



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 9, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR Restoration Advisory Board Members

SUBJECT: Minutes for the November 15, 2012, Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

1. The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting was held on November 15, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Captain John Smathers Army Reserve Center, Hwy 175, Fort Meade, Maryland. The next RAB meeting will be **Thursday, January 17, 7 p.m.**, at the Captain John Smathers Army Reserve Center.

2. The following RAB members were present:

Mr. Tim Berkoff, Community Member
Mr. Rusty Bristow, Community Member
Mr. John Burchette, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Paul Fluck, Fort Meade Restoration Manager, Acting Army Co-Chair
Mr. Martin Madera, Community Member
Mr. Howard Nicholson, Community Member
Mr. David Tibbetts, Community Co-Chair
Mr. Bill Delk for Ms. Kerry Topovski, Anne Arundel County
Mr. Fred Tutman, Community Member

3. Members not present:

Mr. Mick Butler, Fort Meade Co-Chair
Mr. Wayne Dixon, Community Member
Ms. Laurie Haines, Army Environmental Command
Ms. Ivana Maksimovic, Community Member
Mr. Harry Neal, Community Member
Mr. Kurt Riegel, Community Member

4. Others present were:

Mr. Steve Cardon	Fort Meade BRAC Office (Versar)
Mr. John Cherry	ARCADIS
Mr. Tom Crone	ARCADIS
Ms. Sarah Gettier	URS
Ms. Elisabeth Green	Maryland Department of the Environment
Ms. Katrina Harris	Bridge Consulting Corp.
Mr. Jerry Kashatus	URS

Ms. Denise Tegtmeyer
Ms. Nicole Walworth

Fort Meade Environmental Division (Versar)
Fort Meade Environmental Division (Versar)

5. Announcements and Minutes:

- a. Mr. Paul Fluck welcomed everyone. Mr. Fluck expressed his appreciation for everyone taking the time and making the effort to be present. He invited all present to introduce themselves.
- b. Mr. Fluck reminded everyone of the importance of signing out and the location of restrooms and exit doors.
- c. Mr. Fluck made a motion to approve the September 20, 2012, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the September 20, 2012, minutes.

6. Outstanding Items:

- a. Mr. Fluck stated an outstanding item is the desire of the Board to increase public participation. He reminded the Board a sustained and vigorous effort had been undertaken approximately two years earlier to increase public participation on the Board. He noted the previous effort included using news releases and social media, and as a result, community members on the Board increased by five people. He stated the effort did take almost a year. Mr. Fluck advised he had spoken to Fort Meade's Public Affairs Office, and they are willing to fully support another effort if the Board wishes to move forward. Mr. Fluck asked Mr. Tibbetts as the Community Co-Chair if he would like the Public Affairs Office to be engaged in another effort to increase community membership, and Mr. Tibbetts said he would like the effort to be undertaken. Mr. Fluck mentioned the previous effort did not focus on the members of the Armed Services or civilian employees who live and work at Fort Meade, and this might be a potential focus for the upcoming efforts. Mr. Tibbetts noted another area where representation is lacking is the Laurel/Maryland City area and suggested efforts also target this area; Mr. Fluck said he would convey this suggestion to the Public Affairs Office. Mr. Fluck noted ongoing activities such as press releases about the Board meetings and updating the environmental web site will continue.
- b. Mr. Fluck stated a second outstanding item is the discussion Mr. Tim Berkoff initiated regarding enhancing the ability of community members to better visualize Fort Meade's environmental sites. Mr. Fluck invited Mr. Berkoff to summarize his ideas and objectives. Mr. Berkoff said he wants to be able to use the quantitative information on the location of the contamination at the sites with a Google Earth-type application, so the community members can visualize where the sites are and can understand better where the contamination is relative to their property or other parameters. He said, based on his experience of being a Board member for the past year, maps are shown which are prepared for the Board, but they do not allow the community members to zoom in or overlay with wetlands or other features.

