

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

Meeting Minutes

18 April 2013

I. Welcome and Introduction

Lt. Col Guinan introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending. **Mr. Smith** called to order the regular meeting of the **Travis AFB RAB at 8 pm on 18 April 2013 in the classroom at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors office.** General introductions were made. Mr. Smith thanked, Lt. Col Guinan, The USACE of Sacramento, the regulatory agency representatives, and everyone for attending.

Roll Call

The following RAB members were present:

Name	Affiliation	Present
Lt. Col Guinan	USAF, Travis AFB (Air Force Co-Chair)	✓
David Marianno	Suisun City Resident (Community Co-Chair)	
Jim Dunbar	City of Fairfield Representative	
Nadia Hollan Burke	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	✓
Adriana Constantinescu	SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	✓
John Foster	Nat'l Association of Uniformed Services	✓
Mike Reagan	Travis Regional Armed Forces Committee	✓
Jose Salcedo	Dept of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)	✓
Philip Velez	Travis Armed Forces Committee	
Kate Wren Gavlak	Travis Unified School District	

Public Members present:

- Bill Cumberland Citizen

Agencies and Contractors present:

- Mark Smith Travis AFB 60CES/CEANR
- Glenn Anderson Travis AFB 60CES/CEANR
- Lonnie Duke Travis AFB 60CES/CEANR
- Brian Sassaman Travis AFB 60CES/CEANR
- Milea Franklin Travis AFB 60CES/CEANR
- Gregory Parrott Travis AFB 60 AMW/JA
- Merrie Schilter-Lowe Travis AFB AMW/PA

- Eileen McBride USACE, Sacramento
- Jerry Vincent USACE, Sacramento
- Mike Wray CH2M HILL

II. **Approval of minutes from last meeting**

The previous meeting minutes were approved as written.

III. **Additional Agenda Items and Questions**

Mr. Smith asked if there were any questions about the agenda or if anyone had any additional items not already on the agenda. He stated that there will also be an opportunity at the end of the meeting to add agenda items or ask questions. Mr. Smith announced that Mr. Duke will discuss "Lysimeter Removal"; Mr. Anderson will discuss "Groundwater ROD Update"; Mr. Smith will discuss "Cleanup Program Status" and provide information on "Contract Award Update and Future Planning".

IV. **Discussion Topics**

a) Mr. Duke presented information on the Lysimeter Removal

Mr. Duke began by presenting a picture of what the lysimeter looked like: a mound of dirt with vegetation cover with an Evapo-Transpiration (ET) cap. The definition of a Lysimeter is a device for measuring the percolation of water through soils and for determining the soluble constituents removed in the drainage.

- The lysimeter was installed during the construction of a portion of the Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) in 2003 and was intended to operate for one year to verify that the ET cap performed as designed (ET cap is designed specifically to restrict the flow of water through the waste). After installation, monthly monitoring was conducted. The lysimeter continued to work for approximately five years, and the data continued to be collected. The monitoring results collected since 2008 had produced increasingly contradictory data due to normal wear and tear of the equipment. It was decided to stop collecting the data.
- With regulatory agency approval the lysimeter monitoring ceased in May 2010 and the lysimeter was scheduled for removal. Lysimeter removal activities were conducted in June 2012.
- Clean cover soil removed from the lysimeter was reused to refill the excavation void after the removal. Approximately 18 cubic yards of pre-sampled Potrero

Hills Quarry borrow soil was used to supplement the reused soil during backfill and compaction activities.

- Concrete was recycled for reused on the Travis AFB runway project and one poly tank was repurposed. Plastic liners and two poly tanks containing grout were disposed of at a local municipal landfill.

Mr. Duke provided pictures of the lysimeter removal: The clearing and grubbing of the vegetation layer by using heavy equipment. Digging by hand the closer to the liner or membrane of the lysimeter as to not disturb the contaminated soil below. When the lysimeter equipment and ET cap within the membrane was removed. Compacting backfill material with each layer. A compaction test was conducted to confirm that the proper compaction of 85-90% was met. After the compaction the area was smoothed out and ready for seeding.

