



# THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

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## ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 161

MEETING MINUTES  
Restoration Advisory Board  
May 16, 1996

Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Commander's Conference Room

The Restoration Advisory Board Meeting was held on May 16, 1996 at the Defense Depot Memphis, Tennessee (DDMT) in the Commander's Conference Room. The attendance list is attached.

Ms. Christine Kartman opened the meeting by welcoming the RAB members and members of the community and giving them an overview of the agenda for the meeting.

**Old Business**

**New Business**

**Tour of the Depot--**

The members of the RAB toured the facility. The tour included stops to look at buildings and Dunn Field. The tour lasted approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

**DERTF Meeting--**

Ms. Kartman - There was a national Defense Environmental Response Task Force (DERTF) meeting that myself, Ms. Estes and representatives from our regional and headquarters offices attended on the 8th and 9th of May in San Antonio.

This committee is chaired by the Department of Defense Under Secretary for Environment, Ms. Sherri W. Goodman, and they would like to attend our RAB meeting in September. We want to try to have a normal meeting; however we do expect Ms. Goodman to make a brief presentation about the meeting of the Task Force. There could possibly be media and usually there are about 50 staff members and presenters at their meeting that will be coming to our meeting. We are looking at the Community Club here at the Depot for the meeting in order to accommodate everyone.

The DERTF committee meeting will begin on Wednesday, September 18th at 1:00 p.m. and will continue until Friday morning. This meeting is open to the public and a public comment period will be held on Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. The format will include various presentations on environmental issues concerning BRAC. The BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) and the Memphis Depot Redevelopment Agency (MDRA) will be making presentations on Thursday afternoon, then around 3:00 p.m. the Committee will be touring the Depot.

Letters will be sent to the RAB, MDRA and local officials inviting them to this meeting. It will include the Agenda and clear up some of your questions about the types of presentations.

We would like to encourage each of you to think now about questions that you would like to have answered by this committee. We would like to get a copy of the questions so that we can give Ms. Goodman a chance to answer your questions, not just give a "canned" response.

We are planning on presenting the Draft BRAC Cleanup Plan at the RAB meeting in September since it should be coming out at about that time. This plan will help us map out our restoration progress.

There will also be someone coming from Ms. Goodman's office next month to attend the RAB and meet with the BCT and MDRA.

From the RAB - "Will there be a June 27th Town Hall meeting with Janet Hooks?"

Ms. Kartman - "As far as we know there will be a meeting, but we do not have a location yet. We are still hoping to have someone from ATSDR at the meeting, but we have not heard from them about attending. We will make a presentation on the Groundwater Status at the meeting.

#### **Project Update--**

Julian Savage of the Corp of Engineers in Huntsville gave an update on the restoration project. He mentioned at the last meeting that it would be interesting to show the plume in a 3D form.

Mr. Savage's slide showed us a conceptual view of what a slice of the earth under the Depot looks like. This example showed what will happen if you keep digging down below Dunn Field, first you will run into the Fluvial Aquifer, then a clay layer and below the clay you find the Memphis Sands Aquifer. This slide shows what happens when you go to the well and take a sample and send it for analysis. This sample should show the contamination and at what concentration, then you can see the performance of your ground water extraction system, which is what we call the Interim Remedial Action. We are working with the Waterway Experimental System to determine how many wells are needed and to help us design a pump and discharge system for Dunn Field. The final design for this system will be finished 15 July 1996, and the actual contract for this work could occur by the end of September, 1996.

Mr. Clay - "You indicated that they will start doing something within 30 days and that it is still an interim process?"

Mr. Savage - "Yes, this will prevent further movement of the plume and help us determine the location of the wells and how long we want to pump."

Mr. Smith - "You judge by the concentration levels."

Mr. Savage - "Yes, you judge by the concentration levels, that's why you have monitoring wells because they tell you exactly what is happening within the groundwater."

Ms. Kartman - "This is an interim action, once we get clearance on the chemical warfare, then we can dig up the source of this contamination or neutralize the source. Whatever technologies we use, we can then remove the problem so we don't have to pump and treat forever."

Mr. Spariosu - "By source we mean this stuff has spilled on the ground so it has been sitting in the soil and gradually leaching into the groundwater. What we have to do is to contain the plume now and I think find a solution in this case that is clear since there is a pretty strong source in the soil somewhere judging from the concentration. So any final solution, would take care of that source. So we can't really design it until we've had a chance to investigate but we still want to do this to stop the contamination from moving."

Mr. Smith - "Is it possible to get more wells in, if it comes up really nasty, since the contractor is there, or do we have to go back through this whole process?"

Ms. Kartman - "If we see that it's not working, then we would add more wells. Once you have them in, you learn more"

Mr. Smith - "When do you think this will happen?"

Mr. Savage - " By the end of this calendar year."

Ms. Kartman - " I would say in December or January the unit should be operating."

Mr. Clay - "I just have one more thing to say about it. You are going to place the monitoring wells on the northeast side of it, this is going to be a problem, I think you should place one down on Laploma or somewhere, there is a whole city block between a couple of them."

Ms. Kartman - "I understand, Carter Gray had to leave and we'll have to talk to him about this because that is upgradient, which means uphill. "

Mr. Spariosu - " I mean there is no reason for us to place wells there."

Mr. Clay - "They don't know specifically where everything is buried and the way I look at it is water is like water it's going to flow to different areas. I really don't see the problem, well I guess you might not really want to know and that's the case then."

