

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

RAB members present:

NAME	AFFILIATION	PRESENT
Col Scott Hanson	Travis Air Force Base (AFB), RAB co-chair	✓
Call, Ray	Northern Solano Board of Realtors	
Foster, John	City of Fairfield Representative, appointed by the Mayor	✓
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
- Wayne Williams                Travis AFB
- Glenn Anderson                Travis AFB
- Wilford Day                      Travis AFB
- Dale Malsberger                Travis AFB
- Linda Weese                      Travis AFB
- Tom Sreenivasan                Travis AFB
- Steve Stopher                    Travis AFB

- Gregory Parrott
  - Kerry Settle
  - Kristine Escarda
  - John Kaiser
  - Eric Rixen
  - Mike Wray
  - Allen Brickeen
  - Margie Namba
  - Dave Zuber
  - Curt Taras
  - Robert Milton
- Travis AFB
  - Air Mobility Command (AMC)
  - DTSC
  - Water Board
  - Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure
  - CH2M Hill
  - Public Member
  - Brown and Caldwell
  - Brown and Caldwell
  - Brown and Caldwell
  - R.E.M. Engineering

## **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Mark Smith welcomed the attendees and introduced Mr. Wayne Williams who replaced Mr. Troy Martinson as Travis AFB Flight Chief. Mr. Smith also introduced Mr. Kerry Settle of Headquarters Air Mobility Command (AMC) who is here to perform a program review of the Restoration Branch.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The January 2005 RAB meeting minutes were approved and went final.

## **Additional Agenda Items, Comments, and Questions**

None

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS**

### **NEWIOU Soil ROD Status**

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

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

Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum – the Air Force issued the revised draft Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum on 12 November 2004. The regulatory agencies provided comments and met on 23 February 2005. During this meeting, risk assessment issues were resolved and agreement was reached on the cleanup levels at the remaining five sites where excavation is the recommended action. The Ecological Protection Technical Memorandum will be finalized.

Draft Record of Decision – the draft ROD was issued to the agencies and the RAB on 16 March 2005. Comments are due by 9 May 2005. A public comment period and public meeting will be required in order to present changes between the ROD and the Proposed Plan which was issued in 1998. This will be held after regulatory agreement has been reached on all NEWIOU cleanup actions.

## **RAB Meeting Schedules**

Mr. Smith stated that from previous RAB meetings, it was suggested to reduce the RAB

meetings from quarterly to semi-annually. Travis AFB proposed that the RAB meet in April and October yearly in addition to a base tour for the RAB during the summer months.

Mr. Smith proposed the next RAB meeting dates: 27 October 2005 and 27 April 2006.

Mr. Foster stated that he is in agreement with the proposed schedule which would cause the RAB meeting to be more of a result-oriented meeting. Mr. Foster moved to accept the proposed schedule, and Mr. Reagan seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

### **RAB Tour Agenda**

Mr. Smith stated that the RAB toured the following plants in 2004.

- Central Groundwater Treatment Plant
- Thermal Oxidation Unit
- DP039
- LF007 Corrective Action Management Unit
- Mitigated wetlands.

Mr. Smith proposed the following sites for the base tour on 24 June 2005 and 25 June 2005:

- LF007C Solar Powered Extraction Wells
- Corrective Action Management Unit (Phase III)
- FT004 Extraction Well Vaults
- FT005 on base and Groundwater Treatment Plant
- Former Sites RW013 and SD042

Mr. Marianno indicated that he would like emphasis placed on FT005.

Mr. Foster stated that he could commit to the Saturday tour. Mr. Smith stated that he will contact each member to determine who is interested in the tour and to firm up the dates.

### **Election of New Community Co-Chair**

Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Jim Whalen who has been with the RAB for ten years has notified the Air Force that he will no longer be able to participate on the RAB due to health reasons. Mr. Smith stated that the Air Force appreciates his participation and commitment to the RAB over the years and will miss him greatly.

Mr. Smith requested the current RAB members to let him know of anyone who may have an interest in joining the RAB and represent Vacaville. Mr. Reagan stated that he has notified the Mayor of Vacaville and requested a representative.

Mr. Foster nominated Mr. David Marianno based upon his longevity on the RAB and commitment. Mr. Taylor seconded the nomination, and Mr. Marianno accepted. There were no other nominations. The voice vote to elect Mr. Marianno as the new RAB Community Co-Chair was unanimous.

Mr. Marianno commented that Mr. Whalen did an excellent job and was very dedicated. He hopes that he can do near as much.

Mr. Smith explained to Mr. Marianno the responsibilities of being the co-chair – in general he is the community lead for the RAB who looks for opportunities to facilitate discussions, calls meetings as he feels necessary, and directs the RAB. He is the community spokesperson to Travis AFB.

## **CLEANUP PROGRAM STATUS REPORT**

### **Program Budget and Schedule**

Mr. Smith explained that Travis AFB's annual restoration funding is identified years in advance. Travis AFB's budget must not exceed the amount of funding allocated for each fiscal year.

The cleanup efforts over the next nine year periods are approximately \$2 to \$3 million per year.

Mr. Reagan asked if this is then year dollars or current year dollars. Mr. Smith stated that it is then year dollars.

Mr. Foster asked how did the Air Force come up with the dollar amount. Mr. Smith stated that the Air Force uses a tool called RACER (Remedial Action Cost Engineering and Requirements). This is a software program that is used to accurately estimate cost for all phases of remediation. In some cases, the successful completion of past cleanup tasks also can be used to estimate cost values.

Mr. Taylor asked what is the change order history. Mr. Smith stated that there has been little change on the scope of the work on current projects.

