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## TRANSMITTAL

Date: May 6, 1997

To: Distribution

From: Darlene Brown *DB*

Re: Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Minutes (April 17, 1997)

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Per the request of Mr. Ronald Yee with the Department of the Navy, Engineering Field Activity West, the following information is enclosed with this transmittal letter:

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) draft meeting minutes for the April 17, 1997 meeting. The draft meeting minutes will be finalized during the RAB meeting scheduled for May 15, 1997. Enclosed are the following attachments:

- A. Draft agenda for May 15, 1997 RAB meeting
- B. List of attendees and sign-in sheet for the April RAB meeting

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please contact Mr. Yee at (415)244-2558, or Mr. John Rosengard, RAB Community Co-Chair, at (510)601-8740.

### Distribution:

Ms. Elizabeth Robinson Anello  
Mr. Steven Bachofer  
Mr. Scott Etzel  
Mr. John Fuery  
Mr. Steve Gallo  
Mr. Edward Gardner  
Ms. Susan Gladstone  
Mr. James Koeppel  
Mr. David Kory  
Ms. Sylvia Kotecki  
Mr. Clint Mayfield  
Dr. Eugenia McNaughton

Ms. Colleen Monahan  
Ms. Nicole Moutoux  
Mr. Larry Myers  
Ms. Connie Peak  
Mr. Richard Pieper  
Mr. James Pinasco  
Mr. Ricard Purdue  
Ms. Tatiana Roodkowsky  
Mr. John Rosengard  
Ms. Catie Roy  
Mr. Thomas Shirley  
Mr. Ronald Yee

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**NAVAL WEAPONS STATION CONCORD  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**Ambrose Community Center  
3105 Willow Pass Road  
Bay Point, California**

**Thursday, April 17, 1997**

**I. Welcome and Introduction**

The Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Concord Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met on Thursday, April 17, 1997, at the Ambrose Community Center in Bay Point, California. Mr. John Rosengard, the RAB community co-chair, opened the meeting at 7:11 p.m. A list of attendees is attached (see Attachment A). Mr. Rosengard summarized the agenda for the meeting, stating there would be presentations on the Site Tour, the Installation Restoration Program cost to date, and the partial deletion process. The RAB would then discuss future agenda topics and action items, and open the forum to public comments.

**II. Approval of February RAB Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Rosengard asked whether there were any comments or changes to the minutes from the March 1997 RAB meeting. No comments were raised. The March 1997 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

**III. Review of Site Tour**

Mr. Richard Pieper, Navy co-chair, described the tour of the NWS Concord conducted on Saturday, April 12. Seventy-nine members of the general public attended the tour, out of 89 reservations. The RAB members placed newspaper advertisements, and developed and distributed flyers to 9,000 households near the base. Mr. Pieper said he considered the tour to be a success, although he felt the tour could have had an even higher turnout if more busses had been available. The approximate direct costs of the tour were in the \$9,000 to \$10,000 range, with much of the work being accomplished through volunteer effort. He particularly singled out Mr. Edward Gardner, Ms. Tatiana Roodkowsky, Ms. Sylvia Kotecki, and Mr. Richard Purdue for thanks. For future tours, he recommended contracting out flyer development and mailing service. They received many positive comments from attendees; one government representative was impressed that RAB members provided much of the information during the tour.

Mr. Rosengard noted that over the last two years, there has been a significant increase in the number of individuals who are knowledgeable about the scope, issues, and progress of the base's

environmental cleanup. They now have a means in place to bring issues before the public and reach a consensus on cleanup.

#### **IV. Community Co-Chair's Report**

Mr. Rosengard indicated that once the Tidal Area Remedial Investigation (RI) report has been reviewed, there will be less content for the RAB to consider. Since there may not be sufficient agenda items to justify meeting every month, he suggested meeting every other month, with committee meetings held on alternate months.

There are three copies of the Tidal Area RI report available; Mr. Rosengard would like at least five members of the public to review it, and prepare one comprehensive letter for review by the Navy. The 60 day comment period started the day of the meeting (17 Apr). The Tidal Area RI report will be covered during the May RAB meeting. The three copies initially went to Mr. John Rosengard, Mr. Steve Gallo, and Ms. Connie Peak.

