



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

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

IMND-MEA-PWE

March 15, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: Restoration Advisory Board Members

SUBJECT: MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 28, 2010 RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

1. The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting was held on January 28, 2010, at 7 p.m. in Building 1978, the Network Enterprise Center, formerly known as the Directorate of Information Management, main conference room. The next RAB meeting will be on **Thursday, March 25, 2010, at 7 p.m. in Building 1978, the Network Enterprise Center, main conference room.**

2. The following RAB members were present:

Mr. John Burchette, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Mick Butler, Fort Meade Co-Chair
Mr. Paul Fluck, Fort Meade Restoration Manager
Mr. Robert Morton, Community Co-Chair
Mr. Howard Nicholson, Community Member
Mr. David Tibbetts, Community Member
Ms. Kerry Topovski, Anne Arundel County

Members not present:

Mr. Blight Carter, Community Member
Mr. Wayne Dixon, Community Member
Mr. Ed Dosek, Community Member
Ms. Laurie Haines, Army Environmental Command
Ms. Kathy Scott, Community Member

Others present were:

Ms. Summer Barkley	Fort Meade Public Affairs Office
Mr. Steve Cardon	Fort Meade Legacy Base Realignment and Closure Office
Mr. John Cherry	ARCADIS, Inc.
Mr. Jeff Dozier	Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Fort Meade
Mr. John Fairbank	Maryland Department of the Environment
Ms. Catie Gallagher	Plexus Scientific
Ms. Sarah Gettier	URS Corporation
Mr. Adam Gregory	Plexus Scientific
Mr. Bill Hudson	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Public Affairs
Mr. Jerry Kashatus	URS Corporation
Mr. Brad Knudsen	Patuxent Research Refuge
Mr. Kurt Scarbro	Maryland Department of the Environment
Ms. Denise Tegtmeier	Malcolm Pirnie

Ms. Gretchen Welshofer URS Corporation
Ms. Pamela Wood Capital Gazette Newspapers

3. Announcements and Minutes:

Mr. Bob Morton, community co-chair, called the meeting to order and asked each individual present to introduce themselves.

Mr. Mick Butler welcomed back Ms. Summer Barkley from her recent tour of duty in Iraq. All present expressed their appreciation for Ms. Barkley's service to our country.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted to approve the November 19, 2009 minutes as presented.

4. Outstanding Items:

Mr. Paul Fluck and Mr. Morton confirmed there were no outstanding items.

5. Groundwater Contamination in Odenton Area/Interim Measures:

Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Denise Tegtmeier of Malcolm Pirnie.

Ms. Tegtmeier reminded everyone that the project had been discussed at many previous meetings so she would not be reviewing all the background and history; however, the previous presentations are still on the Fort Meade web site [www.fortmeade-ems.org]. She stated the area being studied consists of a one-mile radius surrounding monitoring wells 125d/123s and 126d/124s (d=deep; s=shallow) which are located near the intersection of North Patuxent Road and Dovetail Lane in Odenton. Ms. Tegtmeier noted the Army also had included 16 properties on Old Dairy Farm Road in Gambrills as part of the area being studied.

Ms. Tegtmeier reviewed the results from the last sampling of the monitoring wells in June 2009. She stated the investigation had been initiated based on the elevated levels of carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄), tetrachloroethene (PCE), and trichloroethene (TCE) detected in the monitoring wells [125d and 126d].

Ms. Tegtmeier displayed a decision tree and explained a survey had been conducted of properties in the study area to determine who had a private drinking water well. She stated where private wells were located, permission was sought from the owners to sample the well twice within a 60 day period. Ms. Tegtmeier added that bottled water was offered to those with private drinking water wells and is still being provided to those who have accepted the offer. She noted the property owners were provided with the validated data from the sampling.

