

**Minutes
Fort McClellan Restoration Advisory Board
Jacksonville Community Center**

Monday, March 18, 2002

PRESENT:

Co-Chair: Glynn Ryan

Board Members: Scott Beckett, James Buford, Monty Clendenin, Pete Conroy, Barry Cox, Don Cunningham, Jerome Elser, Donna Fathke, Curtis Franklin, Lamar Freeman, William Kimbrough, Fernand Thomassy

BCT Members: Philip Stroud, Ron Levy

JPA: Miki Schneider

A. CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES

Mr. Ryan asked Mr. Conroy to stand in as co-chair for Mr. Branchfield. Mr. Conroy called the meeting to order, conducted roll call, and asked guests to introduce themselves. The board approved the minutes from January and February meetings.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Member Roster and Meeting Dates

Mr. Levy provided a revised membership roster and asked members to verify the accuracy of the information. The board approved the meeting schedule for 2002.

2. Technical Review Committee Membership

Mr. Hopper has not confirmed whether he will be a member of the TRC.

3. Technical Assistance Public Participation Startup Meeting

The TAPP committee will try to set up a start-up meeting.

C. PROGRAM

1. Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for Landfills and Fill Areas

Mr. Levy introduced Ms. Jeanne Yacoub, the project manager for IT, and stated she would present a briefing on the landfill EE/CA. Mr. Levy mentioned that the public comment period for this EE/CA would begin March 21 and continue through April 19th, and he stated there would be a public meeting for this document on April 1. He also mentioned there was a notice of intent in the newspaper legal section and that he would prepare an ad for the paper prior to the public meeting.

Ms. Yacoub stated the EE/CA, a comprehensive landfill strategy for Fort McClellan, provides recommendations for the ten known fill areas with recommendations for No Further Action under CERCLA for eight of the fill areas and CERCLA actions for two of the fill areas. In order to facilitate reuse of the property and minimize safety concerns, she stated the Army is recommending non-CERCLA actions for six fill areas. She briefly described each landfill and fill area and pointed out the locations on a large map. She discussed Landfills No. 2 and 3 in detail as there was risk to human health for residential reuse at these sites, although there was no risk identified under CERCLA for recreational reuse of these areas. At Landfill 2 she noted there was risk to human health for a resident from lead, arsenic, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons or PAHs. And there is a potential ecological risk due to some metals and other compounds in surface soils. The Army recommends a land use control for landfill 2 to restrict future residential reuse of the property. In response to a question about PAHs, Ms. Yacoub stated they are commonly associated with asphalt and tar and Mr. Levy added they also are a product of prescribed burns. Ms. Yacoub then discussed Landfill 3 where investigation found chlorinated volatile organic compounds in ground water and thallium in surface soil for the residential site user but no risks for the recreational site user and no ecological risk under CERCLA. The recommended action for this site is a low permeability soil cover, land use control, and limited long-term ground water monitoring. In response to Mr. Dwight Mitchell's (sitting in for Mayor Kimbrough) comment concerning Weaver's source water well head protection study and the possible use of wells around Landfill 3 in that study, Mr. Levy stated he would provide data that the Army has. Mr. Levy stated there were wells on property of private landowners, and there may be an issue regarding release of data related to their wells. Ms. Yacoub said the EE/CA study identified no human health risk or ecological risk under CERCLA and therefore no further action under CERCLA for Landfill No. 1, Landfill No. 4 and the Industrial Landfill, Fill Area at Range 30, Fill Area West of Iron Mountain Road and Range 19, and the Stump Dump. Ms. Yacoub stated there was no human health risk identified under CERCLA but there was potential risk to ecological systems from various metals and compounds for Fill Area North of Landfill No. 2, Fill Area East of Reilly Airfield and Former Post Garbage Dump, and Fill Area Northwest of Reilly Airfield. In answer to questions about the mercury in surface water presenting a potential risk to ecological systems at the Fill Area Northwest of Reilly Airfield, Mr. Yacoub answered that the Army and regulators agreed on benchmark ecological values against which to screen findings, and then made risk management decisions based on the number of findings that exceeded the values and/or by how much they exceeded the values. There was a brief discussion on CERCLA and benchmark values and EPA and ADEM approval of those values. Discussion continued regarding human health risk and ecological risk with Ms. Yacoub briefly describing the Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment process, the first steps up to step three in the eight-step full-blown ecological risk assessment that determined no significant risk. In response to the question regarding the food chain issue in risk, Mr. Ellis Pope stated the human health risk takes that into account. Mr. Joe Doyle replied to a question regarding future use of fill areas stating for sites where there is no further action and no land use controls, the Army is in compliance with the law. A deed notice would put people on notice that there was a former fill area, but there will be no restrictions on the sites. Additionally, he said the proposed reuse for these areas is recreational as stated in

the application for the economic development conveyance of the property. Ms. Yacoub discussed the non-CERCLA actions at six of the fill areas to promote reuse of the property and minimize some safety considerations. The Landfills and Fill Areas EE/CA was provided to the Technical Review Committee at tonight's meeting. Ms. Miki Schneider of the JPA stated they hired an independent engineering firm to review the EE/CA to help them determine long-term marketability of the property.

2. Chemical Warfare Materiel (CWM) EE/CA

Mr. Levy stated there is a notice of intent for the Chemical Warfare Materiel EE/CA with the 30-day public review period running from March 13 through April 11. He invited attendees to the public meeting, which he said was the following day at the Anniston City Meeting Center. He then introduced Ken Stockwell who presented the findings and recommendations of the CWM EE/CA. In summary there were potentially 33 sites identified from archive reports and records where past training using CWM could have occurred. Based on available information and previous studies it was determined that 14 sites did not require further investigation and no further action was required. He discussed the findings of the remaining 19 sites stating that the EE/CA investigation concluded no further action for any of them.

3. Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for Eastern Bypass Action Memorandum

Mr. Levy discussed additional acreage needed by the Alabama Department of Transportation for their right-of-way to construct the bypass. The Army signed an action memorandum in August to begin ordnance clearance in the bypass area on the original right-of-way requested by ALDOT. In February 2002 ALDOT requested an additional 40 acres so under the requirements of CERCLA the Army had to prepare an Explanation of Significant Differences to describe the change, allow the regulators to comment on it, published a notice of availability in the local newspaper on April 12, and place the ESD in the administrative record. He stated actions on this additional acreage will follow the actions the Army is currently taking on the eastern bypass. Mr. Thomassy mentioned he recently attended an ALDOT briefing with the Chamber of Commerce, and ALDOT implied their work was being slowed down due to the Army's clearing the areas of UXO or certifying the areas were cleared. Mr. Doyle replied that the Army presented time lines to ALDOT from day one to keep ALDOT informed, and there has been no significant change in the time lines.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Agency Reports

ADEM – Mr. Stroud reported that five contractors responded to ADEM's request for UXO support, and ADEM is looking at them now.

EPA – Mr. Doyle Brittain was unable to attend due to budget constraints at EPA.

JPA – Ms. Schneider reported they would meet with the Army in April on the landfills and underground storage tanks.

In response to a question from Dr. Cox as to why EPA was not attending the RAB meetings, Mr. Levy answered Mr. Brittain was restricted on travel due to lack of money to travel. Mr. Conroy offered to write a letter to EPA expressing concern over these issues.

Mr. Stroud reported that EPA pulled out of UXO and left it in the State's hands. There was discussion regarding the fact that EPA sent a letter about two weeks ago stating primacy belongs to ADEM so EPA will send their comments on HTRW documents to ADEM and will not provide comments at all on UXO documents. Mr. Levy explained EPA stated in the letter they had no regulatory authority for ordnance, and it was a State issue rather than an EPA issue. Mr. Conroy stated he would address this issue in a separate letter to ADEM.

2. Action Summary Sheet

Mr. Levy stated rather than taking up time going through the summary sheet, he would take questions on it. There was discussion regarding three breaches into safety zones since the first of the year. In addition to the danger there is the expense of shutting down the Army's operations when it happens.

In response to Ms. Schneider's question whether the TRC will discuss their comments on the fill area EE/CA with the RAB, it was decided to put this on the agenda for the next RAB meeting. Ms. Fathke stated she would like to be copied on any E-mails to the TRC members and asked the TRC to write their comments keeping in mind that she would be reading them without the document as reference.

E. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Conroy called for audience comments, but there were none.

F. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.