Mr. Spariosu - "We have pretty detailed maps that showing the gradient"

Mr. Clay - " We don't have detailed results from sinking wells, that should really be the concern"

Mr. Spariosu - "Well we know which way the groundwater is flowing very well."

Mr. Clay - "Well, I would think if you would want to win the community support you would want to put some wells in and show at these point that they are dry and we don't have any evidence of any contamination. Anything less than that you are going to have to hoodwink a whole lot of people and I'm not going to be in a position to do that. I mean am I making any sense at all?"

Mr. Williams - " It makes sense to me"

Mr. Spariosu - "It's just that if you have wells in the northeast corner of Dunn Field and there is no contamination there and you got wells all over telling you that the water is flowing to the southwest."

Mr. Clay - "Well, that's just because you've got wells there, I'm talking about an absence of wells."

Ms. Kartman - "It's upgradient from where we have wells so it can't go backwards, it just can't move backwards"

Mr. Clay - "But you see."

Mr. Smith - "There is a well on Lapaloma."

Mr. Clay - "That's a good spot, but what about back toward Hayes where the initial reports by Law Environmental said a contamination plume existed. The report I've seen after that said it is on Defense Depot property, but the initial report clearly states that it is in this area."

Ms. Kartman - "It is also upgradient from the Depot, it is also up the railroad tracks and that's not ours, I can tell you that right now. I know that does not make you feel good."

Mr. Clay - "I don't believe it. If it can be off the Defense Depot's property to the west then why is it not the logical way to think to the east?"

Ms. Kartman - "Because of all the scientific data that we have."

Mr. Clay - "But there is no scientific data from east of Dunn Field. I'm not going to dispute it, but it's not there. That's all I'm saying. If we are going to take this thing at face value."

Ms. Gray - "The two new wells they put in are clean"

Mr. Clay - "It's not in the same area."

Mr. Spariosu - "The Depot has more upgradient wells that are monitored than we require."

Mr. Clay - "They are in safe areas. That's something we all need to be cognizant of, anything you can do about it, it's the real deal, nothing else I can say."

Mr. Williams - "I guess it is something we should look closely at, what do you think Mr. Smith?"

Mr. Smith - "Let's look at the map, let's see if the wells are too far off."

Ms. Kartman - "I'm sure we can do something, I just don't want to do something that wastes money."

Mr. Clay - "Believe me, if you do this you are going to get a lot more out of it than letting people walk around and say, 'Why didn't they do a thorough job?' There is a big hole in this area."

Mr. Williams - "Instead of putting a well somewhere else, why not put one in this area?"

Ms. Kartman - "It's bigger than us, you have to understand that, there is only so much we can do."

Mr. Clay - "I just don't want anyone to think we didn't do our job on this board."

Mr. Williams - "Well, could we think on this and adjourn?"

Ms. Kartman - "Yes, we are going to talk about the Environmental Baseline Survey next month, we'll try to get copies out to everyone. Just try to be opened minded about everything and answer is not no, the answer is if there is just cause then we will put the money down."

Mr. Clay - "It is difficult and a complex problem."

Ms. Kartman - "This is a very complex system, we will continue to review and evaluate the data."

Mr. Spariosu - "Let's just get a map with the water levels, and show him how it contours."

Ms. McGlown - "I think you will find that find that scientifically the groundwater flows to the west, scientifically you may not come up with a reason but you may want to do it for the comfort of the community. I don't believe you will come out with scientific economic reason, so then the question is do you do it to answer questions for the community?"

Mr. Clay - "I think that is significant."

Mr. Savage - "Kevin, let me get with you and go over the information before the next meeting."

Ms. McGlown - "I agree with both of you, but I agree with Chris that water is not going to flow uphill and probably there is nothing over there and if there is it didn't come from the Depot. But, then I agree with you that if the community has questions, the community does not understand all of the scientific data, they will understand that the well in my area, right next door to me, is clean."

Ms. Kartman - "We need to talk to Carter, because to me this is an off site issue and I know Janet's been working with him on other off site issues. There are other industrial sites that do a lot worse things than store things."

Mr. Williams - "If it wasn't the Depot, you wouldn't disclose it."

Ms. Kartman - "We would disclose it, just as we did in the background sampling. However, at this time we need to close this discussion, we will continue to look at your concerns."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.,

The next RAB meeting will be held on June 20th at 6:00 p.m. in the Commander's Conference Room at the Depot.

### Restoration Advisory Board Members

Ms. Christine Kartman	Defense Depot Memphis
Mr. Larry Smith	Mid-South Peace and Justice Cent
Mr. James Webb	Memphis Light Gas and Water
Mr. Dann Spariosu	EPA
Mr. Terry Templeton for Jordan English	TDEC
Mr. Carter Gray	Memphis/Shelby County Health
Department	
Mr. John Garrison	Citizen Representative
Ms. Karen McGlown	Citizen Representative
Ms. Johnnie Mae Peters	Citizen Representative
Mr. Eugene Brayon	Citizen Representative
Ms. Veronica Smith	Citizen Representative
Ms. Terri Gray	Citizen Representative
Mr. Kevin Clay	Citizen Representative
Mr. Dave Bond	Citizen Representative
Ms. Elizabeth Young	Citizen Representative
Mr. Mondell Williams	Citizen Representative

### Others in Attendance

Mr. Clarence Smith	DDRRE
Ms. Denise Cooper	DDMT
Ms. Ursula Jones	DDMT
Ms. Hattie Chism	Citizen
Mr. Russell Ray Anderson	Citizen
Mr. Julian Savage	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Ms. Sue Estes	ME3, L.L.C.



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