Ms. Tegtmeier reviewed the actions taken during the drinking water well survey which was initiated in April 2009 and concluded on January 21, 2010. She advised that Mr. Paul Fluck from Fort Meade and Mr. Bill Hudson from EPA had helped during the previous week to visit homes where a response had not yet been received and where the property had been identified by the County as having a private well. Ms. Tegtmeier stated these personal visits went well and

helped towards achieving the goal of having as much participation as possible. She said they were able to confirm the drinking water source for a number of properties. She advised they are working on incorporating these newly confirmed wells into the sampling and bottled water programs.

Ms. Tegtmeier noted of the 2,500 properties in the study area [1-mile radius around the intersection of Patuxent Road and Dovetail Lane] 1,679 surveys had been answered with 71 properties confirmed as having a well used as their primary drinking water source, 10 properties unconfirmed but suspected of having a private well as their primary drinking water source, 21 properties confirmed with a private well used for non-drinking water purposes, and 24 properties (mostly vacant) confirmed to not have a private well where a private well was suspected. Ms. Tegtmeier displayed a map showing these well survey results.

Ms. Tegtmeier stated permission was requested from 71 property owners to sample their private wells. She advised 55 wells were sampled during the first sampling event, and 51 wells were sampled during the second sampling event. She explained that some owners/tenants have not responded to the sampling request or not returned the right of entry forms, some have declined, and some have not been responsive to attempts to schedule the sampling or have not been home when the sampling team arrived.

Ms. Tegtmeier displayed a map showing the status of the sampling program and a chart showing the sampling results. She also provided larger copies of the map and chart as a handout. Ms. Tegtmeier stated only one sample showed a level over US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL); PCE was detected one time at 5.7 parts per billion at a property on Nevada Avenue.

Ms. Tegtmeier summarized the sampling results to date, noting that no MCL exceedances were detected downgradient from the monitoring wells, and one exceedance has been detected on Nevada Avenue which is in a cross-gradient direction from the monitoring wells [123s-126d] and about three-quarters of a mile from the monitoring wells. She noted the resident on Nevada Avenue is being supplied with bottled water, and monthly sampling at this property and two adjacent properties has been initiated. Ms. Tegtmeier displayed a chart showing the results received to date for the sampling at Nevada Avenue, noting that no MCL exceedances have been detected and one sample equal to the MCL has been detected. Mr. John Fairbank asked whether the December 2009 sampling result for dichloroethene should be 1.9 instead of 109, and Ms. Tegtmeier confirmed the 109 should be 1.9.

Ms. Tegtmeier reviewed the bottled water program noting that all properties in the program are offered bottled water supplied at no charge to the resident. She stated 44 properties have accepted to date with some properties awaiting sampling results. She advised bottled water will continue to be provided to those who wish to receive it.

Ms. Tegtmeier discussed the next steps to be taken including the sending of a certified letter to remaining property owners asking them to respond in writing whether they want to participate or decline participation in the sampling program. She said sampling will continue until two sampling events are completed, and then reports will be prepared.

Ms. Tegtmeier displayed a list of web sites where additional information can be found.

At the request of Mr. Fluck, Ms. Tegtmeier added that during the initial door-to-door survey efforts in April and May [2009] some homeowners were encountered who spoke only Mandarin and Cantonese. She stated an Army Environmental Command employees who spoke these languages accompanied them on the visits last week and assisted with obtaining information from these homeowners. Mr. Fluck expressed his appreciation for EPA's and the Army Environmental Command's assistance with the survey.

Ms. Kerry Topovski asked when the Army anticipated completing the sampling program. Ms. Tegtmeier responded that the remaining scheduling and sampling work and the sending of letters should be completed in a few weeks.

6. Golf Course Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection and Consensus Letters:

Mr. Fluck introduced Mr. Jerry Kashatus and Ms. Gretchen Welshofer from URS Corporation.

