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9 February 1998

From: Commanding Officer, Engineering Field Activity West, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
To: Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Members Distribution List, Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Concord, CA
Subj: RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB): MINUTES OF 15 JANUARY 1998 MEETING

Encls: (1) Minutes of the January 15, 1998 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Concord

1. Draft minutes of the Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Concord Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting of 15 January 1998 are forwarded as enclosure (1). Any corrections or clarifications to these minutes can be provided at the next RAB meeting, at which time the minutes will be finalized.
2. No formal RAB meeting will be held on 19 February 1998. Instead, a working meeting among RAB community members will be held to review the *After Remediation (Year 3) Remedial Action Monitoring Report*. The working meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Mount Diablo Medical Center (Martinez Room), 2540 East Street, Concord, California.
3. The next formal RAB meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, 19 March 1998, at the Mount Diablo Medical Center (Martinez Room).
4. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (650) 244-2523; Mr. Steve Gallo, RAB Community Co-chair, at (510) 427-3450; or Mr. Stan Heller, NWS Concord Co-chair, at (510) 246-5672.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
ROY E. SANTANA
Remedial Project Manager

Distribution:
Ms. Elizabeth Robinson Anello
Mr. Steven Bachofer
Mr. Scott Etzel
Mr. Steve Gallo
Mr. Edward Gardner
Ms. Susan Gladstone
Mr. Stanley Heller
Mr. David Kory

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Subj: RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB): MINUTES OF 15 JANUARY 1998
MEETING

Ms. Sylvia Kotecki
Mr. James Pinasco
Mr. Richard Purdue
Ms. Tatiana Roodkowsky
Ms. Catie Roy
Mr. Roy Santana
Mr. Thomas Shirley
Mr. Larry Steinwandt
Ms. Lynn Suer
Mr. Gene Sylls

Blind copy to (w/encl):
TtEMI (Attn: John Bosche)
GPI (Attn: Darlene Brown)
10121, 10122, 1032
Information repository: (3 copies)
Chron
Activity file: NWS Concord

Addendum to the Minutes

Please note that in lieu of the regularly scheduled February RAB meeting, the RAB community members will hold a working meeting on February 19, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in the Martinez Room at the Mount Diablo Medical Center. The main purpose of the working meeting will be to review the "After Remediation (Year 3) Remedial Action Monitoring Report" that was distributed to the RAB on February 2, 1998.

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 15, 1998, RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION CONCORD**

**Mount Diablo Medical Center
Martinez Room
2540 East Street
Concord, California**

I. Welcome and Introduction

The Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Concord Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) met on Thursday, January 15, 1998, in the Martinez Room at the Mount Diablo Medical Center in Concord, California. Mr. Steve Gallo, the RAB community co-chair, opened the meeting at 7:20 p.m. The agenda and the sign-in sheet from the meeting are attached to these minutes (see Attachment A).

II. Approval of November RAB Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gallo solicited comments on the minutes from the RAB meeting on November 20, 1997. A motion was seconded and passed to approve the minutes as distributed.

III. Community Co-Chair's Report

In his co-chair's report, Mr. Gallo stated that he was pleased with the Mount Diablo Medical Center as the new venue for RAB meetings and hoped that the convenient location would attract new and returning members. He also stated that the public relations committee was looking into the establishment of a web site for the RAB and was seeking opportunities to set up displays at local libraries, community colleges, grocery stores, or other establishments that have display cases and are accessible and visible to the public.

IV. Presentation on Wetlands Restoration

Mr. Tom Gandesbery with the Watershed Division of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) gave a presentation on wetland restoration in the San Francisco Bay Area. He shared some of his expertise and knowledge of dredging and contaminated sediments in the Bay Area. Mr. Gandesbery distributed five handouts: (1) A Citizen's Guide to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board; (2) a brochure entitled "Wetlands Ecosystem Goals Project"; (3) information on the Sonoma Baylands Wetland Demonstration Project; (4) a map entitled, "Bay Area EcoAtlas," depicting historical and modern views of the Baylands and adjacent habitats; and (5) a document published by the San Francisco Estuary Project entitled, "State of the Estuary."

On a map of the San Francisco Bay, Mr. Gandesbery pinpointed numerous dredging projects in channels and tributaries with an approximate total volume of 190 million cubic yards. He also presented a bar graph showing the quantity of material suspended in the water column over recent years; the bar graph indicated that dredging volumes deposited in the Bay have been drastically reduced since 1985. Mr. Gandesbery stated that the reduction in dredging volumes is attributable to base closures, a downturn in maritime activities due to consolidation, and strict port regulations. He stated that testing must be conducted on sediments to be dredged or redeposited, but that, generally speaking, the materials are chemically clean.

In response to a question about bioassays, Mr. Gandesbery stated that bioassays are a decision tool used to measure toxicity of dredge materials. Mr. Rich Purdue asked what RWQCB would do if materials that were redeposited in a dredged area were contaminated. Mr. Gandesbery said that the state would conduct a long-term management study.

Mr. Gandesbery provided some background on the Sonoma Baylands Wetland Demonstration Project. He explained that there are competing laws protecting wetland areas and many different federal, state, and local agencies involved that have different interests. The Wetlands Ecosystem Goals project is a collaborative attempt to address wetlands issues.

Mr. Gandesbery concluded his presentation by fielding and responding to questions from the RAB. He offered additional copies of the handouts and stated that he would be available as a resource to the RAB should future questions arise.

