

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

Meeting Minutes

23 April 2015

I. Welcome and Introduction

Lt. Col Carley introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending. Lt. Col Carley announced that he will be transferred to Washington D.C. and that Lt. Col Duke was named as his successor. **Mr. Smith** called to order the regular meeting of the **Travis AFB RAB at 8 pm on 23 April 2015 in the classroom at the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors office**. General introductions were made. Mr. Smith thanked, Lt. Col Carley, The USACE of Sacramento, the regulatory agency representatives, and everyone else for attending.

Roll Call

The following RAB members were present:

Name	Affiliation	Present
Lt. Col Carley	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	✓
Ben Fries	Dept of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)	✓
Philip Velez	Travis Armed Forces Committee	

Public Members present:

- Bill Cumberland Citizen
- Kevin Green Daily Republic

Agencies and Contractors present:

- Mark Smith Travis AFB AFCEC/CZOW
- Glenn Anderson Travis AFB AFCEC/CZOW
- Lonnie Duke Travis AFB AFCEC/CZOW
- Bill Hall Travis AFB AFCEC/CZRW
- James Spellman Travis AFB AMW/PA

- Milea Franklin Travis AFB 60CES/CEI
- Dezso Linbrunner USACE, Omaha District
- Mike Wray CH2M HILL
- Tricia Carter CH2M HILL
- Jeannette Cumberland 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 “Groundwater Cleanup Update”; Mr. Smith will discuss “Cleanup Program Status” and “Community Involvement update”.

Mr. Foster said that he would like add to the agenda a discussion to reduce the RAB meetings from twice a year to once a year, as mentioned in The Guardian. Mr. Smith said that changing the RAB meeting to once a year, post construction, would give them a lot more to share. (E.G. The accomplishments of the previous summer construction season and the overall cleanup progress.) Mr. Smith added to keep interests and involvement in the program, invite the RAB members to take site tours at Travis AFB during the construction season.

IV. **Discussion Topics**

- a) Mr. Duke presented information on the Post ROD Groundwater Remedy Implementation

Mr. Duke talked about all the implementation work that has been or will be conducted post ROD plus some soil remediation. A map of the base was presented to show the size of the plumes and locations of the work being conducted to treat the groundwater and soil contamination.

- LF007C pump and treat system has been upgraded with large solar panels and larger batteries. The plume is along the base boundary and a small part of that plume is off-base; the improvements made to the treatment plant will pull that off-base portion of the plume back in. The treated groundwater is discharged to the Duck Pond for beneficial reuse.

- Twelve (12) Oil Water Separators (OWSs) removals under the PBC13 contract. This involves a lot of paperwork: twelve (12) dig permits, three (3) FAA notification, two (2) airfield waivers, one (1) biological assessment (BA) to US Fish and Wildlife (USF&W), and are still waiting for one (1) biological opinion (BO) from USF&W. The OWSs sites that do not require an FAA, BA or BO, the sample investigation is scheduled to start next week.
- Multiple work plans (WP), work orders, coordination with Airfield Ops and Security Forces for site SS016 before we can install more wells.
- Began injecting Emulsified Vegetable Oil (EVO) at site SD036, schedule to be completed by next week, then move on to site SD037 for the EVO injections. Sites SS016 and SS015 injections wells have been installed and are next in line for the EVO injections.
- Perform demonstration projects to explore ways to optimize approved remedies to help speed cleanup. Site SD031 install gravel chimneys (filled with iron pyrite and gravel) to circulate the EVO in a big loop to cover a larger area in a shorter amount of time. Site SS014 WP is final, a petroleum only site. The plan is to install a sulfate bioreactor by using sheetrock; the goal is to repurpose discarded unused clean sheetrock, mixed with gravel, and recirculate the groundwater through the bioreactor. Site FT005 WP is in draft stage with proposal to recirculate EVO by pulling the EVO through newly installed wells to target a much larger area.
- Continue studies with various partners; UC Davis, AFCEC, etc. Nothing currently in the works, but possibly next year.
- Treatment Plant Operations: Central plant will continue to treat site SS016. ST018 treatment plant will be optimized by installing one new extraction well to increase the average flow rate. LF007C treatment plant continues treating the off-base plume during the dry season. South base treatment plant will expand by installing one new extraction at site SS030. This will require USF&W BO to complete the fieldwork.
- Additional Projects: 2009 Lawler Ranch fuel pipeline release. Travis AFB is working closely with Solano County. Oxygen release compound injected at eighteen (18) locations this week to complete remediation. Travis AFB assisting the project to remove the transfer line. MMRP Old Skeet Range; PAHs found from clay pigeons and small amount of lead. Installation Support Team; provide program assistance to Beale AFB.

Mr. Duke ended his presentation by inviting the RAB members to take a tour of the activities at the remedial investigation sites happening at Travis AFB.

V. Cleanup Program Status

Mr. Smith talked about Opportunities for Community Involvement, adding that Travis AFB is updating the Community Involvement plan because it is very important to do what we can to get the community involved, and interested in what Travis AFB is doing to clean-up the base.

Mr. Smith provided a quick synopsis as to what is involved during a Remedial Investigation (RI): collect and ship samples to a laboratory for analysis, share the data with professionals to assess the risk. The RI phase is looking at risk; concentration levels, and the magnitude of the contamination to develop a proposed plan (PP) which outlines how best to clean up the contamination. RAB members are part of reviewing the PP and can participate in any one of the groups.