Mr. Kashatus reviewed the project goals of looking at existing information and collecting additional information to determine whether further action is needed or no further work needs to be done. Mr. Kashatus explained that consensus letters present information necessary to document a no further action determination or the need for a preliminary assessment/site inspection.

Mr. Kashatus stated this large project included assessing the status of 123 areas of interest with the Golf Course being a portion of the project.

Mr. Kashatus explained the Site Management Plan completed in November 2009 identified 30 open sites or operable units which include old motor pools and landfills. He stated within FGGM-95 (Operable Unit 45) and FGGM-96 (Operable Unit 46) there are 103 areas of interest, including the Golf Course sites.

Mr. Morton asked if it is the current Golf Course being discussed, and Mr. Kashatus responded it is the current location. Mr. Butler stated NSA is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed development of Site M, most of which is the Golf Course as it exists now. He continued explaining that in advance of the Site M project being funded, Fort Meade is investigating the Golf Course sites to have some additional information on the environmental conditions at these sites.

Mr. Kashatus explained the Site Management Plan identified a number of sites as needing no further action based on partnering meetings held in the early 2000s. He stated the stakeholders participating in these meetings agreed that about 100 areas of interest did not need further action. He stated these decisions were based on old data, and the Site Management Plan concluded the Army should go back and look at these sites.

Mr. Kashatus showed a list of the Golf Course Sites which consist of nine parcels along with a former wash rack system. He noted there is also a mortar range site which is being addressed under the Military Munitions Response Program.

Mr. Kashatus displayed an aerial photograph showing the samples collected throughout the Golf Course Sites. He noted some samples were collected in the past for the Environmental Baseline Study, but around the maintenance buildings the sampling was performed during earlier studies. He added that there appears to be much data available, but for some sites there may be only one sample and thus more sampling is needed. Mr. Kashatus advised that some draft consensus letters and some draft work plans have been prepared and submitted to do additional investigation.

Mr. Kashatus explained the process being used which involves reviewing existing data and doing a risk evaluation. He said if the risk exceeds EPA's guidelines, further sampling will be conducted. Mr. Kashatus then turned over the presentation to Ms. Welshofer to discuss the risk-based screening process.

Ms. Welshofer said they are working on taking existing data and putting some qualitative results to it to help with the risk-based management decision process. Ms. Welshofer noted they want to see what kinds of chemicals might be of concern for each site and will be looking at both soil and groundwater data and then providing qualitative results to make a decision to further investigate or take no further action. She emphasized the primary objective is to protect human health or any kind of receptors both now and in the future.

Ms. Welshofer said the risk-based screening process was developed in close coordination with Jennifer Hubbard, an EPA toxicologist, and consists of two tiers. She explained the first step [Tier 1] is a generic screening where the maximum detected concentration is compared with EPA regional screening levels that are protective of residents. Ms. Welshofer stated this is the most conservative type of screening. She explained EPA's regional screening levels are based upon a cancer risk of 10^{-6} or one in one million potential of developing cancer and a Hazard Quotient of 0.1. Ms. Welshofer stated each type of media (surface soil, subsurface soil, filtered and unfiltered groundwater) would be screened separately.

Ms. Welshofer displayed a flow chart showing the generic screening process she had described. She stated if a maximum detected concentration exceeds EPA's regional screening levels, the chemical is carried forward to the Tier II evaluation; if not, it is eliminated from further evaluation. Ms. Welshofer explained that soils are screened against residential soil levels and background levels, and groundwater is screened against EPA Maximum Contaminant Levels.

Ms. Welshofer discussed the Tier 2 step in the screening process. She explained the chemicals of concern from the Tier I evaluation are carried forward into the Tier 2 step to begin looking at the cumulative effect. She explained the maximum detected concentration is divided by the residential soil level, and that number is converted into a cancer risk and a non-cancer hazard estimate for each chemical. She continued explaining those estimates are added together to get an idea what the cumulative exposure might be to that site. Ms. Welshofer added that EPA

helped with the development of the thresholds which for a cancer risk is 5×10^{-5} and for a non cancer risk is 0.5.