V. Update on the Napalm Site Removal Work

Mr. John Bosche provided a brief update on the removal action at the napalm site. He stated that Tetra Tech EM, Inc. (TtEMI) had not removed a rolloff bin containing excavated contaminated soil from the site. The destination of the contaminated soil will depend on the results of toxicity testing. Confirmation sampling yielded one sample that contained a low concentration of benzene that was below action level. As a result of the removal action, the site is ready for a no action proposed plan and record of decision (ROD). TtEMI will submit a report on the removal action to the regulatory agencies on February 12, 1998.

A RAB member asked if the Navy maintains a list of disposal contractors. Mr. Bosche responded that disposal will be based on the nature of the material awaiting disposal. Another person asked about the depth of the excavation. Mr. Bosche stated that the excavation was 2 to 2 ½ feet deep and that the volume of excavated material amounted to one roll-off bin. In response to a question about how the napalm arrived at the site, Mr. Heller stated that napalm present at the site appears to be a resin and that it may have been burned at the site as part of a explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) training operation. In order to avoid ponding in the excavation area, the Navy may backfill the area or grade the area to promote drainage.

VI. Followup on RAB Comments on the Tidal Area Landfill Feasibility Study

Mr. Bosche stated that he had prepared responses to several of the RAB comments on the Tidal Area feasibility study (FS) report. In answer to a comment on the installation master plan, Mr. Bosche indicated that Mr. Heller was prepared to respond. Mr. Heller explained that he had reviewed the installation master plan and determined that it should not be relied on as a defining document for the Landfill area. Mr. Heller presented a map from the master plan that depicted ordnance arcs that encumber some of the Landfill area. The master plan was last updated in 1989.

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Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
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Mr. Bosche responded to the RAB's concern that metals may be migrating from the landfill. He stated that of 24 samples that were taken, only three detected concentrations of metals exceeded ambient levels and preliminary remediation goals. Mr. Bosche stated that he does not see a large-scale landfill source migration; his overall conclusion was in agreement with the findings from the remedial investigation report.

Mr. Rich Purdue questioned the rationale of using a presumptive remedy for the landfill without first characterizing the contents of the landfill. Mr. Bosche responded that qualitative results indicate that a lack of contamination has been detected. Prior to the remedial investigation, the Navy and regulators had been talking about selecting a presumptive remedy; nonetheless, they plan to investigate the value of the latest comments.

In response to the RAB's comment on the potential presence of munitions and unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the landfill, Mr. Heller read paragraph 2.2.1, page 2-1 from the Initial Assessment Study by Ecology and Environment, Inc. that indicates that ordnance materials, including inert munitions, and filler from a general-purpose 750-pound bomb were placed in the landfill. This is the only known statement and reference to ordnance material in the Landfill. Because of the potential for ordnance disposal at the landfill, the Navy must and has taken every precaution to preserve the safety of workers in the area.

Mr. Santana provided copies of the agency comments on the Tidal Area Landfill FS report to Mr. Gallo for distribution to RAB members. Mr. Santana also provided Mr. Purdue with a copy of the "Technical Memorandum on the Preliminary Results of the Remedial Investigation Phase I Site Characterization Activities," the report Mr. Purdue had requested at the November RAB meeting.

Mr. Gallo requested that Mr. Bosche continue his response to RAB comments at the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Gallo adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. The next RAB meeting will take place on Thursday, March 19, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in the Martinez Room at the Mount Diablo Medical Center.

[Note: See addendum to minutes on the next page.]

ATTACHMENT A

**Agenda and Sign-In Sheet
NWS Concord Restoration Advisory Board Meeting
January 15, 1998**

AGENDA
NAVAL WEAPONS STATION CONCORD
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 15, 1996

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Mount Diablo Medical Center
Concord, California

7:00 - 7:05	Welcome and Introductions
7:05 - 7:15	Community Co-chair's Report
7:15 - 7:20	Approval of Meeting Minutes
7:20 - 8:00	Wetlands Presentation by Regional Water Quality Control Board Representative
8:00 - 8:10	Break
8:10 - 8:20	Update on the Napalm Site Removal Work - Mr. John Bosche (Tetra Tech EM Inc.)
8:20 - 8:40	Followup on RAB Comments on the Tidal Area Landfill Feasibility Study - Mr. John Bosche
8:40 - 8:50	Information on the Installation Master Plan - Mr. Roy Santana (Engineering Field Activity West)
8:50 - 8:55	Future Agenda Topics and Action Item Update
8:55 - 9:00	Public Comment
9:00	Adjournment

NAVAL WEAPONS STATION CONCORD
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE
JANUARY 15, 1998

RAB MEMBER	Signature
Steven Bachofer	<i>Steven Bachofer</i>
Steve Gallo	<i>Steve Gallo</i>
Edward Gardner	
Sylvia Kotecki	<i>Sylvia Kotecki</i>
Richard Purdue	<i>Rich Purdue</i>
Tatiana Roodkowsky	<i>T Roodkowsky</i>
Thomas Shirley	
Larry Steinwandt	
Gene Sylls	

NAVY REPRESENTATIVES

Stan Heller (NWS Concord)	<i>Stan Heller</i>
Roy Santana (EFA West)	<i>Roy Santana</i>

REGULATORY AGENCIES

Nicole Moutoux (U.S. EPA)	<i>Lynn Suec Lynn Suec</i>
James Pinasco (DTSC)	

NAVY CONTRACTORS

Josh Bosche (Tetra Tech EM Inc.)	<i>Josh Bosche</i>
Kathy Walsh (Tetra Tech EM Inc.)	<i>Kathy Walsh</i>