Become a RAB member and one of the Focus Groups.

- Participate in public meetings regarding the PP; ask questions and provide comments on plans for cleanup or on the reuse option being considered for a particular site. RAB members get to ask questions and comment on the PP.
- Join the Technical Focus Group and help optimize ongoing cleanup. Visit a site where field work is being conducted; installation of injection well, excavations, EVO injections, etc.
- Review the intended land use and read the record of decision (ROD) for the site, which is a legal binding document, signed by the Air Force and The Regulatory Agencies. RAB members get to participate in any public event on the ROD.
- Visit the public web site, read the PP and other documents. Send your comments to the Restoration Program Management (RPM).
- Invite the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator to your community events to discuss results for the five-year review. The five-year review is an independent group that looks at the remedies in place to preserve health, and the environment. The next five-year review is scheduled to be out in 2018.
- The Community Involvement Plan Strategy Shift: In the past it was getting involvement from the public in the decision making process – shifting to – involving the public in the ongoing cleanup process “get her done approach”. Where can there be improvement, new technologies, etc.
- The future of the community involvement depends on how much you want to be involved “spread the word”. Opportunities will continue to exist: review technical documents, RAB tours.

Future of the Restoration Advisory Board. Where do you see the RAB going over the next several years? Work ongoing: manage land use controls (LUC). Remedial action operation and optimization. Work plans and designs for the technical focus group. RAB tours and RAB meetings. One more PP and ROD. The current contract runs through 2021 so we will be here for a while. Potrero Hills ROD TBD; The Water Board is overseeing the remedial investigation work that is being conducted by the responsible party. Once this site is cleaned up to the Water Board specification

Potrero Hills will be placed back into the CERCLA program and we will need to write a PP and ROD. Mr. Smith said at this point he would like to turn it over to the RAB members for their input/suggestions.

Mr. Foster agreed with reducing the RAB to once a year RAB; adding that the RAB function is changing from decision making to educating about what work is being conducted, there are a lot of good things happening with the cleanup at Travis AFB and the public and surrounding local government agencies should know that a good job Travis AFB is doing in regards to cleaning up the base. Staff members from the cities of Suisun, Fairfield and Vacaville attend the meetings and do a “report back”. Mr. Reagan agrees with the once a year “formal” RAB. Wondered what the process would be if there was another instance like the pipeline leak that happened in Suisun and a new plan to mitigate? Mr. Smith said that the Restoration Program will be around for a long time. The premise with the restoration established a funding stream that is fenced and cannot be dipped into. DERA funding is locked into clean-up activities only and has to meet certain requirements. If not met, then it becomes a response action by the compliance side of Travis AFB or an emergency response, so there are contingencies in place. Mr. Smith said that the meeting minutes will reflect that Travis AFB will ask: The Cities of Suisun, Fairfield and Vacaville and the surrounding counties to send staff representation. Mr. Foster added that it wouldn’t break the city’s budget to pay a staff member to represent their cities to attend a once year RAB meeting. Stating that Travis AFB is the biggest employer of Solano County and that they are missing all the great stuff that Travis AFB is doing and could probably learn something from the cleanup work that Travis AFB is conducting.

Mr. Smith said he would take as action to work with someone at this meeting to get government representation to attend the RAB meeting.

Mr. Foster made a motion to reduce the RAB meetings to once a year along with Travis AFB tours and to seek staff members for local governments to become RAB members. The ayes have it.

VI. Regulatory Agency Reports

Ms. Constantinescu with Water Quality Control Board discussed California’s 2015 drought and provided suggestions on how individuals can conserve. Ms. Constantinescu showed maps of California over the last three years and the progression of the drought highlighted in red that covers almost the entire state in 2015. The importance of the remediation of the groundwater at Travis AFB has always been important and now with the drought it is even more important to keep our groundwater clean from contamination. Normally surface water is used to meet California’s needs and in a regular wet year the use of groundwater for households is 21%, average year it is 29% in a dry year it jumps to 39%.

Drought Emergency Regulations:

- January 17, 2014 Governor's proclamation of drought state of emergency.
- April 25, 2014 Drought executive order.
- March 1, 2014 Governor signs SB104, drought relief.
- April 1, 2015 issued another drought executive order.

The goal is to reduce water usage by 25% by water conservation: use water sparingly, reuse recycled water station for washing cars etc., change shower heads.

A website was provided to obtain information or to leave comments:

www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/rpograms/drought/emergency_mandatory_regulations.shtml.

Lt. Col Carley added that Col Jackson the Wing Commander at Travis AFB, takes water conservation very seriously and has a draft policy waiting to be signed to limit irrigation with housing and on base to a couple times a week, also limit time to a set amount of minutes per cycle and night time hours. When washing vehicle: POV or military, to use recycling car wash stations.

Ms. Burke with EPA and Mr. Fries with DTSC had no comment.

VII. Focus Group Reports

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

VIII. RAB/Public Questions

IX. Set Date and Place for Next RAB Meeting

The next RAB Meeting is scheduled for **5 November 2015** at the office of the Northern Solano County Association of Realtors in Fairfield.

X. Adjournment

Mr. Smith adjourned the meeting at **9:30 pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Jeannette Cumberland, CH2M HILL

Minutes approved by: