- Remedial Action Work Plans
- No Further Remedial Action Plans (NFRAPs)
- Site Closure Reports
- Basewide Groundwater Record of Decision

A proposed cleanup timeline was also shown. Mr. Smith is proposing to combine all soil actions into one construction season (2006). This would result in a cost savings of \$1 million. Travis AFB would also be able to reduce its manpower costs after the soil work is completed.

Recapping RAB Timeline

- 2005 – NEWIOU Soil Record of Decision
- Early 2006 – Soil Documents
- Dry Season 2006 – Soil Actions
- Early 2008 – 2nd Groundwater 5-Year Review
- 2008 and beyond – Basewide Groundwater Record of Decision and Groundwater Actions

Future RAB Involvement

RAB involvement will decrease because the program is winding down. Decreased involvement signifies success of the RAB efforts to date. The meetings and community involvement efforts will continue as long as interest in the program exists.

Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Foster had previously suggested a decrease in the frequency of RAB meetings. Mr. Foster then recommended the RAB consider having RAB meetings in April and October and have a base tour in June. It was agreed that this will be voted on during the April RAB meeting.

Focus Groups

The Budget Focus Group may not need to meet, if AMC accepts Mr. Smith's latest program proposal. The Technical Review Focus Group will be called upon to review the aforementioned documents and the Community Relations Focus Group will be supported by the Air Force as the RAB sees necessary.

Restoration Newsletter

The newsletter may be more RAB specific, covering program issues as well as projects. The newsletter will also be available for download at any time via the web site.

CLEANUP PROGRAM STATUS REPORT FT004 Enhanced Solvent Removal

Mr. Sreenivasan gave a presentation on FT004 Enhanced Solvent Removal.

This presentation described the removal of trichloroethene (TCE) from the hot spot located at the former Fire Training Area (FT004). The project objective is to optimize remediation of the contamination “hot spot” at the site.

A map was shown of the FT004 groundwater plume. The plume resides well within the boundary of Travis AFB and is contained. Three extraction wells were installed and are in operation to remove contaminants from the hotspot location. Sequential photographs of the construction of three extraction wells and their connections to the North Groundwater Treatment Plant were shown. The total length piping for this project was approximately 400 feet. The new system start up took place on 15 November 2004. The new addition resulted in an increase water flow from 32 gallons per minute (gpm) to 38 gpm to the North Groundwater Treatment Plant. The plant’s design capacity is 50 gpm. The system performance and effectiveness will be evaluated quarterly to quantify the contaminant reduction at this site.

Mr. Taylor asked how the hotspot was discovered. Mr. Sreenivasan stated that it was discovered through prior remedial investigation and sampling.

Mr. Foster asked why place pipe underground instead of aboveground. Mr. Smith stated pipe is placed underground in order to keep land available for use. Piping aboveground was installed for the LF007C project for environmental reasons (vernal pool preservation).

REGULATORY AGENCY REPORT

The regulatory agency representatives, Mr. John Lucey and Mr. Jose Salcedo, handed out certificates of appreciation to the RAB members for their dedication and community service. Ms Kristine Escarda offered to mail the certificates to those that were not able to attend the meeting.

FOCUS GROUP REPORTS.

None.

RAB/PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- Mr. Foster suggested a change in the RAB schedule such as meeting in April and October along with a tour. Mr. Taylor asked if there is anything in the law that requires a quarterly meeting. Mr. Smith stated that the meeting frequency can be established by the RAB. The focus groups can remain active if the RAB desires and he would call a Budget Focus Group meeting should one be required. Mr. Smith also agreed with Mr. Foster to reduce meeting frequency and to set that issue as an action item for the next RAB meeting.
- Mr. Taylor commented that twice a year with a summer tour would work.
- Col Hanson presented Mr. Dave Marianno with an award as a founding member.

NEXT MEETING

The next RAB meeting will be held at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors Office, Fairfield, California on 28 April 2005.

Agenda Items

Nomination for new RAB community co-chair

RAB proposed schedule – April and October with a summer RAB tour.