



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON
4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5000

IMND-MEA-PWE

January 14, 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: Restoration Advisory Board Members

SUBJECT: Minutes for the November 18, 2010 Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

1. The Fort George G. Meade Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting was held on November 18th, 2010, at 7 p.m. at the Captain John Smathers Army Reserve Center, Hwy 175, Fort Meade, Maryland. The next RAB meeting will be **Thursday, January 20th, 7 p.m.**, at the Captain John Smathers Army Reserve Center.

2. The following RAB members were present:

Mr. John Burchette, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Wayne Dixon, Community Member
Mr. Paul Fluck, Fort Meade Restoration Manager, Acting Fort Meade Co-Chair
Ms. Laurie Haines, Army Environmental Command
Ms. Ivana Maksimovic, Community Member
Mr. David Tibbetts, Community Member
Ms. Kerry Topovski, Anne Arundel County

3. Members not present:

Mr. Blight Carter, Community Member
Mr. Ed Dosek, Community Member
Mr. Howard Nicholson, Community Member
Ms. Kathy Scott, Community Member

4. Others present were:

Mr. Frank Anastasia	SCA Associates
Mr. Rusty Bristow	Community Member
Mr. John Cherry	ARCADIS, Inc.
Mr. Thomas Crone	ARCADIS, Inc.
Mr. Brendan Daley	Fort Meade, Environmental Division
Ms. Mary Doyle	Fort Meade, Public Affairs Officer
Mr. Jeff Dozier	Fort Meade, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
Mr. Butch Dye	Maryland Department of the Environment
Mr. James Fraser	Community Member
Mr. Christian Frexmeyer	Patch.com

Ms. Sarah Gettier	URS Corporation
Ms. Katrina Harris	Bridge Consulting Corp.
Mr. Bill Hudson	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. George Keller	Bridge Consulting Corp.
Mr. George Knight	Fort Meade, Environmental Division
Ms. Shelly Kolb	Malcolm Pirnie
Mr. Tim Llewellyn	ARCADIS, Inc.
Mr. Martin Madlan	Community Member
Ms. Mary Lou Rochotte	KEMRON
Mr. Kurt Scarbro	Maryland Department of the Environment
Mr. Harry Sinclair	Community Member
Ms. Denise Tegtmeier	Fort Meade, Environmental Division
Mr. Fred Tubman	Patuxent Riverkeeper
Ms. Pamela Wood	Capitol Gazette

5. Announcements and Minutes:

a. Mr. Paul Fluck opened the meeting. He noted Mr. Mick Butler could not be present, so he would be presiding as the Army co-chair. Mr. David Tibbetts, community co-chair, called the meeting to order. Mr. Fluck asked everyone present to introduce themselves.

b. Mr. Fluck thanked everyone present for attending. He expressed the Garrison's appreciation to Col. Ruf and his staff for the use of the facility. Mr. Fluck emphasized the importance of everyone signing in and out and discussed the location of building exits, restrooms, and vending machines.

c. Mr. Fluck advised that hard copies of meeting presentations would be provided to Board members and stakeholders; anyone else who would like a copy can obtain one from the Fort Meade web site (www.fortmeade-ems.org). He noted this would minimize the amount of paper being used for the meetings.

d. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the September 16th, 2010 minutes as presented.

6. Outstanding Items:

a. Mr. Paul Fluck said an outstanding item is the applications for Board membership. He reviewed the purpose of the Board which is to serve as an instrument for conveying information between the Army and the community. He stated Board members are expected to take information back to their friends, families, and communities to keep them informed about the environmental program. He discussed other Board responsibilities including reviewing and commenting on documents provided by Fort Meade, so the Army can learn about any community concerns. Mr. Fluck emphasized serving on the Board is a commitment of time, with the Board meeting every two months for one to two hours. Mr. Fluck stated one thing that makes the Board work well is free and open dialogue which he encourages.

b. Mr. Fluck reviewed the voting procedures for applicants, noting that voting cannot be done by proxy but must be done in person. Mr. Fluck stated the applications and ballots had been distributed to the community members. He asked whether current community members wanted to wait until a future meeting to vote or if they were prepared to vote at this meeting. The community members indicated they would like to vote at this meeting.

c. Mr. Tibbetts read the names of each of the applicants: Mr. Harry Sinclair, Mr. James Fraser, Mr. Fred Tubman, and Mr. Martin Madlan. Mr. Tibbetts noted a vote could not be taken with respect to Mr. Ray Hodgson as he was not present. Mr. Tibbetts invited each applicant to give a brief summary of their background and interest in the Board.

