

MINUTES
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION (NAVWPNSTA) SEAL BEACH
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
AND COMMUNITY MEETING
May 12, 2009

Participants:

Bettencourt, Phil/Community Member
Bloom, David/Tetra Tech
Eddo, Jeff/Tetra Tech
Fattahipour, Mitra/Insight ECC, Inc.
Ford, Tony/Insight ECC, Inc.
Gomez, Eloy/Golden Rain Foundation (Leisure World)
Hannon, Patricia /Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Santa Ana Region
Jordan, Jack/RAB Community Co-Chair
Lee, Larry/Community Member
Niou, Stephen/Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)
Olivera, Jerry/City of Seal Beach
Rectanus, Heather/Battelle
Rosansky, Stephen/Battelle
Salazar, Cindy/CH2M HILL
Smith, Gregg /NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach Public Affairs Officer (PAO)
Sullivan, Jennie/Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest (NAVFAC SW)
Tamashiro, Pei-Fen/NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach and RAB Navy Co-chair

WELCOME

At 6:03 p.m., J. Sullivan, NAVFAC SW, began the meeting by welcoming the participants.

J. Sullivan announced that the RAB meeting would proceed with a status update on the ongoing Installation Restoration (IR) Program followed by two presentations. A presentation on the IRP Site 70, Pre-Remediation Baseline Groundwater Monitoring Summary and Remedial Action Status Update by Insight ECC, Inc. and a presentation on the Munitions Response Program (MRP) Site Inspection Work Plan by Tetra Tech.

Hard copies of the slide presentation were available as a handout at the meeting.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The RAB meeting continued with a status update on the ongoing IR Program presented by J. Sullivan.

The following sites were discussed:

- Site 7 - Station Landfill
- Site 40 - Concrete/Pit Gravel Area, Remedial Action
- Site 70 - Research, Testing, and Evaluation (RT&E) Area, Remedial Design and Construction

- Site 74 – Old Skeet Range
- Site 75 – KAYO-SB Agriculture Water Well
- UST 229 – Former UST Site
- MRP Preliminary Site Inspection and Site Inspection

Questions and answers posed during and after the Project Highlights presentation are summarized below:

Question: Is restoration at Site 7 required only for vegetation and not birds?

Answer: Establishing vegetation cover on the landfill is the last task required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board before the site can be closed. Although there are currently no issues of soil erosion at the site, the purpose of the vegetation cover is to prevent soil erosion in the future. We hope to close out the site by 2010 but may prolong the closure to make sure the vegetation can be established. The growth of the vegetation has been hindered by the rising sea water in recent years and poor drainage due to localized uneven terrains. To solve this problem, the Navy installed drain pipes to reduce sea water impact on the soil.

Question: How many feet of drain pipe were installed?

Response by the Navy: Two 60-foot sections with a 4-inch diameter were installed. There is a screen on one end and a flap on the other to allow the sea water to drain out more easily during high tide.

Question: Are you using the right vegetation for the restoration?

Response by the Navy: Native vegetation is being as part of the restoration. However, with the sea water inflow during high tide, trapped sea water would evaporate leaving behind salt, which hinders the germination of the seeds. This is the reason why the drain pipes were installed to drain the sea water from the site.

P. Tamashiro continued the RAB meeting by introducing the technical presentation on Site 70.

PRESENTATION – IRP SITE 70 PRE-REMEDATION BASELINE GROUNDWATER MONITORING SUMMARY AND REMEDIAL ACTION STATUS UPDATE

T. Ford and M. Fattahipour from Insight ECC, Inc. and S. Rosansky and H. Rectanus from Battelle. Copies of the slide presentation were made available as a handout at the meeting. The following questions were posed after the presentation:

Question: How long does it take to inject at a well?

Answer: Typically we do 10 wells at a time, but the time for injection at each well depends on the flow rate. The flow rate varies significantly depending on the area and the groundwater bearing unit. We have found that using

different sequences for the different biobarriers works well.

Question: Is there oversight by RWQCB or Department of Health Services or is it solely on the Department of Defense and the Navy?

Answer: There is oversight by RWQCB and DTSC.

Response by the Navy: When the Record of Decision (ROD) was signed, the Navy, DTSC, RWQCB all agreed on the approach. The design, work plans and all ongoing coordination effort is reviewed by RWQCB and DTSC, along with the community members.

As a follow-up, the July RAB Tour will feature a set-up and injection of one of the biobarriers at Site 70.

P. Tamashiro announced there would be a 10-minute break followed by the technical presentation on the Munitions Response Program.

BREAK

PRESENTATION – MUNITIONS RESPONSE PROGRAM SITE INSPECTION

D. Bloom and Jeff Eddo from Tetra Tech provided the presentation. Copies of the slide presentation were made available as a handout at the meeting. Questions and answers posed during the presentation are summarized below:

Question: Why would you sample the water from the Port of Long Beach mitigation pond? Are there constituents that are soluble in water?

Answer: There are some compounds that are soluble in water such as perchlorate, which is used as a rocket propellant.

Response by the Navy: In addition, we are screening constituents in the water that can pose an ecological concern with the current site condition.

Question: Was there any residue found during the demolition of the former Building 101/102?

Response by the Navy: Explosive residues were screened before the demolition. The Navy wanted to make sure that there was no explosive present that may pose an explosive hazard during the demotion. And yes, explosive residues were found in and around the drain inlets from Buildings 101 and 102. During the demolition, the drains were disconnected remotely with a robot to prevent personnel from injury during the operation.

Question: Which agencies will the site inspection work plan be submitted to?

Answer: The work plan was submitted to or made aware of to DTSC, RWQCB, Orange County Healthcare Agency, and Orange County Water District.

Response by the Navy: The work plan is also available on the Station's Environmental Cleanup web site. You are all welcome to provide comments.

COMMUNITY FORUM

No additional comments were raised.

G. Smith solicited opinions on the website regarding improvements, accessibility, speed of download, and whether additional information would be useful. G. Smith asked to be contacted if anyone has any questions, problems, or comments regarding the website.

In addition, P. Tamashiro continued the announcements by indicating that the Navy would request participation in the electronic communication program for all future RAB-related correspondence. An email can be sent to P. Tamashiro for participation.

P. Tamashiro announced that the RAB Site Tour would be held the second Tuesday of July (July 14, 2009).

Lastly, P. Tamashiro announced that J. Sullivan would no longer be the RPM for the NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach. J. Sullivan will be moving to work at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and her last day will be May 22, 2009. Si Le will be the temporary replacement.

ADJOURNMENT

P. Tamashiro adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Note: This is a meeting summary, not an actual transcript.