Mr. Fluck said he has been working with Army staff at various levels with respect to Mr. Berkoff's request. He stated he had made provisions to be able to use Google Earth during the presentations that evening, so community members could see the sites from that perspective and determine if Google Earth is a tool that would be useful at future meetings. Mr. Fluck acknowledged Google Earth wasn't what Mr. Berkoff is looking for, but he believed it to be a step in the right direction.

Mr. Fluck said Mr. Berkoff had provided him with sample websites from EPA, NASA, Navy, Army Corps of Engineers, and NOAA that provide the type of tools Mr. Berkoff has expressed a desire to have for Fort Meade's sites. Mr. Fluck said he tried to access a few of the sites, but firewalls on Fort Meade's computer system may be preventing him from accessing those sites. Mr. Fluck said he will continue to attempt to access the sites.

Mr. Fluck said Mr. Berkoff's request was sent to Fort Meade's Geographic Information System (GIS) staff who in turn sent it out to a large number of experts. He stated the request worked its way through many Army organizations and ended up with a Lt. Col. at Fort Belvoir's Environmental Law Division. He noted the email from the Lt. Col. indicated a similar request was raised from an Army installation in Alabama. Mr. Fluck noted it raised the broader question of what is the Army's policy on these types of requests and how should information be handled and released. Mr. Fluck said the Lt. Col. provided the Army's interim policy. Mr. Berkoff asked if he could obtain a copy of the email and interim policy, and Mr. Fluck said he would contact the Lt. Col. and see if it can be released; if it can be released, he will send to the Board. Mr. Berkoff said if the information cannot be released, he would request Mr. Fluck send a written explanation as to why it cannot be released. Mr. Fluck explained the Lt. Col. had provided a list of data layers and their current classification, and the kinds of layers that would be of interest to Board members (site boundaries, remediation locations, etc.) were all listed as unclassified. Mr. Fluck said the email also indicated the Army is not obligated to provide the information, but there are no prohibitions from providing the information. He said there is a process that would have to be followed irrespective of whether it is a direct request or a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request including reviews by Legal and Operational Security.

Mr. Tibbetts said he will send the information he obtained from a recent webinar which is relevant to this issue.

7. New Projects for Fiscal Year 2013:

a. Mr. Fluck stated he wanted to present information on some new projects planned for fiscal year 2013.

b. Mr. Fluck stated he would first discuss Site Y and showed its location using Google Earth at the intersection of Ernie Pyle and Y and 9th Streets. He also displayed photographs of the site. Mr. Fluck reminded the Board of how the site was discovered noting a person who works on Fort Meade mentioned seeing artifacts similar to those found at the Manor View site which were on display at an 2012 Earth Day event. He stated the site consists of 100 to 150 dump truck loads of dirt which appear to have been deposited at the site in 2000-2001. Mr.

Fluck showed photographs of the site as an open field in 1999 and then with the dirt piles appearing in the winter of 2000 and 2001. He pointed out the difference in coloring and stated it is very evident at the site, with the piles in the northern third of the site being very light tan and consisting of sand and dirt and some construction debris in the western corner. He stated the piles in the southern two-thirds are very gray/brown and is where the tableware and flatware were found from the Army Medical Command, along with some slag and asbestos panels. Mr. Fluck said the findings in the lower two-thirds of site raised the possibility of contamination, so Fort Meade worked with the Army Public Health Command to conduct sampling. He advised the piles were sampled for a large list of analytes including pesticides, herbicides, metals, dioxins and furans; the analysis showed the waste pile is a non-hazardous solid waste stream.

Mr. Fluck advised the finding of the site was reported to the Solid Waste Division at the Maryland Department of the Environment who issued a citation to the Army.