Mr. Rosengard announced that one application for RAB membership was received during the tour. Mr. Gene Stills recently moved into the area, and is experienced with public interest groups. The application was unanimously approved by a show of hands. Mr. Gardner suggested sending applications to those who were interested in the bus tour, but were unable to attend. Mr. Pieper indicated that they would send information such as fact sheets to the tour participants, along with RAB applications and a letter inviting them to serve on the board.

The three copies of the Litigation Area Qualitative Ecological Assessment (QEA) report are being circulated amongst the public. The information repository in Pleasant Hill needs to be updated to include that document, as well as the Inland Area RI report, and the RCRA study for the Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs), and the Tidal Area RI report.

#### **V. Installation Restoration Program Cost to Date**

Mr. Ronald Yee, Engineering Field Activity (EFA) West, provided an update on the cost of the environmental program at NWS Concord. There has not been a significant change since the previous report two years ago. Mr. Yee reviewed the following four group of sites of the Navy's Installation Restoration Program (IRP):

- 1) The Litigation Area consists of four remedial action sub-sites (RASS). The cost for litigation against the adjacent chemical companies and former property owners in court was \$2.4 million. Study costs totaled \$9.8 million. Design costs totaled \$0.5 million, and construction costs totaled \$12.3 million. The overall total is \$25 million. Over the last two years, an additional \$0.1 million was spent on the Litigation Area to study the effects of the remediation.
- 2) The Tidal Area consists of four sites. Study costs were \$6.3 million; construction costs were

\$22,000; and underground storage tank (UST) removal costs were \$89,000, totaling \$6.4 million. Two study contracts costing an additional \$0.5 million were awarded during the last two years.

- 3) The Inland Area consists of five sites. Study costs were \$3.8 million; removal costs were \$44,000, and the UST program cost \$94,000, for a total of \$4 million. Two contracts have since been awarded that included a phase II monitoring of one of the sites for \$575,000.
- 4) The solid waste management units (SWMUs) have incurred only study costs to date, which total \$1.1 million.

Mr. Yee stated that total environmental program costs for NWS Concord are approximately \$37.3 million at present. He noted that these are obligated funds.

Mr. Yee noted that with the Tidal Area RI report due for release, the SWMU sites located in the industrial area off Kinne Boulevard will be the only significant RI activity remaining. He asked members to consider what they want to get out of the RAB and what will be its perspective.

Mr. Pieper responded that the July/August meeting would be a good time to discuss the RAB's direction, since the May meeting will discuss the Tidal RI report, and the June meeting will present RAB comments on the Tidal RI report. He suggested Mr. Roy Santana put together overhead slides showing a schedule of events planned for the environmental program at the NWS Concord, and outlining major milestones.

Mr. Rosengard added that after the RI reports are complete, the next phase of Superfund is the Feasibility Study, followed by the Record of Decision (ROD). There will be RODs for the Inland Area and the Tidal Area. He asked if there would be a ROD for the SWMUs or the Litigation Area.

Ms. Nichole Moutoux, U.S. EPA, responded that there would be a ROD for the Litigation Area, but the SWMUs would have a different type of decision document.

Mr. Rosengard summarized that this information provides future consideration for the RAB; members need to think about possible agenda items for future meetings.

## **VI. Partial Deletion**

Ms. Moutoux explained that partial deletion is the process where parts of a facility are delisted from the National Priorities List (NPL). She focused discussion on the desirability of a partial delisting, rather than the procedure to do so.

Mr. Yee stated his preference to hear a complete presentation to determine the effort it would take. He said a delisting would offer a measure of success on the part of the Navy and believes the partial deletion might be of interest to residents in the local area.

Ms. Moutoux replied that most of the effort of the delisting would be on the part of the EPA and the Navy. The Navy or someone from the public must initiate the process by making a request.

Mr. Pieper expressed concern with the level of effort required and the benefits associated with the delisting. Public involvement might raise unrealistic expectations of the benefits. He stated he doesn't believe that the NPL site status has been detrimental to property values, so a partial delisting might have no effect on property values, disappointing the public. While he feels that partial delisting would be a sign of success for the Navy and regulatory agency project managers, getting involved in delisting would detract from what a RAB is supposed to do. He stated that it would take an additional level of effort to accomplish the delisting, and might duplicate efforts following the completion of the Superfund process. Mr. Pieper pointed out that a number of issues need to be resolved and remediation accomplished at several of the sites. Some action must be taken prior to being eligible for delisting, and that has not yet been done. He recommended additional study of the delisting process and its applicability to NWS Concord before taking it to public.