d. Mr. Harry Sinclair stated he has been part of the local community since 1943, so he has a great deal of historic knowledge. He said he can be outspoken, particularly when something is being proposed that does not make sense.

e. Mr. Marty Madlan introduced himself as a financial consultant and reviewed his community memberships and career highlights. He noted he had grown up on Fort Meade as his father had worked at the installation. Mr. Madlan stated he had served in the Army with the Army Corps of Engineers.

f. Mr. James Fraser described his background as a project manager in the construction industry and advised his educational background included a degree in environmental/civil engineering. Mr. Fraser stated he has lived in Piney Orchard since 2006.

g. Mr. Fred Tubman stated he lives in Prince George's County, but his work involves all seven counties that make up the Patuxent River watershed. He stated he is the Patuxent Riverkeeper and also teaches environmental law including classes at Anne Arundel County Community College. He noted his background includes working as an environmental journalist and in that capacity had extensive interaction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Tubman said he is a community organizer as it relates to involving communities around a particular watershed.

h. Mr. Fluck reviewed the voting procedures and rules. He noted the votes are subject to the final approval of the Garrison Commander.

i. After the ballots were counted, Mr. Fluck provided them to Mr. Tibbetts who advised that Messrs. Fraser, Tubman, and Madlan had been voted onto the Board as community members.

j. Mr. Fluck next discussed the Board's charter. He reminded the Board that Mr. Nicholson had offered revisions which focused on the issue of having local communities and other associations provide an individual to represent them on the Board and proposed reviewing membership on an annual basis. He mentioned at the last meeting he had suggested members look at the charter and the proposed revisions. Mr. Fluck asked if the members had had an

opportunity to review the charter and if they had any comments. Mr. Tibbetts stated he thought it was important to have some provision for current membership to be reviewed perhaps every two years but to not have specific term limits. Mr. Fraser asked if Mr. Nicholson's comments could be provided to the new members, and Mr. Fluck said he would be glad to provide a copy. Mr. Fluck said he had also reviewed a number of charters from other Army and Navy installations, and they varied from very complex to very simple with Fort Meade's falling in the middle. Mr. Fluck said he could make these charters available to the community members, and Mr. Tibbetts responded other charters would be helpful. Mr. Fluck said the community members could then select provisions from other charters that they like and provide the feedback to him so that perhaps by the March meeting he could have a revised draft for the members to review. The members agreed to this approach.

7. Technical Assistance:

a. Mr. Tibbetts introduced Mr. Frank Anastasia and noted Mr. Anastasia provides technical consulting services to Restoration Advisory Boards' community members. He invited Mr. Anastasia to briefly speak to the Board's community members.

b. Mr. Anastasia discussed his background, noting he is a hydrogeologist by education and experience, having attended the University of Maryland for his undergraduate degree and then the University of Idaho for his master's degree. He stated he worked for a number of companies handling nuclear waste and hazardous waste issues and started his own company in 1997. He advised his dual practice includes work for private sector companies who own environmental problems and providing consulting services at Superfund sites for community groups who obtain grants for technical assistance. In response to a question from Ms. Kerry Topovski about the scope of the work he has performed under the community grants, Mr. Anastasia responded that the scopes covered a wide variety of work including reviewing remedial investigations and evaluating remedial alternatives. He noted he has also worked as an environmental contractor for the military and been involved in site investigations and assessing environmental receptors. He said one of his main tasks is reviewing and evaluating technical documents. Mr. Anastasia stated obtaining a grant involves a number of procedures and processes, and if the Board has a demonstrated need for technical assistance, he would encourage the community members to look at the RAB Rule handbook on the Fort Meade web site and review the section on grants. Mr. Tibbetts suggested the process of obtaining a grant be on the agenda for the January meeting, and Mr. Fluck agreed.