Mr. Fluck stated the Army has contracted with a company, Plexus, to remove the waste to an approved, licensed facility. He explained after they remove the waste, they will collect post-excavation samples of the underlying soil. He said if the results show any contamination from the analysis, there are contingencies in the contract to excavate additional soil and re-sample. Mr. Fluck said plans for conducting the work (work plan, health and safety plan, quality assurance plan) will be developed over the next six months and shared with the regulators and other stakeholders for review. He said the estimated timeline is for the field work to start around March of 2013.

Mr. Fluck explained after the removal of the waste is completed; the site will become part of the Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI) program and be closed out through the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. He continued explaining that sampling of the groundwater is not part of the Plexus contract but will be addressed within the PA/SI program. He stated the results of the sampling will determine whether the site advances to the next phase of the CERCLA process which is a remedial investigation or whether the site needs no further action and can be closed out with approval from the regulators.

c. Mr. Fluck next discussed the Pershing Hill stockpile. He advised the Pershing Hill Elementary School is located on Fort Meade and was determined not to be adequate to meet the current needs so it was demolished and reconstructed in place. He said the site is on top of a hill and is very small with wetlands nearby. He advised a burn pit was found during the construction. He noted the pit was probably dug in the late 1950s or early 1960s during the construction of the original school and was where all the cut trees were placed and burned to ash. Mr. Fluck said the pit was sampled for a variety of parameters, including petroleum hydrocarbons, dioxins and furans, with trace levels of dioxins and furans detected and low levels of petroleum hydrocarbons.

Mr. Fluck said the soil stockpile (approximately 25,000 cubic yards) was originally located at the site but due to its size was interfering with the construction activities. He noted the soil was moved to the current location which is a controlled, permitted location at our Closed

Sanitary Landfill. Mr. Fluck showed an aerial photograph of the original and current location of the stockpiled soil, as well as photographs of the stockpile.

Mr. Fluck advised a contract is now in place with PARS Environmental who has been tasked to re-sample the soil stockpile and dispose the soil at an approved off-Post facility. He stated post-excavation confirmatory samples would also be collected; if no residual contamination is found, the site will be closed out. He noted if any contamination is found, continued excavation and re-sampling will occur until the site is clean. Mr. Fluck said regulatory consensus will be sought to close out the site. He noted the field work is anticipated to start in the third quarter of fiscal year 2013.

d. Mr. Fluck next discussed upcoming work at the Former Troop Housing Boiler Plant, Operable Unit 2. He displayed aerial photographs of the site. He noted the plant was demolished some years ago but was serviced by a 20,000 gallon fuel oil tank which had leaked. Mr. Fluck explained a series of pump and treat systems had been put in place to remove several thousand gallons of free product from the groundwater beneath the site. Mr. Fluck showed photographs of the pump and treat systems.

Mr. Fluck stated the groundwater cleanup at the site is finished, and a contract has now been put in place to de-construct the treatment systems. He said the majority of the materials will be recycled with the pumps and internal mechanisms being sent to the Defense Reutilization Marketing Organization who will in turn make them available to the marketplace.

e. Mr. Fluck introduced Mr. Jerry Kashatus of URS, an Army contractor, to provide an update on Phase II of the Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI) work.

Mr. Kashatus noted the PA/SI project is a base-wide environmental study. He explained the PA portion is a tabletop study which looks at historic aerial photographs, maps, environmental reports, and anything that helps guide a decision as to whether a site has the potential for being an environmentally impacted site. He stated the PA identified more than 100 areas of interest, and while the majority of the sites were previously studied, a firm resolution was not finalized in writing as to whether the site should be further investigated or closed out. He noted since some of the studies were several years old, the PA assessed current site conditions compared to risk assessment criteria to reach a decision about the site.

Mr. Kashatus stated the majority of the sites included in the PA/SI are former landfill sites or former motor pool, wash rack, or building sites.

Mr. Kashatus explained that sites which did not have previous studies associated with them automatically went to the SI phase for field work. He stated all the work was being done in coordination with the regulators, as well as with the Architect of the Capitol and Department of the Interior when sites are on or near those properties.

