

**Travis Air Force Base
Environmental Management
Building 246, Upstairs Conference Room
Environmental Restoration Program
Remedial Program Managers Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

13 August 2003, 0930 Hours

Mr. Mark Smith, Travis Air Force Base (AFB), conducted the Remedial Program Managers (RPM) meeting held on 13 August 2003 at 0930 in Building 246, Upstairs Conference Room, Travis AFB, California. Attendees included:

- Mark Smith Travis AFB
- Dale Malsberger Travis AFB
- Glenn Anderson Travis AFB
- Tom Sreenivasan Travis AFB
- Greg Parrot Travis AFB
- Roger Johnson Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE)
- Major Dave Rose AFCEE Legal Division
- John Lucey U.S. Environment Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)
- Elizabeth Allen TechLaw
- Sarah Raker Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
- Jose Salcedo Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)
- Mike Wray CH2M Hill
- Ross Overby URS
- Amir Matin URS
- Brian Garber Shaw Engineering and Infrastructure (SE&I)

Handouts distributed throughout the meeting included:

- Attachment 1 Meeting Agenda
- Attachment 2 Master Meeting, Teleconference, and Document Schedules
- Attachment 3 SBBGWTP Monthly Data Sheet
- Attachment 4 CGWTP Monthly Data Sheet
- Attachment 5 NGWTP Monthly Data Sheet
- Attachment 6 Shaw Field Activities, Travis AFB (August – September 2003)
- Attachment 7 URS Field Activities, Travis AFB (August 2003)

1. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the July 2003 RPM meeting was approved with corrections and finalized.

B. Master Meeting and Document Schedule

The revised Travis AFB Master Meeting, Teleconference, and Document Schedules were distributed (see Attachment 2).

Travis AFB Master Meeting and Document Schedule

- Page 1, Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) Phase I Project Summary Report schedule was updated. (No agency comments were received.) This document will go final on 29 September 2003.
- Page 2, LF008 Groundwater Extraction System, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual schedule was updated.
- Page 2, DP039 Groundwater Dual Phase Extraction System O&M Manual schedule was updated.
- Page 4, Quarterly Newsletter (for the 23 October 2003 RAB) schedule was updated.
- Page 5, the title of the quarterly reports was amended to include Fiscal Year 2003.
- Page 6, Update Community Involvement Plan, Groundwater 5-Year Review, and Long-Term Operation (LTO) Strategic Plan (Update) were moved to the Historical Document section.

Note: Ms. Raker requested that she **only** receive a cover letter and the CD-ROM for final reports.

2. OPERABLE UNIT UPDATE

A. North/East/West/ Industrial Operable Unit

1. NEWIOU ROD Plan of Action and Milestone

a. Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum

Mr. Malsberger stated that the Air Force received comments from Ms. Raker and Mr. Lucey on the revised draft Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum. Once the Ecological Technical Memorandum is complete, he will respond to the comments on the revised draft Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum.

b. Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum

Mr. Malsberger stated that the Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum will be submitted within 2 weeks. The plan is to submit this document as an email attachment to be followed by a hardcopy.

c. Applicable Relevant and Appropriate Requirements

Ms. Raker stated that the attorneys met to discuss if chapters of the Basin Plan should be considered applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs). The U.S. EPA will attempt to clarify their position. Ms. Raker stated that she will add Chapter 4.

2. CAMU Phase I Project Summary Report

Mr. Malsberger stated that no comments were received from the agencies on the CAMU Phase I Summary Report; therefore, the report will go final as is. The final will go out on 29 September 2003.

3. CURRENT PROJECTS

A. South Base Boundary Groundwater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sreenivasan reported that the South Base Boundary Groundwater Treatment Plant (SBBGWTP) performed at 100% uptime with approximately 7 million gallons of groundwater extracted and treated during the month of July 2003. The average flow was 157 gallons per minute (gpm). Approximately 3.6 pounds of VOCs were removed during the month of July 2003. The total mass of VOCs removed since startup of the system is 224 pounds (see Attachment 3).