8. Update on Operable Units Nos. 1, 3 and 5:

a. Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Mary Lou Rochotte of KEMRON and Mr. John Cherry of ARCADIS. Ms. Rochotte stated KEMRON has been working on environmental issues at Fort Meade for several years under a performance-based contract, with the three operable units to be discussed tonight still active. She noted ARCADIS, a sub-contractor to KEMRON, is performing work at Operable Unit 5. Ms. Rochotte displayed two maps showing the location of the operable units.

b. Ms. Rochotte discussed Operable Unit 1, the Former Trap & Skeet Range. She explained it had always been a recreational range and not used for any military shooting operations. She noted it had ceased operating in the early 1990s. She displayed a map and pointed out the firing line and the direction of the shooting activities, noting where skeet would fall and where lead shot would carry across the pond.

c. Ms. Rochotte advised some sampling had been conducted in the past, and KEMRON conducted additional sampling in July 2010 primarily for analysis of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) found in the skeet and lead shot in pond sediment samples to complete the ecological risk assessment. She noted some Board members may recall having seen the human health risk assessment for this site which has been approved by EPA. Ms. Rochotte said the most recent sampling data is being incorporated into the ecological risk assessment and the remedial investigation report which are due to be submitted to the regulators at the end of December 2010.

d. Ms. Rochotte explained that Operable Unit 3 is a former Nike Missile Fire Control site with the radar tower having been removed and the other buildings now being used for a different purpose. She displayed an aerial photograph showing the site. Ms. Rochotte explained KEMRON had collected sediment samples in July 2010, and the results are being incorporated into a revised screening level ecological risk assessment. She stated this report is due to be submitted to the regulators in December 2010.

e. Mr. Cherry discussed Operable Unit 5, the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) site. He explained there is a low concentration of tetrachloroethene (PCE) in the groundwater which migrates from the site onto the North Track of the Patuxent Research Refuge owned by the Department of the Interior. Mr. Cherry said there are no human or ecological receptors impacted by the PCE, with the Feasibility Study completed in 2007 recommending monitored-natural attenuation with land use controls for this site. He explained that since the last update to the Board, EPA had reviewed the Remedial Investigation Report it had approved in 2003 and requested some additional work be conducted.

f. Mr. Cherry displayed an aerial photograph and showed the location of the site in relation to the building [DRMO] the meeting was being held in. He reviewed the history of site, noting it was used by the Defense Property and Disposal Office from the 1960s to 1994 as an open storage yard and disposal area for unused equipment and materials. Mr. Cherry showed an aerial photograph from the 1990s and stated it was during that time that volatile organic compounds (including PCE) were detected in groundwater monitoring wells. He continued explaining that in 1994 the property was redeveloped with the Covered Storage Facility being built. He said during the construction buried drums were encountered with eventually 260 drums and 3,500 tons of contaminated soil being removed.

g. Mr. Cherry discussed the scope of the environmental investigation conducted by previous contractors at the site noting numerous groundwater and soil samples had been collected and analyzed with the extent of the investigation expanding based on the findings. He

stated deep borings and monitoring wells, as well as multi-port monitoring wells, have been installed and sampled to determine the nature and extent of the contamination.

h. Mr. Cherry showed a graphic of the environmental restoration process, noting the Remedial Investigation Report was approved by the regulators in 2003 followed by their approval of the Feasibility Study in 2007. He advised questions had been received from EPA in 2007 leading to a request for additional remedial investigation activities. Mr. Cherry stated a work plan was prepared in conjunction with the regulators, and the supplemental activities and reporting have been ongoing since 2009.

i. Mr. Cherry discussed the regulatory concerns and the activities undertaken to address those concerns. He stated one of the concerns was the former source area where the drums and soil had been removed, and additional investigation and sampling found there was no residual source. He advised that the plume centerline, vertical delineation, and downgradient extent of the plume were now more defined. He said the additional work was summarized in a technical report that was submitted to the regulators and public in the spring of 2010.

j. Mr. Cherry said EPA reviewed the technical report and advised the Army there were still some outstanding technical issues and that the remedial alternative recommended in the 2007 Feasibility Study was no longer deemed appropriate. He explained that EPA has requested additional groundwater data for a broader list of parameters and sediment sampling in a nearby stormwater retention pond.

k. Mr. Cherry reviewed the next steps to be taken noting the Army is preparing a supplemental work plan to address EPA's comments, and once the work is approved and completed, revised reports will be submitted.

l. Mr. Wayne Dixon asked if there are any preliminary thoughts on what the new recommended alternative will be, noting that given the depth of the wells he would assume pump and treat is not being considered a viable alternative. Mr. Cherry responded that it is too soon to say what the recommended alternative will be, but they are looking at cost-effective appropriate technologies for treating a low concentration plume.

m. Mr. Fraser asked where the plume was located in relation to where off-post residences are located. Mr. Cherry pointed out the location on a map and stated the plume is cross-gradient and not impacting residential areas. Mr. Frazier asked how long it was estimated that it would take for the monitored natural attenuation to remediate the groundwater. Mr. Cherry advised it could be a long-term sampling and monitoring program spanning six or seven decades.