Mr. Rosengard made the point that the actual NPL sites comprise only about 3,000 of the 13,000 total acres of NWS Concord. An alternative to partial delisting would be to publicize that most of the station is not actually an NPL site.

Ms. Peak stated it would be premature to make a decision on partial deletion without a better knowledge of the pros and cons, and of the costs. She believes the non-contaminated areas could be delisted. Mr. Gardner agreed with delisting the non-contaminated areas, but not the whole station.

Ms. Moutoux responded that delisting the entire station is not under consideration. Delisting isn't required to publicize that only small areas of the station are contaminated. Delisting any contaminated areas, such as the inland area sites, would be difficult without taking some action. After remediation has been accomplished, partial delisting of the remediated sites could be pursued. Ms. Moutoux recommended pursuing delisting one to two years from now. Mr. Pieper added that even though about 3,000 acres are considered contaminated, the contamination levels are not uniform and total contamination consists of only about 375-425 acres.

Mr. Steve Bachofer said he believes that it is necessary to go to the ROD even with partial delisting, so delisting now would only duplicate paperwork. Mr. Thomas Shirley stated he did not feel they are ready to close out any of the sites.

Mr. Steve Gallo asked if a partial delisting would lower the base's priority with the agencies. Ms. Moutoux replied that there would be less EPA oversight, and efforts might take a little longer. It might also effect the Navy's funding.

Marcus O'Connell, a member of the public, asked if clean areas are delisted resulting in isolated contaminated sites, would it create a problem for waste disposal or movement. Ms. Moutoux

indicated that it would not since little consolidation would occur. Mr. Rosengard added that many of the sites are actually contiguous, so waste would not have to move through non-contaminated areas.

Mr. Pieper asked members of the public in general if they perceive the listing on the NPL as an important issue. Mr. O'Connell answered that it is potentially, but not much information is available, and the contamination problems have not been covered in the media. He added that he has not heard anyone mention an effect on home values.

A RAB member on the public relations (PR) committee then asked if enough information, besides that provided at the RAB meeting, is getting out to the public. Mr. O'Connell responded that more information is better, but the data is too complex, and there is a danger in oversimplifying. He added that more PR is needed, and suggested a regular column in the local newspaper.

The RAB discussed putting together a press package. Ms. Moutoux suggested a quarterly newsletter or fact sheet to maintain control over the information that goes out.

Mr. Pieper reiterated that the sites do not pose an unacceptable risk to anyone in the general public. Some contaminants from the Tidal Area could get into the Bay, but present less of a risk than contaminants already present in the water. He noted that NWS Concord may still discover some contaminants.

## **VII Action Item Update**

Mr. Rosengard brought up the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) conference call to discuss the Litigation Area QEA and lay the foundation for an NRDA claim.

Ms. Gladstone indicated that previous discussions concerned whether the Litigation Area studies were sufficient for an NRDA claim. A conference call was suggested to get an opinion from the resource agencies, such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mr. Pieper stated he did not believe there has been an NRDA accomplished. The process is not standardized, and is often burdened with groups seeking money for damages occurring 50 years ago.

Ms. Gladstone stated the Navy's responsibility was to investigate the site under Superfund, and questioned how it fit into NRDA. Resource agencies were invited to participate in the scoping meetings.

Mr. Rosengard explained that the resource agencies have up to 36 months following a ROD signing to claim damages to endangered species. It was clarified that an NRDA is not part of the Superfund process.

Ms. Gladstone stated that there is no reason for the Navy to come forward to request an NRDA. Mr. Pieper added that they are trying to find the problems and solve the problems. Ms. Gladstone noted that the purpose of the Litigation Area QEA was to determine if the wetland was functioning and healthy, and whether the actions allowed the areas to come back. There was also concern about the possible effect of residual contamination, and if additional remediation would be required. Mr. Pieper added that the QEA served its purpose, and that it would probably provide 80-90% of the information required for an NRDA. Mr. Rosengard stated he thought the QEA quantified the conditions before and after contamination, and laid the foundation for more studies. Based on the discussion, he dropped his request for a conference call.

### **VIII. Future Topics**

Mr. Rosengard stated that they are interested in suggestions for future agenda topics. He summarized the current list:

- Presentation by the Navy on the Tidal RI report for the May RAB meeting.
- Review of the RAB mission, possibly during the June/July meetings.
- Hold elections for the RAB community co-chair position at the August meeting.

### **IX. Public Comment**

Mr. Rosengard opened the meeting to any business or comments from the public. There was none.

### **X. Adjournment**

Mr. Rosengard adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 1997, Ambrose Community Center, 7:00 p.m.**

*A copy of these meeting minutes is available for public review at the Information Repository located at the Main Branch of the Contra Costa County Library in Pleasant Hill.*

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Draft Agenda for May 15, 1997 Meeting  
NWS Concord  
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
April 17, 1997**

**DRAFT AGENDA  
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION CONCORD  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, May 15, 1997**

**7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Ambrose Community Center  
3105 Willow Pass Road  
Bay Point, California**

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7:00 - 7:05	Welcome and Introduction
7:05 - 7:15	Community Co-Chair's Report - John Rosengard
7:15 - 7:25	Approval of April RAB Meeting Minutes
7:25 - 7:45	Presentation on the Tidal Area RI Report - John Bosche (PRC) and Jim Polek (Montgomery Watson)
7:45 - 8:00	Questions and Answers -Tidal Area RI Report
8:00 - 8:10	Break
8:10 - 8:25	Questions and Answers -Tidal Area RI Report
8:25 - 8:35	Environmental Schedule and Suggested Future RAB Topics - Ronald Yee (EFA WEST)
8:35 - 8:55	Discussion of Future Agenda Topics and Action Item Update
8:55 - 9:00	Public Comment
9:00	Adjournment

**ATTACHMENT B**

**List of Attendees and Sign-In Sheet  
NWS Concord  
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
Thursday, April 17, 1997**

**LIST OF ATTENDEES**  
**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
Thursday, April 17, 1997

1. **COMMUNITY MEMBERS**  
Mr. Steven Bachofer, Mr. Steve Gallo, Mr. Edward Gardner, Ms. Sylvia Koltecki, Ms. Colleen Monahan, Ms. Connie Peak, Mr. John Rosengard, Mr. Thomas Shirley
2. **NAVY MEMBERS**  
Mr. Richard Pieper (NWS Concord), and Mr. Ronald Yee (Engineering Field Activity, West)
3. **REGULATORY AGENCY MEMBERS**  
Ms. Susan Gladstone (Regional Water Quality Control Board), Ms. Nicole Moutoux (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), and Phillip Ramsey (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
4. **OTHER ATTENDEES**  
Mr. Marcus O'Connell, J. Carrell, Ms. Kathy Walsh (PRC Environmental Management Inc.), Mr. Russ Stowe (Gutierrez-Palmenberg, Inc.), Ms. Darlene Brown (Gutierrez-Palmenberg, Inc.), and Barry Gutierrez (Gutierrez-Palmenberg, Inc.)

Naval Weapons Station Concord  
 Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
 April 17, 1997

Please Sign In:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Phillip Ramsey	1788 Harmony Way	510/458-2180
Connie Feak	2520 Ryan Rd #35	510 842-6919
Russ Stone	2350 W. Pinedale #1 Concord	209-784-8139
THOMAS SHARLEY	P.O. Box 114 Concord	510-671-7693
Colleen Mordhae	3955 Juniper Dr Concord	510 685 2610
J. Carrell	2224 Pinewatway Antioch	510-539-5962
Jardene Brown	2417 Mariner Sq Loop Alameda CA 94501	510-749-8277
Steve Buchter	Pleasant Hill	510-947-1453
Kathy Walsh	PRC/135 Main St Suite 1800 S.F. CA 94105	415-222-8254
Ronald Yee	900 Commodore Dr San Francisco CA	(415) 244-2558
Linda Taylor	WPNVSA Concord	(510) 246-5650
Steve Gallo	925 Meadowood Ct Martinez 94553	(510) 370-7969
John Rosengard	525 Hampton Piedmont	(510) 601 8740
Pusan Gladstone	RWA@B	510-286-0840
EDWARD GARONEU	128 NORMAN AVE ALYSSA CA	510-626-1337

Nicole Montoux

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