The key O&M issues for this month was to institute preventive maintenance activities such as painting of the process equipment, installation of electrical conduit for process power supplies, and capping of open ended pipes.

B. Central Groundwater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sreenivasan reported that the Central Groundwater Treatment Plant (CGWTP) performed at 81% uptime with approximately 3.67 million gallons of groundwater extracted and treated. The average flow for the CGWTP was 79.6 gpm during July 2003. Approximately 280 pounds of VOCs (of which 267 pounds were from vapor) were removed during July 2003. The total mass of VOCs removed since startup of the system is 3,180 pounds (see Attachment 4).

The plant experienced a series of shut downs in the month of July and some of the power surges that occurred resulted in PLC failures.

The thermal oxidation (ThOx) system continued to treat soil vapor from the 2-phase well as part of the SS016 focused vapor extraction activities. The most recent sample, collected on 10 June 2003, had an influent TCE concentration of 190 parts per million by volume (ppmv). This is the highest TCE vapor concentration seen since the start of focused extraction activities in October 2002, when the TCE concentration was 96 ppmv. The ThOx system performance is monitored on a weekly basis with the use of the PID. The average destruction removal efficiency of the ThOx system is 98.1%. Sampling will be done at the end of the third quarter (September 2003).

The West Treatment and Transfer vacuum blowers are offline and will remain offline. Rebound samples will be collected and analyzed at the end of the third quarter (September 2003).

Approximately 1.19 million gallons of the 2.9 million gallons of the treated water was used for irrigation during this month. The remainder was discharged to the storm drain.

C. North Groundwater Treatment Plant

Mr. Sreenivasan reported that the North Groundwater Treatment Plant (NGWTP) performed at 91.5% uptime with approximately 1.1 million gallons of groundwater extracted and treated during the month of July 2003. The average flow for the NGWTP was 26.1 gpm during June 2003. Approximately 38 pounds of vapor VOCs mass removed through extraction and vapor VGAC treatment. Another 1.3 pounds of groundwater VOC mass removed. The temporary portable Catox system took out 1,019 pounds of vapor petroleum hydrocarbon mass through extraction and treatment from EW566x31 during June. The total mass of VOCs removed since startup of the system is 325 pounds (see Attachment 5).

There were two power outages; one directly resulted in a PLC problem, which was subsequently corrected.

All the soil vapor extraction wells except EW566x31 that are connected to the NGWTP were in operation in July 2003.

All treated water was diverted to the Duck Pond during July for beneficial use. Next week, work will be conducted in the Duck Pond to treat the pond which will result in the inflow being shut down for a few days.

D. RW013 Soil Remedial Action Report Status

Mr. Anderson distributed the change-out package to the agencies to convert the draft final RW013 Soil Remedial Action Report to a final version.

Ms. Raker asked whether the Air Force would request no further action status for a site, even when there is an institutional control in place and a soil remedial action report is finalized.

Discussion took place on how to address site closeout. AFCEE will investigate site closeout on land use control sites. AFCEE will prepare signature page for closeout of RW013.

E. Other – Region IX Concerns

Major Rose asked if the agencies have a policy on what is required for site closeouts and does it differ from the OSWER Guidance closeout procedures.

Mr. Lucey stated that he did not think so but he will check. It is his belief that the U.S. EPA would follow the OSWER Guidance closeout procedures. It should not be a problem in getting the branch chief to sign a closure letter as long as the Air Force is meeting its obligation as outlined in the record of decision. Mr. Lucey stated that the letter could be called a site closure letter, site closure confirmation or concurrence. It does not have to be a remedial action report approval letter.

F. Summer 2003 Work Timeline

1. WABOU

Mr. Anderson provided updates on the WABOU soil remedial actions. Mr. Smith distributed the Fiscal Year Summer Soil Actions Schedule to the agencies.