Mr. Kashatus noted the sites were grouped geographically into several categories: Golf Course sites, North sites (housing areas), Southeast sites (industrial and administrative operations), Southwest sites (administrative), and sites South of Route 32 (sites in the Tipton or

Base Realignment and Closure Act parcel). He explained the Golf Course sites were grouped together and investigated first because of the pending construction. Mr. Kashatus displayed a map showing the geographic breakdown of the sites.

Mr. Kashatus explained that based on the PA and some field work consensus letters have been obtained agreeing that no further action is needed for a number of sites: 10 Golf Course sites, 11 North sites, 11 Southwest sites, 8 Southeast sites, and 7 sites South of Route 32. He noted field work through final reports has been completed for the Golf Course sites, and field work for 16 additional sites, mostly in the North, has also been completed.

Mr. Kashatus displayed a map showing the sites where no further action is needed and sites where further investigation will be done.

Mr. Kashatus summarized the work that is planned for fiscal year 2013 including completing field work for all areas; he noted the field work is underway with samples being collected and sent to the laboratory for analysis. He stated once the analysis results are received, reports will be prepared and shared with stakeholders for input.

Mr. Kashatus reviewed the project schedule, noting the field work should be completed in the next few months. He stated reports would be completed in the spring and summer, with the final reports completed by March 2014.

Mr. Kashatus stated if the data shows no excess risk at the site, it will be closed out. He said if the data shows there is risk at a site, the next step in the CERCLA process is a remedial investigation/feasibility study leading to a decision document. Mr. Kashatus noted if more immediate action is needed at a site, an interim action or removal action can be taken.

8. Manor View Dump Site Update:

a. Mr. Fluck introduced Mr. Tom Crone of ARCADIS to provide an update on the removal action and recent monitoring.

b. Mr. Crone displayed photographs of the site as it looked in late September and as it looked earlier in the week, noting grass has begun growing at the site.

c. Mr. Crone showed the aerial photograph of the site with results from recent methane sampling. He reminded the Board there are 36 monitoring points, and during the most recent quarter, only one of the 36 points had a lower explosive limit exceedance, VMP-30, and the next highest detection was at VMP-31. He also reminded the Board the system had been turned off since the removal action completion in August. He stated most of the other monitoring points showed no detections.

d. Mr. Crone showed a photograph of the area where VMP-30 and VMP-31 are located. He noted that even though the methane-generating waste had been removed, methane is still being detected at these two monitoring points. Mr. Crone stated it had been known that there is a utility corridor between the buildings with electric and natural gas lines.

e. Mr. Crone said field technicians detected a mercaptan odor while collecting samples, with mercaptan being an additive to natural gas which gives it the associated odor. He noted the presence of mercaptan could not be verified in the field through analysis by field instruments. Mr. Crone said the Army is working with BGE and Picerne to shut off the gas lines to just the unoccupied units and then collect samples and see if there is any change at VMP-30 and VMP-31.

f. Mr. Tibbetts asked if Picerne would be responsible for any of the costs, and Mr. Fluck said the Army is paying for the costs of the environmental work.

8. Update on the Nevada Avenue Project:

a. Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Denise Tegtmeier of Fort Meade (Versar).

b. Ms. Tegtmeier displayed the most recent sampling data, noting the September data had been validated and there were no significant changes. She stated the November sampling would be conducted the following week. She noted PCE is still being detected at the same levels as have been detected over the past year. Ms. Tegtmeier advised there were no detections which exceeded the maximum contaminant levels. In response to a question, Ms. Tegtmeier confirmed all residents wishing to receive bottled water are still receiving it.

10. Open Discussion/New Business:

a. Mr. Fluck invited Board members to contact him with potential topics for the next meeting.

b. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.



FOR

MICHAEL P. BUTLER
Chief, Environmental Division

CF:
RAB MEMBERS
FGGM GARRISON COMMANDER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE