

MINUTES
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION (NAVWPNSTA) SEAL BEACH
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
AND COMMUNITY MEETING
Site Tour
July 13, 2010

Participants:

Akkenapally, Sree/Insight EEC, Inc.
Blake, Geoff/Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Community Member
Broderick, John/Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region
Colt, Ann/Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest (NAVFAC SW)
Fu, Christina/California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Gandara, Jose/RAB Community Member
Jordan, Jack/Community Co-Chair, RAB Community Member
Lee, Larry/RAB Community Member
Niou, Stephen/DTSC
Persico, Mark/City of Seal Beach
Reese, Brenda/Remedial Project Manager (RPM), NAVFAC SW
Shields, Tim/Richard Brady and Associates
Smith, Gregg/Public Affairs Officer, Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach
Tamashiro, Pei-Fen/RAB Navy Co-Chair, NAVWPNSTA Seal Beach
Thorpe, Darwin/Community Member (has since become a RAB Community Member)

At 6:00 p.m., P. Tamashiro, Installation Restoration (IR) Program coordinator and Navy RAB Co-chair, began the site tour by welcoming the participants. She introduced G. Smith, NAVWPSNTA Seal Beach PAO and B. Reese, RPM from NAVFAC SW. P. Tamashiro stated that she would lead the tour. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

P. Tamashiro distributed a site map showing the locations of the sites that would be visited and/or discussed during the tour. The sites to be visited or discussed during the tour included IR Program Sites 7, 70, 74, and MRP Sites UXO1, UXO2, UXO6, Area of Concern (AOC) 1, and AOC2. She indicated that the tour would last approximately two hours and that the participants should bring along a jacket or sweater for warmth, as it tends to get chilly by the end of the tour.

P. Tamashiro stated that while the participants would not be exposed to hazardous or toxic materials during the tour, they were requested to stay together for safety reasons. She encouraged participants to ask questions during the site tour.

Questions and answers discussed during the site tour are summarized below.

Note: The following contains only questions and answers discussed at formal stops along the tour. Informal discussions were not recorded, including those held while viewing sites from within the vehicle and during travel between sites.

SITE 70

RESEARCH, TESTING, AND EVALUATION AREA

Representatives from Battelle and Insight ECC, Inc. were on site at the source area of Site 70 to give an overview and to give a demonstration of the emulsified vegetable oil (EVO) injection.

Question: Is it possible for the TCE to be so high that it will kill off the bacteria?

Answer: We don't see that happening here at this site. The KB-1 bacteria culture has been used at sites with higher concentrations of TCE than this site.

Question: Are any of the buildings up for demolition and have the tanks been cleaned?

Answer by Navy: Some buildings are on the Navy's demolition list. It is uncertain when the demolition will happen. All of the tanks and the pipelines associated with this site have been decommissioned. Currently only one tank is used as a water reservoir. The other tanks are empty.

Question: What are the blue drums?

Answer: The blue drums are mostly empty sodium lactate drums from a former research project here sponsored by Navy Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) to evaluate recirculation system versus passive system for delivering sodium lactate. A couple of them still have some left over sodium lactate in them. These drums will be picked up by contractors shortly.

Question: Is this a 24/7 operation (in reference to the EVO work)?

Answer: No, we are only injecting 6 to 8 hours a day and five days a week.

SITE 7

STATION LANDFILL

Question: Did you reseed this area last winter?

Answer: No, we amended the cover instead. The soil had too much organic material and not enough mineral material.

Question: What are the railroad ties for? (Referred to the railroad ties piled up neatly north of Site 7.)

Answer: The ties are being removed and prepared to be shipped out. The railroad is no longer being used.

Question: The ties look new.

Answer: The railroad has been well maintained, even when it was not in use. The Navy policy dictated the requirement to maintain the railroad to a certain standard until a decision was made to discontinue the usage of the railroad.

Question: Is that salt grass? (Referred to the vegetation south of Site 7.)

Answer: It is pickleweed, which is very salt tolerant.

Question: I think you are putting a positive spin on the vegetation coverage. (Referring to P. Tamashiro's comment on the great improvement of vegetation coverage this year.)

Answer: No, you would have to see how it was last year. What we are seeing is about 15% to 20% cover of vegetation, compared to about 5% or less of vegetation cover prior to last winter. This is most likely attributable to the rain we received this last winter. Vegetation cover is very difficult to establish here due to its salt content, and it is very desirable for a variety of endangered species.

SITE AOC 2 **EXPLOSIVES DROP TEST TOWER**

Question: That must have been a heck of a job, dropping munitions from the tower.

Answer: The testing was only done on 1.4 explosives.

Question: The tower isn't so named because the birds like to drop test?

Answer: No, but actually, the tower is a great nesting place for birds, such as great blue herons.

SITE AOC 1 **BUILDING 94 EVAPORATION POND**

Question: Will the land go back to cultivation?

Answer: Yes, once the test results are submitted to the regulators and they concur with our recommendation for no further action, the small piece of land will be turned back to cultivation.

P. Tamashiro encouraged the site tour attendees to contact her via telephone or e-mail with any additional questions. She announced that the next RAB meeting would be held on October 12, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

P. Tamashiro adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.

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