- LF008 – Excavation of this site was completed and the site has been backfilled. The appropriate soil was deposited into the CAMU. Approximately 20 tons will be disposed at Mackley Hills and 20 tons of miscellaneous plastic will go to Forward Landfill. Residential cleanup levels were reached, resulting in no land use controls. No further soil action required.
- SD042 – This is a soil-only remedial action site. The soil excavation was completed in July 2003 to meet the ecological cleanup levels. No further soil action required.
- Mr. Anderson stated that the agencies will receive the draft Remedial Action Report for LF044 today.

Mr. Anderson stated that the period of performance for the LF044 contractor expires at the end of August 2003. The Air Force requested that the agencies review and submit comments by 26 August 2003, prior to the next teleconference in order to have the contractor complete the report. The agencies agreed.

- SS041 – ECC is completing the Remedial Action report for this site. The Air Force will accelerate its review and comment period. The draft Remedial Action Report is to be submitted by the 19 August 2003. In order to meet the contractor's period of performance, the Air Force is requesting that the agencies submit their comments by 27 August 2003. To expedite this review process, Ms. Raker requested that she receive an electronic and hard copy of the report and Mr. Lucey request an electronic version of the report.

Remedial Action Reports for SD042, LF008, and LF007 Phase II, and a removal action report for SS015, will be produced in September 2003. These documents will be added to the document schedule.

2. SS015 Removal Action Status

Mr. Malsberger stated that work at the site is complete and industrial cleanup levels were met (below Region IX preliminary remediation goals [PRGs]). There was only one hit of lead slightly above the residential PRGs.

The Air Force met and turned over the site to the Naval Facilities Office which is in charge of the MILCON at the site. The Removal Action Completion report will be submitted 30 September 2003.

G. LF007 C Groundwater Action

Mr. Malsberger gave an update on the LF007 C groundwater action.

- Off-Base – The need for an environmental assessment form for the easement is being reviewed.
- On-Base – AFCEE has approved the use of prior year funds. AMC is attempting to find the prior year funding. The work effort will include the installation of extraction wells, solar panels, and the piping to NGWTP plant.

H. Free Product Removal Update

Mr. Smith will review this information after today's meeting.

I. October 2003 Guardian and RAB Update

Mr. Sreenivasan stated that debriefing for the July RAB meeting was conducted on 5 August 2003. A list of discussion topics and presentation articles were generated. In addition, a schedule for the publication of the *Guardian* was also developed and distributed to the authors for review.

The RAB meeting will be held on 23 October 2003 at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors office in Fairfield, California.

4. PROGRAM ISSUES UPDATE

A. Optimization Activities/Further Actions

Mr. Malsberger distributed a summary of possible optimization actions for groundwater (Optimization Opportunities/Further Actions). Mr. Lucey also distributed a summary of this document depicting what he sees as low, medium, and high priority.

Ms. Raker stated that she would like the Air Force to develop a plan of action from the options and that actions be planned for the future.

Mr. Smith stated that the Air Force will develop a list of items to optimize from the discussion.

Mr. Lucey stated that he would like to review the data on DP039 where additional subsurface characterization might be needed. He would also like the Air Force to program funding in order to acquire a drill rig to collect data from the deeper zone in order to confirm what is happening.

Ms. Raker stated that the goal is not to let the 5-year review disappear and to find ways to spend fewer dollars or to capture more if needed. She recommended that the agencies look at the optimizations from the different perspective (i.e., capture versus money) and will discuss this at the next teleconference, since it is obvious that everyone have different priorities. (RWQCB's priority is petroleum cleanup and U.S. EPA's and DTSC's priority is conducting DNAPL characterization).

Ms. Raker suggested that the 5-year review should include a list for recommending well shutdowns.

Mr. Malsberger stated that another part of the optimization could be a review of what data are required to support technical feasibility of groundwater cleanup for the next 5-year review.

Mr. Lucey stated that he would need to discuss Technical Infeasibility (TI) waivers with his attorneys. He is unsure if the ROD can include a TI waiver.

Mr. Malsberger stated that the concept of technical or economic feasibility is addressed in the IROD. As the data is gathered, the Air Force would be in better position to say what methods and cleanup levels are feasible.

Mr. Lucey stated that the practical outcome does not change; it is a matter of working within the system. The driver for Travis AFB is that the Air Force wants the ROD to be completed.

Mr. Malsberger stated that AMC's policy is that an IROD is as good as a ROD. There is no push to turn IRODs into RODs.

Mr. Johnson asked why U.S. EPA has a push for the ROD. What changes when we go from an IROD to a ROD. Ms. Raker stated that it indicates that agreement has been reached on what needs to be done. Right now, it has been deferred indefinitely.

Ms. Allen stated that the process is set up to indicate what is possible to achieve. If all parties decide that the goal is unachievable, then a TI waiver is warranted.

Major Rose stated that the protection is greater in a ROD from latches.

Ms. Raker asked what would U.S. EPA sign up to, and since the Air Force would agree to something greater than MCLs, how do we get the dialog started to make decisions that are agreeable.

Mr. Malsberger stated that the Air Force will not agree to levels that are so low that the Air Force will not be able to meet, whereas the agencies will not agree to levels that they consider too high and may set a precedent.

Mr. Lucey stated if you have cleanup levels higher than MCLs, how would RWQCB approach this. Ms. Raker stated that it depends on how big it is. It could be in form of deed restrictions, institutional controls – there are no receptors here.

Ms. Raker suggested that the agencies look at other sites and see how they approach this issue.

Mr. Lucey stated that the agencies should contact their attorneys to determine what has been the precedent at other military installations. He is unsure if a TI waiver before a ROD is possible. The understanding that the U.S. EPA had agreed to the IROD was that the anti-degradation and cleanup level issues had not been resolved.

Mr. Smith stated that during the second 5-year review, Travis AFB should know how the cleanup actions are progressing and be able to determine a trend.

It was agreed to schedule a meeting to discuss the optimization strategy and the approach to the Basewide Groundwater ROD.

B. Project Funding and Prioritizing

Mr. Smith stated that the Air Force is in good condition at this time. The easement is the main priority in order to get the wells in.

C. Indoor Air Symposium

Mr. Malsberger and Mr. Smith will be attending the Indoor Air Symposium on 30 September 2003.

D. Risk-Based Screening Training

The RWQCB will sponsor a 2-hour Risk Based Screening Training on 2 September 2003.

E. Field Activity Reports

Mr. Smith distributed the field activity reports from CH2M Hill, Shaw Field, and URS (see Attachments 6, 7, and 8).

5. Documents for Agency Review –

The treatment plants second quarterly operation and maintenance reports for 2003 were issued on 29 July 2003 as scheduled.

The 2003 Semi-Annual GSAP report was issued on 12 August 2003. This is an information document only.

ACTION ITEM LIST

(Action Items Open)

AGENDA	RESPONSIBLE	ACTION ITEM	DUE DATE	STATUS
1.	Air Force	To provide an Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum	12 September 2003	Ongoing.
2.	U.S. EPA/DTSC	Check on the requirement for site closure documentation.	10 September 2003	Ongoing. Discussion took place on how documents can be finalized and what would be the appropriate signatories for site closure. Ms. Raker suggested that the Air Force provide the agencies with a template of the closure document. Mr. Smith stated that his preference would be to follow U.S. EPA's guidance.
3.	AFCEE	To look at the status for site closeout on land use control sites and NFA sites.	10 September 2003	New Item
4.	AFCEE	Prepare a draft closure document for RW013 (NFA site).	10 September 2003	New Item