Mr. Foster asked what measures are in place to ensure that the cap is not leaking to confirm it is maintaining integrity. Mr. Smith said Travis AFB continues to conduct groundwater monitoring analyzing for the chemical of concern (COC). In addition to that, the CAMU was built on top of an existing landfill which has a clay engineered cap that does not allow too much preculation; and we have about 4 feet of evapotranspiration cover. Travis AFB conducts monthly visual inspections of the site looking for any erosion or animal burrows. Mr. Duke added there are several monitors that were GPS'd in place that will alert of any shifting or movement. Mr. Smith said if Travis AFB had hauled the contaminated soil to an offsite landfill, Travis AFB would still be liable for that soil, and the initial monetary savings was estimated to be around fifteen million. Also, because we had the CAMU available we were able to excavate more soil at other restoration sites on base and that allowed us to achieve residential cleanup values at those sites, which equates to no land use controls.

b) Mr. Anderson presented information on Groundwater Record of Decision (ROD) update.

Travis AFB ROD is a decision document that selects the final remedies to clean up residual groundwater contamination at 19 sites.

- This is Travis AFB fifth decision document. However, this is the first decision document that covers the entire base (the first four focused on operable units; portions of the base).
- Its remedies selected are based on 30 years of discovery, assessments, investigations, technology demonstrations, and interim cleanup actions.

All RODS have three parts

- Declaration Statement: similar to an executive summary.
- Decision Summary: a detailed summary of the background information, documents that support the remedy selection, and remedy descriptions, with cleanup levels.
- Responsiveness Summary: A recap of the public comments on the proposed remedies.

Current ROD Schedule

- 02 January 2013 – Draft ROD to the agencies and RAB board members.
- 03 March 2013 – Comments due (60 day review period) cleanup levels.
- 05 April 2013 – Comments due (after 30 day extension). The last comment was received on 17 April 2013.
- 15 May 2013 – Draft Final due.
- 17 June 2013 – Final due – by AFCEC approval.

Status of ROD Development

- Regional Water Quality Control Board: 5 comments, all pertaining to legal requirements.
- Department of Toxic Substances Control: 1 comment.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: 9 general comments, 73 specific comments, 13 minor comments, 19 LUC checklist (7 of which require action), and 3 legal comments.
- No site remedy was rejected however, more description is needed.
- Travis AFB received 111 total comments.
- Agencies guidance is to serve and help standardize ROD formatting and content.
- The lawyers are working on the legal requirements.

The Path Forward

- Travis AFB Groundwater ROD: is a priority document.
- The difference between a draft final ROD and a final ROD: signatures on 4 signature pages.
- Changes to the draft final ROD equals dispute. This is a lot of work; lawyers etc. so we want to get it right the first round.
- Once the ROD is signed: Transition from interim remedies to final ones. Add onto technical demonstrations to complete remedies. Ensure land use controls (LUC) are in place.

Mr. Reagan asked if the ROD agreement has imbedded in it the process to closeout sites and how the standards are quantified, and once cleanup objectives are met the

site will then close. Mr. Smith said the ROD selects the remedy and the cleanup levels, and will turn the interim remedy into a final remedy. The ROD will have the cleanup objectives by site. There are three objectives: 1) remedy in place, 2) response complete met the cleanup objective but continue groundwater monitoring until the regulators and Travis AFB are sure the contamination will not return, 3) site complete, which means removal of any infrastructure (monitoring wells, extraction wells, piping, treatment plant) so it would look as if it was never there, it will be Unrestricted Use Unlimited Use (UUUE). Mr. Salcedo added that in the five-year reviews if there are any changes in chemical detection limits, Travis AFB will make an amendment to the ROD to reflect the new detection limits.

V. Cleanup Program Status

Mr. Smith presented information on the Contract Award Update and Future Planning

Contract Award:

Mr. Smith said the purpose of the next Performance Based Contract (PBC):

- The new contract will run from 2013 through 2021. The old contract ends in 2014. Overlap is to assist in a smooth transition.
- To implement the Groundwater (GW) remedies selected in the GW Record of Decision (ROD).
- To investigate and cleanup inherited former Compliance Cleanup Sites.
- Accelerate Site Closeout where possible.

Contract Award Status:

- Development of the Statement of Objectives (SOO) completed on 12 April 2013 by Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC), US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Travis AFB Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Staff. Travis AFB lets the bidding contractors know what the base wants to achieve. The bidding contractors submit proposals on how they will remediate objectives.
- Request for Proposals (RFP will be sent on 22 April 2013 to potential bidders.
- Contract Administration: USACE of Omaha, contract development, solicitation, execution.
- Contractor site visit schedule for 14 May 2013.
- Proposals due date 5 June 2013.
- Review of both the Technical and Cost Proposals from 10 through 21 June 2013.
- The Contractor awarded the contract will be announced in August 2013.

