



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

IMME-PWE

July 21, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR Restoration Advisory Board Members

SUBJECT: Minutes for the July 21, 2016 Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

1. The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting was held on July 21st, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Marriott Courtyard located at 2700 Hercules Road, Annapolis Junction, Maryland, 20701. The next RAB meeting will be **Thursday, September 15st, 2016, 7 p.m.**, at the Marriott Courtyard, 2700 Hercules Road, Annapolis Junction, Maryland, 20701 (smaller conference room).

2. The following RAB members were present:

Mr. Mick Butler, Fort Meade Co-Chair
Ms. Kellyann Few, Community Member
Ms. Elisabeth Green, Maryland Department of the Environment
Mr. Martin Madera, Alternate Community Co-Chair
Mr. Bob Stroud, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. David Tibbetts, Community Co-Chair

3. Members not present:

Mr. Rusty Bristow, Community Member
Mr. Wayne Dixon, Community Member
Mr. Harry Neal, Community Member
Mr. Fred Tutman, Community Member

4. Others present were:

Mr. Steve Cardon	Calibre (Fort Meade Legacy BRAC)
Mr. Walt Chahanovich	Fort Meade-SJA
Mr. John Cherry	Arcadis
Ms. Mary Foley	USGS
Mr. Tom Gilardi	Micah Group
Ms. Katrina Harris	Bridge Consulting Corp.
Mr. Michael Hertz	EA Engineering
Mr. Jerry Kashatus	AECOM
Mr. Craig Mah	Fort Meade-SJA

Ms. Erin McKinley	Sundance Consulting, Inc.
Mr. Keith Shepherd	Arcadis
Ms. Denise Tegtmeier	Sundance Consulting, Inc.
Mr. Larry Whitley	Fort Meade Public Affairs Office

5. Announcements and Minutes:

a. Mr. Mick Butler welcomed everyone and invited all present to introduce themselves and sign in.

b. Mr. David Tibbetts made a motion to approve the May 19th, 2016 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the May 19th, 2016 minutes.

6. Old Business:

Mr. Butler stated there were no outstanding items and the Board concurred.

7. Base Realignment and Closure Act/High Explosive Impact Area:

a. Mr. Butler introduced Mr. Mike Hertz from EA Engineering, a contractor to the Legacy Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) Environmental Program.

b. Mr. Hertz displayed a list of organizations who are part of the project team or stakeholders. He noted the High Explosive Impact Area is on the Patuxent Research Refuge which is owned by the Department of the Interior/Fish and Wildlife Service through a Transfer Assembly document signed in the 1990s. He explained the Army is responsible for the environmental cleanup. Mr. Hertz explained that EA Engineering is contracted through the Baltimore Corps of Engineers to assist with the preparation of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) documents at this site.

c. Mr. Hertz displayed a map showing the location of the site. He explained the historic use of the site was as a training range/impact area for large gun fire. He stated there was a concern for the possible presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) or what is now referred to as munitions and explosives of concern (MEC). Mr. Hertz advised removal actions for MEC began in the 1990s to a depth of six inches and then an assessment was conducted to determine if there was a need to go deeper; however, going deeper would be a potential environmental impact. He stated the Army decided at that time it was more of an environmental impact to go deeper than to leave any potential items in place and manage the site.

d. Mr. Hertz said in 2003-2004, the Fish and Wildlife Service identified 24 high-use areas, and the Army conducted a removal action to remove MEC at specified depths of six to 24 inches. Mr. Hertz displayed a table showing the 24 areas and the recommended and actual depth of the removal at each area; the actual clearance depth was deeper than the recommended clearance depth.

e. Mr. Hertz explained the Army is now at the stage of final CERCLA remedy development. He stated MEC or UXO clearance was not included under CERCLA in the 1990s; the Army performed the clearances because it was the right action to take. He said the Army is now wanting to document the environmental work under CERCLA, through the CERCLA process, which involves the regulators and community in the final remedies.

f. Mr. Hertz advised a Proposed Plan had been submitted on May 31, 2016 to regulators and the Fish and Wildlife Service for review. He reminded the Board that the CERCLA process involves an investigation and then a Proposed Plan which discusses alternatives for a site; he said a Record of Decision follows the Proposed Plan and documents the selected final alternative. Mr. Hertz said the remedial action objective is to minimize potential risks to human health and the environment presented by the presence of potential MEC at the HEI Area, while allowing for the intended future use of the property as a wildlife refuge. Mr. Hertz said it would not be possible to eliminate all risk, as it is not possible to find every MEC item in the ground with current technology.

g. Mr. Hertz said once the regulators have approved the Proposed Plan, there will be a public notice in the newspaper and a public meeting; Mr. Hertz showed a draft of the newspaper announcement. He explained once the Army had everyone's input, a Record of Decision would be prepared. Mr. Hertz said the preferred remedy in the current draft of the Proposed Plan is to identify and remove MEC to targeted depths based on exposure potential. Mr. Hertz stated this work had been completed during the removal actions. He said the preferred remedy also includes additional work at the NSA ballfields. He explained the ballfields had been cleared to a depth of four feet; however, there was munitions debris at four feet so the preferred remedy includes clearing the munitions debris from four feet and below. Mr. Hertz advised another part of the remedy is to formalize the existing land use controls at the Research Refuge to mitigate the risk of harm. He displayed a list of the land use controls which include prohibiting residential development until technology allows for complete delineation, minimizing the possibility of accidental contact with buried MEC such as through construction activity, developing a program of education for contractors and requiring UXO support as needed, continuing the visitor UXO education program, and conducting periodic MEC inspections in high-use areas.

h. Mr. Hertz advised the date for the start of the public comment period is targeted for the end of August. Mr. Hertz provided several contacts for any questions after the meeting.

8. Base Realignment and Closure Act/Trap & Skeet Range 17:

a. Mr. Hertz next discussed the soil remediation at the Trap & Skeet Range 17 on the Patuxent Research Refuge. He stated the soil remediation was being planned at the time of the last Board update; the work is now about halfway done.

b. Mr. Hertz displayed a list of organizations and stakeholders involved in the project, including a number of technical experts from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

c. Mr. Hertz displayed a map showing the location of the site, off Wildlife Loop on the left. He noted the site is about 20 acres, with the environmental impact area being much smaller.

d. Mr. Hertz discussed the history of the site, noting it was a shotgun range for clay pigeons which operated since the 1970s. He noted it continued to be operated after Fish and Wildlife acquired the property until about 1999. He advised the environmental impacts were metals from the lead pellets and PAHs from the clay pigeons.

e. Mr. Hertz displayed a graphic of the CERLCA process and noted this site is approaching the end of the process and is in the Remedial Action phase. He noted once the remediation is complete, the site will enter the long-term management phase and five-year reviews will be conducted to ensure the remediation continues to be effective until such time as the site can be returned to a residential standard.

f. Mr. Hertz reminded the Board that the 2014 Record of Decision called for the Army to protect human health and the environment from lead in the soil at 260 parts per million or greater. He explained that other compounds are co-located with the lead so removing the lead will also remove the other compounds. He stated the PAHs are being removed from two impacted areas designated DU1 and DU4; soil will be removed to a depth of 12 inches below ground surface. Mr. Hertz noted land use controls were already in place and were documented; the controls prohibit the disturbance of the site without ordnance support and written approval of the Army and prohibit residential development without further evaluation of residential exposure risks. Mr. Hertz added that the goal of lead removal above 260 parts per million is protective of human health and the environment.

g. Mr. Hertz displayed an aerial photograph of the site and showed the locations of the lead and PAH contamination. He discussed the depth of the lead contamination at several locations.

h. Mr. Hertz advised additional sampling was done to assist with placing erosion and sediment controls prior to the excavation. He displayed graphics showing the re-defined lead boundary, which was very similar to the boundary defined during the remedial investigation, and the concentration gradients.

i. Mr. Hertz reviewed the various plans developed prior to starting the work which were reviewed by the regulators and Army safety experts. He discussed the site preparation work done prior to starting the excavation. He noted the excavation was underway, along with confirmatory sampling to verify the remedial action objectives are being met. He advised that even though an ordnance clearance to 18 inches had been completed, the excavated soil is examined by ordnance technicians to ensure no ordnance leaves the site. He stated the soil is being disposed of as non-hazardous material, although some treatment may be needed to render it as non-hazardous before it is disposed of at a landfill. Mr. Hertz said regrading of the site, backfilling, seeding and tree planting will occur this fall and winter. He noted the Remedial Action Closure Report is scheduled to be completed by March 2017.

j. Mr. Hertz showed several photographs of the site prior to and during the work, as well as the demolition of an ordnance item. He also showed a short video of the demolition of an ordnance item.

k. Mr. Hertz provided points of contact for the project.

l. Mr. Hertz noted that Mr. Steve Cardon from the Fort Meade BRAC Environmental Office had brought several ordnance items found at the site for the Board to see and they were displayed on a table.

9. Report Status and Nevada Avenue Update:

a. Mr. Butler introduced Ms. Denise Tegtmeyer of Sundance Consulting to give an update on the status of a number of reports, as well as the Nevada Avenue project.

b. Ms. Tegtmeyer reminded the Board the monthly sampling at Nevada Avenue had changed to quarterly sampling, with the analysis of the recent samples showing fairly consistent results. She advised the broken spigot at one home is expected to be repaired soon so the water will be sampled during the next event. She noted the Army continues to provide bottled water, and the additional investigations on Fort Meade will continue to try to determine if Fort Meade is a source.

c. Ms. Tegtmeyer noted the draft Site Management Plan is scheduled to be distributed in June and then will be finalized after Congress appropriates funding for the next fiscal year.

d. Ms. Tegtmeyer said five-year reviews are underway at the Former Pesticide Shop and the Former Mortar Range, and both sites are discussed in one document which was distributed to stakeholders for review in June. She said the report is scheduled to be finalized in September.

e. Ms. Tegtmeyer next discussed additional recent reports. She stated for all the major contracts (ERMA 1, ERMA 2, and MAES), the contractors are required to develop a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) which details all the data needed for the project; therefore, stakeholders will be seeing multiple QAPPs.

f. Ms. Tegtmeyer said the ERMA 1 contract (awarded to CB&I) addresses Operable Units 3 and 5. She noted a baseline groundwater sampling event is being planned as groundwater sampling has not been conducted in a number of years. She stated a work plan for the sampling had been distributed in June, and the results of the work will help develop a data gap investigation work plan for Operable Units 3 and 5. Ms. Tegtmeyer said a Feasibility Study is under development for the Trap and Skeet Range.

g. Ms. Tegtmeyer discussed several current documents under the ERMA 2 contract which was awarded to PIKA/Arcadis. She noted current documents include a field modification

memo to change the groundwater sampling method from low flow to no purge and a QAPP Addendum. She noted a groundwater sampling report is being prepared for Operable Unit 4, Manor View, and the Pesticide Shop. Ms. Tegtmeier noted the Operable Unit 4 groundwater treatment system was temporarily shut down for repairs. Mr. Bob Stroud asked if major repairs are needed, and Ms. Tegtmeier responded the repairs were not major and the period of shutdown had been about two weeks, but they were hoping to have the system operating again the next day. Mr. Butler added that in one of his last reports to Col. Foley he had reported that the Operable Unit 4 groundwater treatment system was approaching 180 million gallons of groundwater that had been treated and re-injected into the aquifer.

h. Ms. Tegtmeier summarized current documents being developed by AECOM/Arcadis through the MAES contract. She stated the QAPP for this site is a much larger document, and two work plans are being developed as addendums to the QAPP. Ms. Tegtmeier noted a Proposed Plan is being developed for the Closed Sanitary Landfill, and once it is finalized, a 30-day public comment period and public meeting will be held. She added that some test pits and geophysical work was conducted to better delineate the boundary, and a report is being prepared.

i. Ms. Tegtmeier reminded the Board an update to the Community Involvement Plan had been discussed at the last meeting, and a draft should be distributed in August or September. She advised a Land Use Control Implementation Plan is also being developed, and a draft should be distributed in August or September.

9. Old Business:

Mr. Steve Cardon advised that a draft of the five year reviews for the Clean Fill Dump and the Ordnance Demolition Area he had discussed at the last meeting was available at the library; he offered to make electronic versions available to anyone who was interested. He advised the Tipton five year review draft is also at the library for review. He said all the drafts were out for a 30-day review period, and comments and questions were welcome.

10. Open Discussion/New Business:

a. Mr. Butler advised Baltimore Gas & Electric are running new power lines along Route 198 and during the construction found an item that they suspected could be MEC and contacted the Army. Mr. Butler advised the Fort Belvoir ordnance team had responded even though the location was private land, and they had determined the item was just metal.

b. Mr. Butler invited all to attend the change of command ceremony on August 4.

c. Mr. Butler invited Board members to let him or Mr. Knight know of any suggested topics for the next meeting. Mr. Tibbetts said he would like to see a presentation on erosion and sediment control plans.

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d. Ms. McKinley advised the next meeting on September 15 would be in the smaller meeting room down the hall as the current room was not available.

a. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

MICHAEL P. BUTLER
Chief, Environmental Division

CF:
RAB MEMBERS