Ms. Welshofer displayed a flow chart of the Tier 2 process. She noted in the Tier 2 evaluation, two sets of results are presented where the background and maximum contaminant level screening come into play. She explained that if the maximum detected concentration is less than background, the chemical is removed from the cumulative evaluation; the cumulative risk results are re-calculated to see if there is still an exceedance of the threshold criteria. Ms. Welshofer explained another possible process is to use EPA MCL to possibly develop a calculation more representative of site exposure. She stated the analysis results in two tables: one with all chemicals included and one minus those not exceeding background or MCL. She said the two sets of results are then presented to stakeholders, and they make a decision as to whether no further action is needed or further investigation needs to be conducted. She stated there is also an interim step where target organs can be looked at if the numbers are close to the threshold.

Ms. Welshofer summarized the process by stating the Tier I step identified any primary risk drivers, and Tier II provides a picture of potential residential exposure if someone were to build a residence on the site. She stated the process provides data to help stakeholders make risk-based management decisions. Ms. Welshofer advised the process is not a new process and is used at other military bases.

Mr. Kashatus reviewed the project schedule noting the draft work plan and consensus letters had been submitted and comments had been received from EPA. He stated field work is expected to start soon. He noted all current data is being submitted to the stakeholders to assist in their decision making.

Mr. Fairbank stated sites may still be subject to State regulations even if CERCLA [the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act] processes determine there is no risk.

7. Unanticipated Release Sites:

Mr. Fluck stated there are many construction projects underway or planned at Fort Meade. He noted they vary from construction of new buildings with more than a million square feet to small pre-fabricated buildings and utility lines which can go for miles. He said occasionally when ground is broken something unanticipated is found and there is a process in place that allows the Environmental Division to be notified in the event something unusual is observed. He explained there is also a formalized dig permit process in place which gives the Environmental Division the opportunity to look at a project in advance and convey information on any potential environmental issues. Mr. Fluck stated Mr. Butler has worked hard to get information on cleanup sites to the MILCON proponents sooner. In response to a question from Mr. Fairbank, Mr. Fluck explained the dig permit states activity will cease if anything unusual is observed, and the Environmental Division should be immediately notified. Mr. Butler added that much due diligence is done before a site is selected for construction, but Fort Meade is running out of land. He also stated the Army takes the stop work and notification process seriously.

Mr. Fluck stated when something unanticipated is encountered; the Environmental Division will typically take a quick grab sample and conduct some air sampling. He continued explaining that after sampling analysis, the Environmental Division provides appropriate guidance to the construction staff. He stated the typical situation is discolored soil, but occasionally items are found for example a metal cabinet containing cans of hardened paint. He noted that as construction projects have increased, it has put a strain on the limited staff of Fort Meade's Environmental Division. Mr. Fluck said they are working with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine [now called Army Public Health] to formulate a contract where they can respond in a quick and decisive manner to determine if there is a problem and coordinate with State and Federal regulators to ensure the protection of human health and the environment.

8. Manor View Site Gas Recovery System Update:

Mr. Fluck introduced Mr. Adam Gregory from Plexus Scientific.

Mr. Gregory reminded the Board that Plexus Scientific is managing the methane migration control system. He advised that operations for the past month have proceeded as usual, with methane continuing to be generated in the same locations as historically detected and not being detected in spots where historically it has not been detected. He advised one point near the elementary school had very low methane detections, well below the lower explosive limit of 50,000 parts per million, so it will continue to be monitored but is not a cause for concern. He advised methane had not been detected in any of the sentinel monitoring points.

Mr. Gregory stated the recent modifications made to improve efficiency are working properly; with no shut downs since his last report except for one related to power issues.

Ms. Topovski asked when Fort Meade intended to move military personnel back into the nearby homes. Mr. Butler responded that remediation of the site is part of the performance-based contract awarded to ARCADIS. He advised they have prepared an estimated schedule that shows test pits will be advanced this summer along with soil borings to determine the extent of organic waste. He explained this work would lead to a decision document and plans to address the waste in the ground, the groundwater, and spot soil issues. He stated this would all lead to excavation of the waste through the winter of 2011 with site restoration in the spring of 2012 and remedy complete for all phases except long-term monitoring of the groundwater. He reiterated the plan is to dig out all the waste and begin a performance monitoring period to confirm no methane is present. Mr. Butler said there would eventually be a recommendation to Army Leadership that the homes are safe to re-occupy, and they'd have the final say. Mr. Butler said he did not yet have specific details or timeframe but the first hurdle would be coming up soon.

9. Increasing RAB Membership:

Mr. Fluck introduced Ms. Summer Barkley from Fort Meade's Public Affairs Office.

Ms. Barkley discussed Fort Meade's plan for generating interest and increasing the Board membership. She noted it would be a coordinated and synchronized effort as they have put

together a broad-ranging plan and will be asking Board community members to assist in engaging new members by using their community contacts.

Ms. Barkley said the first step would be to create a master list of interested communities and organizations. She advised she had 14 points of contact for community groups, and she would be glad to share those with the community members who could then advise of any other points of contact or groups that should be added. She invited community members to contact herself (mary.susan.barkley@us.army.mil) or Mr. Fluck (paul.v.fluck@us.army.mil) with any suggestions. Ms. Barkley also distributed her business cards.

Ms. Barkley advised a story would be pitched to either the Board itself or one of the environmental projects to the print outlets, primarily the Capital Gazette, Baltimore Sun, and weekly newspapers. She stated the story would also run in the SoundOff!. Fort Meade's internal newspaper.

Ms. Barkley stated another activity would be to put announcements in newsletters such as the Picerne housing newsletter, nearby community newsletters such as Odenton, and the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge newsletter. She invited community members to also let her know of any newsletters that might be willing to accept announcements.

Ms. Barkley noted letters would also be sent to known community organizations and environmentally active groups such as the Greater Odenton Improvement Association.

Ms. Barkley stated they will begin running advertisements for the Board meetings in the SoundOff! and begin sending news releases to the newspapers that may or may not use the information.

Ms. Barkley discussed several mechanisms on Fort Meade that will be used for distribution of information about the Board such as community council meetings, the Officers Wives Club, and the Retired Enlisted Association. She noted there are also periodic luncheons for all the commanders of the 70-some units at Fort Meade and information can also be disseminated at these events. Ms. Barkley said the use of all social media will be maximized including Fort Meade's web site, TV blog, Facebook page, and mass e-mails to Fort Meade employees.

Mr. Fluck advised the Board that he, Mr. Morton, Mr. Butler and Ms. Doyle from Fort Meade's Public Affairs Office had met in December to begin strategically planning to increase the number and diversity of community members on the Board. He stated there are a few other activities underway such as a master list to understand what constitutes a diverse population in and around the installation and the possibility of having interviews with the local press. Mr. Fluck encouraged suggestions from the community members and said he would continue to keep the Board informed of progress and course adjustments as they move forward. He noted there were community interest forms and a Restoration Advisory Board fact sheet available at the sign-in table and the EMS website.

Mr. Howard Nicholson suggested the 14 community organizations identified be given a seat on the Board and invited to send a representative to the table. Mr. Fluck noted that Mr. Bill Hudson from EPA suggested communities on Fort Meade's boundary be visited in person and a

door-to-door canvas be conducted to invite participation. Mr. Fluck expressed his appreciation for these suggestions.

Mr. Morton offered to help with any presentations that needed to be made in the community.

10. Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program Update:

Mr. Fluck introduced Mr. Steve Cardon from the BRAC Program.