What we can expect from the next PBC:

- Next PBC will close as many sites as possible.
- Current LUC sites will require a ROD amendment of explanation of significant difference before work can begin.
- GW site will be subject to accelerated cleanup which may also require a change to the GW ROD (tomorrow's technologies may cleanup faster than those of today.)
- Former compliance sites, mostly Oil and Water Separators (OWS), will be investigated and cleaned, as possible petroleum only sites.
- Increased document and field work tempo.
- Potential new and innovative cleanup ideas/technology from the winning contractor.
- Site closures, infrastructure removal and land returned to UUUE remove liabilities.

Future Planning:

- POST GW ROD; All GW sites in remedial action operation.
- Post PBC Award; Increased document generation for LUC and OWS cleanup.
- Continued need for Technical Focus Group and Restoration Advisory Board involvement.
- ERP Staff converted to tenant at Travis AFB.
- AFCEC will centrally manage cleanup through the stand up of Restoration Installation Support Teams (Restoration ISTs).
- Travis AFB will have a Restoration IST that is expected to manage cleanup at 6 installations (including Travis AFB) by 2017.
- Current Travis ERP Staff expected assume the role of Restoration IST.
- Need for RAB meetings will eventually decrease.
- Anticipate putting the RAB on hold around 2017 or possibly disbanding the RAB by then.
- Restoration IST will work with local RABS.
- Expect that the Restoration IST workload may increase initially then remain steady through 2020.

Mr. Foster asked if Travis AFB foresees any impact with the sequestering and awarding the new contract. Mr. Smith said he doesn't believe there will be any issues, or at least he hopes there isn't. There are only 14 furlough days for the Air Force, and that each regulatory agency has different sequesters. There could be an issue if the contract award processes has not been completed before the FY13 allotted monies run out. Mr. Foster said he understands how the GW ROD is important to the process of the PBC award, and due to the timing it may cause some uncertainties if not finalized. What else creates uncertainties, are there other issues other the than the GW ROD. Mr. Smith said LUC sites have been in place since work was conducted in since 2003 and 2007, the contractor should investigate to see if the conditions have changed, also the contractor

does not know the areas of concern or the extent of the contamination regarding the OWS. Mr. Foster asked if Travis AFB was confident that you will receive multiple bids even with the uncertainties. Lt. Col Guinan said it is in Travis AFB best interest to share information that has been already been reported and documented and is made available to the interested contractors to help drive the risk down and increase the number of bidders to get the best value. Mr. Linbrunner said that they are modeling a Louisville environmental restoration contract approach that selects five potential contractors bidding for Travis AFB only. They will look at and evaluate the bids for technical approach, risk management, what they are going to achieve based on their minimal performance objectives. And, make a selection based on what the team agrees upon. The schedule Request for Proposal (RFP) will go out next week to the five pre-selected contractors; they have a choice to bid or not to bid on the task order. The government has basically pre-screened the best and most highly qualified contractors. The selection committee is comprised of AFCEC, Travis AFB, and USACE. The contract will be awarded 30 August 2013.

VI. Regulatory Agency Reports

Ms. Burke with EPA, Mr. Salcedo with Dept of Toxic Substances Control and Ms. Constantinescu with Water Quality Control Board had no comment. Ms. Burke requested a presentation be giving on the Five-Year review to the next RAB.

VII. Focus Group Reports

Mr. Smith thanked the focus group for their continued support on reviewing documents.

VIII. RAB/Public Questions

Mr. Foster asked about the status of Potrero Hills and if there are any plans on presenting information/progress in an upcoming RAB meeting. Mr. Smith said it is still under Water Quality Control Board order, however, recognizing that Travis AFB has responsibility of over site to ensure remedial action is being conducted. Mr. Anderson said that the contamination is much more extensive than initially thought, adding that Potrero Hills has been outside of CERCLA program since 1997, however this is a public meeting and they are more than welcome to attend. Mr. Parrott said it is Auto Leaf's responsible for the cleanup. "When they bought the company they bought the problem." Ms. Constantinescu said that the documents from Auto Leaf are uploaded on to Geotracker.

IX. Set Date and Place for Next RAB Meeting

The next RAB Meeting is scheduled for **17 October 2013** at the office of the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors in Fairfield.

X. Adjournment

Mr. Smith adjourned the meeting at **8:25 pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Jeannette Cumberland, CH2M HILL

Minutes approved by: Mark Smith