Mr. Marianno asked if the budget for the past ten years were listed, would a significant reduction be seen. Mr. Smith stated that the trend would be significant.

Mr. Foster requested that the Air Force present expenditures from 1995 to present in the minutes. The expenditures since 1995 total just over \$55 million and covered remedial investigations, proposed plans, records of decisions, interim remedial action construction, and public participation, among others, spanning 10 years of planning, coordination and cleanup actions.

Mr. Brickeen asked what years will the Air Force do the final cleanup for soil placement in the corrective action management unit (CAMU). Mr. Smith stated that the Air Force is prepositioning this year in anticipation for placing the soils in the CAMU in fiscal year (FY) 2006. There will be one low site moved from FY2010 to FY2006 and two medium sites moved from FY2008 to FY2006 to allow for their soils to be deposited into the CAMU.

Restoration Cleanup Schedule is as follows:

- FY2006
  - Obtain signed decision document for the NEWIOU;

Complete the remedial designs at six sites; and  
Complete cleanup actions at the six remaining high risk soil sites.

- FY2007  
Complete Second Groundwater Five-Year Review
- FY2008  
Start Basewide Groundwater Decision Document
- FY 2009 through 2011  
Complete Basewide Groundwater Decision Document  
Complete remedial designs and cleanup actions at seven medium and six low risk sites

Mr. Smith stated that the schedule was developed on the assumption that the NEWIOU ROD is signed by August 2005.

Mr. Brickeen asked if the 2006 projects can be carried over. Mr. Smith stated that each project would be given a sufficient period of performance to allow them to be carried over should the soil actions not happen until the construction season in 2007.

### **Remedial Process Optimization**

Mr. Kerry Settle gave a presentation on Remedial Process Optimization (RPO).

Air Mobility Command (AMC) is located at Scott AFB and is responsible for 12 Air Force (AF) installations. (An organization chart was shown of AMC.) Mr. Settle explained that Air Staff (Pentagon) oversees the funding to all other major command and provides oversight.

RPO is an AMC initiative to improve upon ongoing groundwater cleanup actions by enhancing groundwater extraction and treatment performance, reducing operating and maintenance costs, and improving monitoring processes. AFCEE will lead this initiative.

A recent Air Staff visit resulted in an AMC requirement to implement optimization efforts at its AF Bases.

The RPO will focus on ongoing cleanup systems at Travis AFB. This entails groundwater treatment plants, extraction wells, groundwater sampling and analysis program (monitoring well placement and analytical methods).

The RPO goals are to enhance system performance, accelerate site closure, and avoid unnecessary cost. The cost savings will be utilized upon Air Staff's discretion.

Mr. Salcedo asked if the Air Force plans to do RPO at all major commands. Mr. Settle stated that AMC is leading the initiative. After implementation of RPO, it is expected that other commands may follow.

Mr. Marianno asked if the plumes that are affecting the value of private property would be a priority for Travis AFB. What determines the priority? Mr. Settle stated that RPO is just a

way to save cost. Mr. Smith stated that the RPO effort is to attempt to find areas where funds can be recouped. It is Travis AFB's priority to get a system to pull the plume back onto the base.

Mr. Brickeen commented what makes Travis AFB a higher priority than other bases is that Travis AFB was the highest cost base in the Air Force. There is a lot of money that can be saved at Travis AFB. Mr. Smith stated that that may be in part because Travis AFB is advanced and further along in its cleanup actions than many AMC bases.

Mr. Foster stated that although AMC may feel that they are leading the Air Force in the RPO, it is his opinion that Travis AFB is leading AMC. Travis AFB has a good team that other bases can learn from, such as solar power technology. Travis AFB leads the way. Mr. Settle stated that Travis AFB has a good program; this program is not new to Travis AFB.

Mr. Reagan asked if Travis AFB have ever attempt to partner with the industry or research universities to find new initiatives. Mr. Smith stated that although partnering is not planned in the near future, Travis has been involved with treatability studies where the objective is to implement and evaluate new technologies and strategies towards cleanup. The vegetable oil study at Site SS015 and the Phytostabilization and Reactive Wall studies at Site DP039 are examples.

Mr. Reagan suggested that the Air Force look at the opportunity to partner with UC Davis which is the leading environmental engineering research university in the world. In addition, there are cleanup actions that have taken place in Yolo County, which might prove to be interesting.

Col Hanson commented that the key goal is to accelerate the site closure.

Mr. Taylor asked once a base is closed, does headquarter keep the responsibility. Mr. Settle stated that a closed base is managed through Air Force Real Property Agency.

## **REGULATORY AGENCY REPORT**

Mr. Salcedo stated that DTSC received an application for an emergency permit to detonate a recovered canon ball at Travis AFB. A public notice will be placed in two local papers.

Mr. Taylor commented that O&M funds have gone overseas towards the war effort. Mr. Smith commented that although other areas of Travis have felt the financial impact of the war, the Restoration funding has been thus far unaffected.

Mr. Taylor asked what is going to be done with the grass around the abandon housing. Lt Col Houghton stated that there are 800 empty houses on Travis AFB. The Air Force will cut down the grass and fence off the property. The final cuts will take place in the summer.

Mr. Friedman stated that he appreciated the comments on the RPO program.

## **FOCUS GROUP REPORTS.**

None.

## **RAB/PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Col Hanson announced that he is moving to Washington. He will be replaced by Col Timothy Zadalis who will attend the next RAB meeting.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next RAB meeting will be held at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors Office, Fairfield, California on 27 October 2005.