Mr. Cardon noted he would be discussing the restoration program sites on the property to the south of Route 32 which consists of the Patuxent Research Refuge North Tract, the Tipton Airfield Parcel, the Ordnance Demolition Area, the Clean Fill Dump, the Trap and Skeet Range, and the High Explosive Impact and Disposal Area. Mr. Cardon displayed an aerial photograph of the area and pointed out the location of the sites.

Mr. Cardon first discussed the Tipton Airfield Parcel, noting Records of Decision (RODs) were signed in 1998 and 1999. He stated the RODs called for no further action for the soils and for biennial (once every two years) groundwater monitoring, as well as for reviews of these remedies every five years. He said the Tipton Airfield Parcel was delisted from the National Priorities List in 1999 and transferred to Anne Arundel County. Mr. Cardon stated the Tipton Airfield Parcel also includes the Helicopter Hanger Area and Fire Training Area

Mr. Cardon displayed an aerial photograph and pointed out the monitoring wells. He stated 11 wells were sampled in the summer of 2009 as part of the biennial monitoring, and a report is due in early February which will be distributed to stakeholders for review.

Mr. Cardon explained a visual sweep is conducted annually of the three landfills which are part of the Tipton Airfield Parcel to ensure the safety caps are intact and vegetation has not compromised the integrity of the caps. He stated another maintenance activity occurs at part of the Little Patuxent River where a visual sweep is conducted annually to look for any munition items or debris. Mr. Cardon advised a draft report on the maintenance activities was submitted to the regulators on January 15, 2010, and the report included a few recommendations for removal of some shrubs from the caps and that the inspections continue. He noted comments from EPA had already been received, and comments from the Maryland Department of the Environment are pending. Mr. Cardon stated the draft report is available on the Fort Meade web site (www.fortmeade-ems.org).

Mr. Cardon discussed the most recent visual survey of a portion of the Little Patuxent River which is part of the Tipton Airfield Parcel. He stated the inspection is done from the Old Forge Bridge to a point 400 feet south of Maryland Highway 198, with the majority of the munition debris being found at the river bend. He said the most recent inspection was performed in August 2009, and the draft report was submitted January 15, 2010 and is available on the Fort Meade web site. Mr. Cardon said the inspection found 101 items, all of which were munition debris. Mr. Cardon distributed a compact diskette which contained copies of all the documents he had discussed and invited Board members to review and comment on the documents.

Mr. Cardon next discussed the five-year review conducted in 2009 for the Tipton Airfield Parcel which examined whether the actions implemented and the land use controls remain protective of human health and the environment. He stated the report was submitted in April 2009 and concluded that the actions remain protective. He advised EPA has not commented on the report due to the pending Explanation of Significant Differences. Mr. Cardon explained the Explanation of Significant Difference will incorporate into one document the older language from the different Records of Decision which address the need for munition sweeps, the handling of any munition items found, and land use controls for the Tipton Airfield Parcel. Mr. Cardon said a draft Explanation of Significant Difference should be available for review in May 2010.

Mr. Cardon next discussed sites which are part of the Patuxent Research Refuge North Tract. He stated the Clean Fill Dump Groundwater Operable Unit consists of about eight acres and includes the Uncontrolled Waste Site. He advised the dump contained construction debris and has been closed, but there are still monitoring wells associated with the Clean Fill Dump on the property. He reviewed the actions taken at the site including an Action Memorandum for safety procedures and a Record of Decision in 2000 for long-term groundwater monitoring, land use controls, and five-year reviews. He advised the most recent long-term groundwater monitoring was conducted in June 2008, and the last five-year review was conducted in 2009.

Mr. Cardon showed an aerial photograph with the well locations and stated the long-term monitoring conducted in 2008 sampled six wells. He stated the analysis found three volatile organic compounds at levels which exceeded EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels but were lower than the 2006 sampling event. Mr. Cardon said the draft final report was submitted in April 2009 and comments were received from the regulators. He said a final report is being prepared for submission in March 2010.

Mr. Cardon said the most recent five-year review of the Clean Fill Dump was conducted in 2009 to evaluate the implementation and performance of the remedy selected in the September 2000 Record of Decision. He noted the conclusion of the review is that the remedy continues to be protective. Mr. Cardon said the report also recommended sampling continue as the sampling results show detections exceeding EPA's Maximum Contaminant Levels. Mr. Cardon said the draft final report was submitted, and comments received from the regulators. He advised the final report is being prepared.

Mr. Cardon next discussed the Former Trap and Skeet Range and stated operations had ceased in the late 1990s. He said an ecological risk assessment was conducted in 2004 but data gaps exist. He stated a remedial investigation is underway to collect more information about the lead shot and arsenic in the groundwater. Mr. Cardon advised the schedule is for a remedy in place by 2011.

Mr. Cardon showed an aerial photograph of the site and discussed the dense coverage of lead shot pellets at the site, almost 3,000 shots per square foot. He stated the anticipation is that the site will need some type of remediation. He advised URS Corporation has conducted some field work, and the data is being validated. He advised groundwater monitoring well installation and sampling is scheduled for March 2010.

Mr. Cardon discussed the Ordnance Demolition Area, located in the southeast section of the Patuxent Research Refuge North Tract. He stated it is a small site, approximately 2.5 acres. He advised the site had a five pound explosive limit. Mr. Cardon said environmental sampling had found low levels of volatile organic compounds, cadmium, and explosive compounds in the groundwater.

Mr. Cardon advised the Army issued a unilateral decision document in 2005 where they selected monitored natural attenuation with land use controls and annual groundwater sampling. He stated EPA concurred with the Feasibility Study but did not sign the decision document; he stated since a Federal Facility Agreement has now been signed, the decision document will be re-submitted as a Record of Decision.

Mr. Cardon showed two maps of the Ordnance Demolition Area. He advised eight wells were sampled and low levels of contaminants were detected. He said a draft Proposed Plan is available for review on the Fort Meade web site, and the final Proposed Plan is tentatively scheduled for release for formal public comment in May 2010. Mr. Cardon noted the Record of Decision should be signed by August 2010.

Mr. Cardon next discussed the High Explosive Impact Area and Disposal site. He advised ordnance surveys and removals were performed over 100 acres down to 6 inches deep. He stated the Fish and Wildlife Service identified some high use areas and additional ordnance surveys and removals were done down to 26 inches and in some areas down to four feet. Mr. Cardon stated the Army had also formulated an education program for workers and recreational users regarding the possible presence of ordnance.

Mr. Cardon advised the five-year review was completed in April 2009 and found the remedy is functioning as intended with no reports of munitions being found, and the education program continuing to protect hunters and recreational visitors. Mr. Cardon said a draft report had been submitted, and a final report is scheduled for submittal in February 2010. He stated the Army will be formalizing the groundwater and munition land use controls for the site into a Proposed Plan and then a Record of Decision in the fall and winter of 2010.

Mr. Brad Knudsen, Refuge Manager, stated that the Refuge has averaged 100,000 visitors annually for more than 18 years and there has been no injury due to encountering an ordnance item.

11. New Business/Open Discussion:

Mr. Butler and Mr. Fluck discussed with the Board the need to move the meeting location to accommodate additional community members and due to the anticipated heightened security measures to be implemented at the current location. Mr. Butler advised a number of alternative locations have been looked into but the best possibility seems to be the reserve center. Mr. Fluck said he would keep the Board informed on the location. Mr. Knudsen offered the Refuge's Visitors Center as a possible location for an occasional meeting.

The Board agreed upon March 25, 2010 as the date for the next RAB meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.



MICHAEL P. BUTLER
Chief, Environmental Division
Directorate of Public Works

DISTRIBUTION:
1-Each member
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PAO