n. Ms. Kerry Topovski asked what was the highest concentration of PCE that has been detected, and Mr. Cherry responded the maximum concentrations are in the 100-150 parts per billion range. He noted there have been higher detections in the past, up to about 700 parts per billion, but nothing exceeding that level.

o. Mr. Fred Tubman asked if an aquifer has been impacted. Mr. Cherry stated there is a lower aquifer which has been impacted, and the remedial objective would be to restore this aquifer to beneficial use.

p. Mr. Fluck asked Mr. Cherry to describe the dimension of the plume. Mr. Cherry stated the plume is 6,000 to 7,000 feet long, and PCE has been detected 100 to 150 feet below ground surface.

q. Mr. Tibbetts asked about comparing and possibly relating this plume to another plume to the southeast. Mr. Cherry responded there are some solvent plumes to the east of this site, in the southeast corner of the Installation. He said they are separate plumes with separate and distinct sources.

9. Fort Meade Environmental Management System Web Page Update:

a. Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Denise Tegtmeier from the Fort Meade Environmental Division to give an update on the RAB web page.

b. Ms. Tegtmeier reminded the Board the web site is accessible by going to www.fortmeade-ems.org or through the main Fort Meade home page at www.ftmeade.mil and then clicking on Environmental Management System. She noted there is a button on the left-hand side towards the bottom for the RAB page. She advised there is also a button for the Installation Restoration Program and that page would be discussed at a future RAB meeting.

c. Ms. Tegtmeier explained the RAB page covers the frequently asked questions in the RAB Rule handbook, as well as a links to the actual handbook and the RAB charter. She noted there is a link to a map for the meeting location and a link to a form to express interest in being a RAB member. She stated there is a meetings tab and an archive tab which has information (including agendas and presentations) on RAB meetings held over the past three years. Ms. Tegtmeier advised there is a meeting schedule, and this schedule will be kept updated to post meetings coming up over at least the next six months. She explained there is a link for a repository which contains all the documents released for public comment.

d. Ms. Tegtmeier advised there is a list of Board members on the web site with their name, affiliation, and e-mail address. She said mailing address and phone numbers are provided for the government Board members but not for community members.

e. Ms. Tegtmeier invited Board members to contact herself, Mr. Fluck, or Ms. Maria Godwin who is actually updating the site with any suggestions for improving the website.

f. Mr. Tibbetts asked if it is possible to post information from when the RAB began, and Mr. Fluck said the web site is a work in progress but having all the historical information on the site is the ultimate goal.

10. Update on the Manor View Site:

a. Mr. Paul Fluck introduced Mr. Tom Crone from ARCADIS.

b. Mr. Crone reminded the Board that in 2009 a second performance-based contract was issued to ARCADIS, and the contract includes implementing a final remedy at the Manor View Site. He advised that until a final remedy is in place, ARCADIS is operating the interim remedy which consists of a methane extraction system and taking weekly measurements at 52 monitoring points and measuring the levels of methane in the ground to make sure the system is operating effectively and site conditions remain safe.

c. Mr. Crone discussed the most recent sampling results including those obtained Monday of this week, noting sampling is performed every Monday. He advised there were no significant changes in the data as the concentrations and locations of methane detections continue to be consistent with previous sampling events. Mr. Crone advised the data from Monday showed six locations with methane detections above the lower explosive limit, with all of those locations being in the center of the area where organic waste is believed to be present and decomposing and thus generating the methane. He noted that once methane is generated it is believed to be migrating to the southwest where it has been detected.

d. Mr. Crone showed the outer boundary of where the waste is believed to be buried, with the location of the organic waste determined through borings and studies to be in the north/northwest portion of the site.

e. Mr. Crone advised there was a scheduled shut down on November 5 to prepare for winter conditions, but no unscheduled shut downs during the last four weeks.

f. Mr. Crone discussed a suggestion made by Mr. Dixon at the previous Board meeting about running a parallel filter system to prevent a shutdown if the filter becomes clogged. He advised the suggestion had been reviewed with the team and the data examined more closely. Mr. Crone stated vacuum readings are taken before and after the filter to monitor its performance every week. He said the data shows after the installation of a new filter in August it reduced the vacuum by 10 inches of water, and the manufacturer recommends replacing the filter when the loss is 15 inches of water. He advised to date the vacuum loss has increased by 3 inches, and calculations show an expected one-year life span on this filter. Mr. Crone stated that based on the data, expanding the infrastructure at this time does not seem warranted since normal filter degradation is a slow process and it is monitored on a weekly basis. He added that in the unlikely event of a complete failure, the system will generate notifications and the team will respond within four hours.

g. Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Crone to explain the lower explosive level. Mr. Crone explained the lower explosive limit for methane is 50,000 parts per million; methane has to be present at that level with a certain concentration of oxygen and an ignition source to have ignition. Mr. Fraser asked if the hazard is in the ground or at the surface, and Mr. Crone

responded the methane is in the ground. Ms. Topovski added that the monitoring is part of an interim remedy, and Mr. Fluck confirmed a long-term remedy study is in progress as well.

11. Update on Groundwater Contamination in Odenton, Maryland:

a. Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Shelly Kolb of Malcolm Pirnie.

b. Ms. Kolb reminded the Board the study area for the project was a one-mile radius around the deep monitoring wells 125d and 126d, as well as Old Dairy Farm Road. She stated the project was initiated when elevated levels of volatile organic compounds were detected in the two monitoring wells.

c. Ms. Kolb stated the purpose of the project was to assess whether community properties with private wells have been impacted by the contamination, and a well survey was initiated in April 2009 to see who has private wells and whether they are used for drinking. Ms. Kolb advised that the well survey was deemed completed in September 2010.

d. Ms. Kolb discussed an overview of the two rounds of sampling that had been conducted at properties with potable wells. She stated bottled water continues to be supplied to residents. She stated one property on Nevada Avenue had an exceedance of the maximum contaminant level for PCE which EPA uses for drinking water, so this property and two adjoining properties are being sampled monthly. She explained the well on Nevada Avenue is not considered to be downgradient of monitoring wells 125d and 126d. Ms. Kolb reviewed the monthly sampling being conducted at Nevada Avenue to monitor the PCE detections in those wells.

e. Ms. Kolb advised the report for the interim measures for the initial one-mile radius has been prepared with an internal draft just submitted that day to the Army. She explained the ongoing effort will be to continue sampling private wells on Nevada Avenue, continue development of the work plan, and then implementation of the work plan in May.

12. Update on RAB Outreach Initiative:

a. Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Mary Doyle of Fort Meade's Public Affairs Office.

b. Ms. Doyle noted the Public Affairs Office had undertaken a public outreach program to solicit additional Board members. She discussed the activities to date that have included briefing the Fort Meade Community Council which includes leaders from the installation such as the Officers' Wives and Retiree Associations. Ms. Doyle said the Fort Meade tenant Commanders were briefed at their luncheon which is held every two months. Ms. Doyle advised that information about the Board will continue to be communicated at Fort Meade meetings. She stated a large mailing of approximately 1,000 information packets had been sent to neighborhood associations, groups, and individuals. Ms. Doyle advised a press release is being sent prior to each meeting to announce the meeting and encourage potential

13. New Business:

a. Mr. Fraser noted there is much re-development underway in the area; he asked if information is being shared about Fort Meade's environmental issues, particularly with other properties that have environmental issues or is EPA sharing the information about other properties. Ms. Kerry Topovski advised the one site Mr. Fraser mentioned is a State-level environmental site. Mr. Butch Dye of Maryland Department of the Environment said his agency does make information available on its web site on all sites the agency is involved with. In response to a question from Mr. Fluck, Ms. Tegtmeyer confirmed all properties within a one-mile radius were researched for the Odenton interim measures project.

b. Mr. Fluck advised that a schedule of Board meetings for 2011 had been posted on the web site, with the next meeting scheduled for January 20th, 2011. Mr. Tubman asked if it would be possible to re-arrange the room or obtain a different room for the next meeting to be in more of a circular arrangement, so it would be easier to talk with and hear everything each Board member has to say. Mr. Fluck responded that a great deal of effort had gone into looking for a suitable location throughout the community, and this building was the best venue for the meeting. He said the Army has made small improvements for each meeting with respect to audio/visual equipment and the room arrangement and will continue to work on these aspects of the meeting.

c. Mr. Tibbetts proposed that an appropriate time be found, perhaps a Saturday, when the RAB members could tour the sites at Fort Meade. He also suggested a binder be distributed to new members similar to what had been distributed in the past. He said the binder had included the RAB charter, the RAB handbook, and a glossary of acronyms and terms.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.



MICHAEL P. BUTLER
Chief, Environmental Division

CF:
RAB MEMBERS
FGGM GARRISON COMMANDER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE