

**Meeting Minutes
 Travis Air Force Base
 Installation Restoration Program
 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
 60th Air Mobility Wing Headquarters
 400 Brennan Circle, Building 51
 Travis AFB, California
 11 January 2001**

RAB members present:

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Col. Jan Swickard	Travis Air Force Base/RAB co-chair	√
Whalen, Jim N.	Mayor Fleming's Office in Vacaville/RAB Community co-chair	
Child, David	Fairfield Resident	√
D'Lima, Anne	Travis AFB Resident	√
Flores, Lalo	BDC Marine	
Foster, John	Northern Solano County Association of Realtors	√
Guido, Timothy	David Grant Medical Center	√
Kanouff, David F.	National Association of Retired Federal Employees	√
Lucey, John	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	√
Marianno, David	Suisun City Resident	
Morad, Cyrus	Fairfield Resident	√
Moseley, Michael	Daily Republic	
Negron, Daniel	Vacaville Resident	
Raker, Sarah	SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	
Root, David	Crosswinds Church	
Rued, Emily	Vacaville Unified School District	√
Rundlett, John	Suisun City Council	
Salcedo, Jose	Department of Toxic Substance Control	√
Taylor, William W.	Travis Unified School District	√
Tolentino, Ron	Solano Garbage Company	√
Urquhart, Kurt	B.F. Goodrich Aerospace	√
Villacorta, Claudia	SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	

Agencies and Contractors present:

- Allen Brickeen Travis AFB
- Glenn Anderson Travis AFB
- Mark Sandy Travis AFB
- Dale Malsberger Travis AFB
- Kevin Neurer Travis AFB
- Kevin Jackson Travis AFB
- Capt. Tom Crosson Travis AFB
- Bruce James Travis AFB
- Christopher Hobbins Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
- Roger Johnson AFCEE
- Parker Atkins Informatics
- Daryl Greenway CH2M HILL
- Chuck Elliott CH2M HILL
- Peggy Taylor CH2M HILL
- Wayne Williams CH2M HILL
- Deena Stanley URS
- Traci Bjers URS
- Mike Wray GTI
- Patricia Ryan DTSC
- David Cooper U.S. EPA
- Alan Driscoll Tetra Tech EMI
- Perry Swanson The Vacaville Reporter

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Colonel Jan Swickard called the meeting to order and welcomed all that were present. Colonel Swickard introduced Mr. Roger Johnson of AFCEE; Mr. Bruce James, Travis AFB Environmental Flight Commander; Capt. Tom Crosson, a Travis AFB Public Affairs Officer; and Mr. Perry Swanson of The Vacaville Reporter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kevin Jackson — the October 2000 RAB minutes were approved and finalized.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND QUESTIONS

Mr. Timothy Guido asked about page 3, paragraph 3 of the October 2000 minutes: Is there a penalty phase if Travis AFB is unable to achieve its cleanup goals? Mr. Brickeen stated the budget scenario has changed since Travis AFB has received additional funding, and the base will not be penalized.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Soil Cleanup Strategy

Mr. Malsberger gave a presentation on Travis AFB's soil cleanup strategy.

Primary Soil Cleanup Strategy

The primary soil cleanup strategy is to excavate the contaminated soil to achieve cleanup levels and consolidate the excavated soil at the on-base corrective action management unit (CAMU). This strategy will address 18 sites.

Planned actions at the other 9 on-base sites:

- Institutional controls, which could be physical controls such as fencing and berms, or administrative controls such as land use restrictions or dig permits. This strategy will address 4 sites (battery shop, Building 916, heavy equipment training area, and the railhead munitions staging area).
- Natural attenuation will take place at 3 sites that are mainly contaminated with petroleum (ST032, Facility 811, and Facility 872).
- Soils at the pesticide landfill and the low-level radioactive waste sites will be excavated and transported to an approved off-base location.

The planned actions do not include two off-base sites:

- A Removal Action has already been initiated at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course Annex
- Travis and B.F. Goodrich Aerospace are currently conducting an investigation under a water board order at Potrero Hills. Therefore, the cleanup action has not been determined.

Mr. Urquhart asked what is the estimated timeframe for the natural attenuation at the petroleum site; in other words, how long will the sites be monitored. Mr. Malsberger stated that it depends on the cleanup levels, which are still being discussed. Sites will be monitored until natural attenuation reaches the agreed upon cleanup level. If natural attenuation does not reach the cleanup level in a reasonable timeframe, another method will be used.

Mr. Morad asked if the excavated soil will be reused at the 300 Ramp Area. Mr. Malsberger stated that the excavated soil can be placed back at that site and will be remediated with the rest of the site. It is permissible because if clean soil were used as backfill, the excavated soil would have to be disposed of and the clean soil would become contaminated by the adjacent contaminated soil.

CAMU Implementation

Mr. Malsberger reviewed how the CAMU is to be implemented. The sites will be excavated to achieve cleanup levels that will be specified in the ROD. All of the soil that meets the

acceptance levels will be placed in the CAMU. (Acceptance levels are maximum concentrations of contamination in the soil that are determined to be protective of human health, the environment, and the groundwater.)

Soils will be consolidated, mapped as to its original location, and capped to prevent access and contaminant migration. The CAMU will be monitored for contamination in groundwater and soil. The cap on the CAMU will be periodically inspected and maintained.

Soil Remediation Process

When soil is excavated at the site, confirmation sampling will be conducted to ensure that the remaining chemical concentration in the soil is lower than or at the agreed upon cleanup level. The excavated soil will be sampled to determine if it meets the acceptance level. If the acceptance is met, the soil will be placed in the CAMU. Soil that does not meet the acceptance level will be transported to an approved off-base landfill.

Mr. Child asked if soil will be imported to replace the soil that is excavated. Mr. Malsberger stated that Travis AFB will backfill the area to the appropriate grade for surface drainage. Currently, Travis AFB is stockpiling soil near the future CAMU site to be used at CAMU and to backfill the sites.

Mr. Taylor asked how deep will the soil be excavated. Mr. Malsberger stated that at most sites it will only be a foot or two because most of contaminants are relatively immobile. The depth will depend on the cleanup levels.

Proposed CAMU Rule Changes

Mr. Malsberger stated that the U.S. EPA has initiated a proposed change to the CAMU rule that would take affect in January 2002 if it is approved. The most significant change is that all CAMUs established after January 2002 would have to have a minimum treatment and a liner. Travis AFB's CAMU acceptance levels were established without treatment and a liner. The new standard would result in a significant expense, as much as \$2 million additional cost in construction and an additional \$250,000 in yearly monitoring and maintenance.

The proposed changes have a grandfather clause if the CAMU is well along in the approval process. Travis AFB believes it qualifies for the grandfather clause and has written a letter to the agencies and administrative records stating so. The agencies have sent a letter to the base supporting Travis AFB's position. Mr. Malsberger thanked the agencies for their support.

Draft LF007 Design

Mr. Malsberger stated that Travis AFB issued the draft LF007 design package to the agencies and RAB for their review. This document addresses all soil action that will take place at LF007. Travis AFB will fill in and level the existing subsidence trenches and remove surface debris at this site. In the eastern edge of the site (Area E), PCB-contaminated soil will be excavated. The design also covers the location, size, and design of the cap.

Travis AFB considered two types of caps that would meet the performance requirement: evapotranspiration cap and geomembrane cap. The evapotranspiration cap involves covering the excavated soil with 4 feet of clean soil and planting deep-rooted plants that have the ability to absorb the moisture and discharge it in the air. The geomembrane cap involves

placing a plastic membrane over the excavated soil, and covering the membrane with soil and vegetation.

The draft design recommended the evapotranspiration cap since it is inexpensive to construct and maintain and is tolerant of settlement and earthquakes. Travis AFB and the regulatory agencies are still discussing the issue. (A model of the landfill and the geomembrane cap was displayed.)

CAMU Construction Phases

Mr. Malsberger stated that because the cleanup is dependent upon the completion of the WABOU and NEWIOU Soil ROD, the soil consolidation will be conducted in phases.

The CAMU construction will be accomplished in 4 phases.

- Phase 1 — construct the foundation/pad in 2002;
- Phase 2 — consolidate and cap the soil from the WABOU sites in 2002;
- Phase 3 — consolidate and cap the high relative risk soil sites from the NEWIOU in 2005; and
- Phase 4 — consolidate and cap the medium relative risk soil sites from the NEWIOU in 2008.

(An aerial photograph of the landfill and a model of the four phases were displayed.)

Mr. Malsberger stated that the top of the CAMU will be 97 feet above mean sea level, which is about 20 feet above existing ground surface.

Ecological Risk Assessment and Risk Management Decision

Mr. Anderson stated that this topic will be deferred until the next RAB meeting when the ecological risk assessor will be available to make the presentation.

CLEANUP PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

West/Annexes/Basewide Operable Unit Soil Record of Decision

Mr. Anderson gave an update on the WABOU Soil ROD:

Ecological Issues

The Air Force, U.S. EPA, and DTSC met to discuss the ecological issues in November 2000. The Air Force agreed to generate a technical memorandum that would address ecological protection, using revised calculations.

Cleanup Levels

The Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum is nearly complete. Currently, the agencies are reviewing the revised Groundwater Protection Technical Memorandum, which contains the revisions based on agencies comments.

Acceptance Levels

The agencies are reviewing and will submit comments on the second draft of the CAMU technical memorandum.

The third Revision to the Draft WABOU Soil ROD submission goal was not met on 17 November 2000. The new ecological protection technical memorandum will significantly delay the ROD schedule. The new submission goal for third revision is October 2001.

Mr. Guido asked if the technical revisions and extension will interfere with the CAMU deadlines. Mr. Brickeen stated that the 2002 construction schedule deadline was based on the third draft ROD October 2001 submission deadline. Mr. Lucey commented that originally the CAMU Phase 1 was to start in the summer 2001; however, because of delays, the start of soil cleanup actions were pushed back to the next construction season.

Relative Risk

Mr. Brickeen explained the concept of relative risk. Relative risk is a method that the Department of Defense (DOD) developed in the early 1990s to prioritize the cleanup of sites. Relative risk essentially prioritizes funding and is not to be confused with human health and ecological risk.

There are 4 media that determine relative risk: groundwater, soil, sediment, and surface water. At sites where there are contaminants in one or more of the media, a numerical process will determine the degree of contamination. Other factors are migration and exposure to human or ecological receptors. Sites are then ranked high, medium, or low relative risk.

Originally, approximately half of all Travis AFB sites were ranked as high relative risk. As cleanups are implemented (such as the construction of groundwater treatment systems), the relative risk is lowered. Currently, Travis AFB has approximately 14 high relative risk sites. The relative risks are reviewed as site conditions change.

Mr. Urquhart asked if the base dictates its own risk. Mr. Brickeen stated that Travis AFB and the RAB performed the original relative risk assessment. Since that time, Travis AFB performs the ranking and presents the revised ranking to Air Mobility for acceptance.

Mr. Morad asked for clarification on the media. Mr. Brickeen stated that the primary surface water of concern on Travis AFB is the main and west branches of Union Creek and the duck pond. Sediment would consist of the sediment at the bottom of Union Creek and drainage ditches.

Mr. Morad asked if any of the surface water is contaminated. Mr. Brickeen stated that there was a small amount of TCE contamination in Union Creek that originated from Outfall 3. A treatment plant was built in the early 1990s to remove the TCE from the surface water, but

the groundwater action at SS016 lowered the contamination level enough to have the plant dismantled. There are no contaminants that are leaving the base via Union Creek. (Union Creek is Site SD001 in the NEWIOU.)

Cypress Lakes Golf Course Removal Action

Mr. Anderson gave an update on the Cypress Lakes Golf Course removal action. The removal action was requested by the RAB (David Kanouff) more than two years ago.

Excavation at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course started in mid-November 2000. Approximately 144 cubic yards of contaminated soil was removed from the golf course maintenance yard. A set of confirmation samples was collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis. The results of the confirmation sampling indicated that one hot spot remained. In December 2000, an additional 18 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated. Another set of confirmation samples was collected and analyzed. The results were that the cleanup levels had been achieved and the residual concentrations of pesticides were below the residential cleanup goals.

Once the rain abates and the site dries out, Travis AFB will backfill the site with clean soil, replace the fence, and landscape the area. A removal action report will be generated for submission to the agencies.

Real Estate Agreements

Mr. Sandy gave a briefing on the real estate agreements.

FT005 Off Base Easement Status

Mr. Sandy stated that U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) have been successful in obtaining an appraisal with the fiscal year (FY) 00 funds. The FY01 funds have arrived. The property owners have approved the lease agreements through these informal negotiations. The lease agreements have been sent to the property owners who will review the documents and hopefully sign them.

Regulatory Agency Reports

U.S. EPA

Mr. John Lucey stated he had no report. He commented that it is great to see the new RAB members' involvement and to have the base personnel participating. The RAB has made many good changes recently and Kevin Jackson is doing good job in generating community involvement. RAB members' comments and opinions are important and can influence decisions.

Ecological Approach

Mr. Lucey stated that the U.S. EPA has had several comments on the ecological approach. The Air Force and agencies have met, and have resolved the issues. Minutes will be generated from that meeting along with action items. The delay may be caused by lack of funding and getting the review by the agencies. Mr. Lucey stated that it should not take a long time for his agency to review the ecological approach (a matter of weeks).

Other

- Mr. Brickeen stated Ms. Claudia Villacorta of the Regional Water Quality Control Board is transferring to Southern California. Ms. Sarah Raker will assume Ms. Villacorta's duty.
- Ms. Patria Ryan, DTSC complimented Mr. Jackson on his involvement with the public interview process. Mr. Jackson is working on the interview summary and will incorporate the summary into the Community Relations Plan for internal review and then public review.
- Ms. Ryan made a correction of the October 19 meeting minutes. On Page 7 of the minutes, the interview is in compliance also with Superfund.

Focus Group Reports

Community Relations.

Mr. Jackson reviewed the Community Relations Focus Group (CRFG) meeting minutes from 2 November 2000 for the RAB.

Restoration Advisory Board

There were numerous compliments from various agencies on how the RAB has improved. The CRFG will be focusing on recruiting another college student to replace Mr. Peconom, who has graduated from U.C. Davis. Efforts will also be made to recruit a representative from the City of Fairfield.

Community Outreach Strategies

Mr. Jackson will modify an existing picture-board display for use at schools as an instructional aid for teachers. Ms. Ryan suggested an Adopt-a-Vernal Pool program with the students. Discussion took place concerning ways to reach more segments of the community.

Community Relations Materials

The Community Relations Plan is being updated using the latest round of community interviews. The newsletter has been redesigned to review and preview RAB meetings. Minor changes have been made to the web site.

Public Participation

The CRFG believes that Travis AFB is doing a relatively good job keeping the public informed of the base's environmental cleanup program.

Mr. Guido suggested setting up the environmental display at the hospital, commissary, Base Exchange, and museum.

Mr. Child asked why funds are being spent to involve the public since everything is contained. Mr. Jackson explained that public involvement and encouraging public participation is a Superfund requirement. Ms. Ryan stated that it is good policy to keep the public informed, educated, and up-to-date on environmental issues. Mr. Jackson commented that it increases trust and also gives the public an additional comfort level.

Mr. Urquhart suggested placing a scrolling headline announcing the RAB meetings on Travis AFB main web page and placing a link to the Travis restoration web site from the city sites.

Ms. D'Lima stated that she is a member of the Officer Wives Club and she will attempt to get the word out.

Budget/Scheduling

Ms. D'Lima reported on the budget.

Ms. D'Lima stated that Air Mobility Command has been able to obtain additional funds (\$61 million) from Air Staff, which will be spread over a seven-year span. The largest increase in funding will occur in FY05 and FY06.

Travis AFB will benefit from this increase in funding. The concentration in Travis funding is in FY05, FY08, and FY09 in order to address funding needs based upon relative risk.

Funding will be received to do the work at LF008. WABOU sites are already funded and on contract except for SD042. All funds will be available to do the WABOU soil work in 2002.

The NEWIOU soil sites with high relative risk will be addressed in 2005. The medium relative risk sites will be programmed in 2008, and the low relative risk sites will be programmed in 2009.

Mr. Brickeen stated that it is the Air Force's goal to complete all high relative risk sites by 2007.

Mr. Guido asked if Air Mobility Command would support the plan to address high relative risk sites in FY05. Mr. Brickeen said that AMC had committed to support that plan.

RAB/Public Questions

There were no public or RAB questions.

Other

- Alternates are needed for the community co-chair and focus group leaders' positions.
- Mr. Brickeen stated that Mr. Foster was not able to meet with the RAB tonight because of a conflict with another meeting. He explained that the RAB meeting dates for 2001 were changed to coincide with the remedial program manager's meetings. Mr. Brickeen asked the RAB members if they were amenable to conducting RAB meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month beginning in July 2001. The April RAB meeting will not change because the contract has already been signed with the City of Vacaville for the meeting site.

Set Time and Place for next RAB meeting

The next RAB meeting will be 12 April 2001 at Travis AFB at John A. McBride Senior Center, 411 Kendal Street, Vacaville, CA.

Next meeting topics/suggestion

- WABOU ROD update
- Real Estate Agreements (Easements)
- Summer Construction
- Ecological Risk Assessment and Risk Management Decisions
- Mr. Taylor suggested a review on the B-29 crash scenario (Mr. Anderson recommended holding the topic for the July meeting since the ecology presentation will take most of the RAB meeting.)

Ms. Ryan made available the Fort Ord newsletter.

Mr. Brickeen stated that Travis AFB would schedule a tour on a Friday and Saturday in the spring or early summer. The base would announce the dates at the April 2001 RAB meeting.