

**Minutes
Fort McClellan Restoration Advisory Board
Fort McClellan, AL**

Monday, August 19, 2002

Submission to RAB for approval – minutes of meeting August 19, 2002

PRESENT:

Co-Chair: Craig Branchfield, Glynn Ryan

Board Members: Scott Beckett, James Buford, Monty Clendenin, Don Cunningham, Jerry Elser, Lamar Freeman, Mary Harrington, William Kimbrough

BCT Members: Ron Levy, Doyle Brittain, Philip Stroud

JPA:

A. CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES

Mr. Branchfield called the meeting to order, conducted roll call, and asked for guest introductions. The Board approved the minutes for the July meeting.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. End of Landfill EE/CA Public Comment Period

Mr. Branchfield stated the public comment period ended today. He provided to the RAB members a hard copy of Mr. Grant's summary on the EPA and ADEM comments and invited questions concerning the summary from the RAB. Mr. Branchfield E-mailed a copy of the summary to everyone that day.

2. Mr. Branchfield mentioned there were three vacancies on the RAB and five applications for membership with a few more on the way. Copies of blank applications for membership were provided for the RAB members to pick up. He announced that if anyone present knows of persons who would like to submit an application, those applications should be submitted by September 10. Voting on new members is now set for the October RAB meeting.

C. PROGRAM

1. Off-Site Groundwater Monitoring Results

Mr. Levy stated that results of the latest well sampling were sent to the Mayor of Weaver and to Mr. Brown's daughter. He announced that the groundwater investigation indicates that groundwater is not heading toward the City of Weaver. The models show the extent of the contamination plume to the east, west, and south; and the plume appears to be heading in a northerly direction. The investigation will now look to the north to define

the northern boundary of the plume. He introduced Mr. Josh Jenkins who presented the program. Mr. Jenkins reiterated that the groundwater contaminant plume is defined to the west, east, and south; but the northern extent and the vertical extent of the northern part still need to be defined. He stated the City of Weaver's wells have not been impacted by contaminants from landfill three. He mentioned three faults between landfill three and Weaver's water supply wells that appear to be impacting the direction of groundwater movement and influencing groundwater flow and thus contaminant movement. The bedrock contaminant plume is moving in a south to north direction. He presented a brief history of landfill three and a chronology of investigations from 1986 to date. He then discussed the geology and bedrock structure because it influences location of contamination and provides information on where to focus future investigations to define the extent of the plume. He stated that there have been no detectable concentrations of VOCs (volatile organic compounds) in the four times the City of Weaver wells have been sampled. The investigation shows that chlorinated VOC distribution appears to extend along Highway 21 to the northeast at increasing depths. There is evidence that the compounds are breaking down to something simpler. Mr. Jenkins stated they are formulating a plan to install additional wells to the north, northeast, and northwest. The Army will continue to sample approximately 19 wells, including the two Weaver water supply wells, to monitor and maintain an understanding of the configuration of the plume. Mr. Jenkins then answered questions.

Mayor Kimbrough asked whether this information supported or did not support the recommendation of capping to which Mr. Jenkins reported this was a separate issue. Mr. Branchfield asked whether this information takes into account seasonal differences. Mr. Jenkins replied that sampling was done in January and May this year and last summer and the Army is continually adding more data to the database. Mr. Branchfield asked if due to MCL exceedences, would the Army move into a risk assessment phase to which Mr. Levy replied that because we are now in an RI phase there will be a risk assessment associated with that. Mr. Branchfield asked whether the size of the plume matches with the length of time the landfill was in use and the groundwater velocities. Mr. Jenkins stated the plume appears to be a little larger than what it would look like at 3 feet per year, but the testing probably gives them only an order of magnitude type understanding. Other things going on such as dissolution and physical changes in contaminants may affect movement. Mr. Branchfield asked about the previous theory concerning the groundwater going back under the landfill to which Mr. Jenkins replied that bedrock structure is acting more as a barrier and moving groundwater to the northeast-southwest instead of moving it beneath and back down below the form and fault. Mr. Clendenin had questions concerning whether removal of the landfill material would lessen the contamination. Mr. Ryan responded that if the landfill were removed, the contamination would still be there. In response to Ms. Clemence's question concerning the size of the plume, Mr. Jenkins replied that this has not been determined since the extent to the north is not defined, but they probably would not look at volume.

2. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Video

Mr. Levy provided a brief introduction to the UXO video produced by the Army Environmental Center that shows impacts associated with cleaning up UXO. He stated

this was an opportune time to show the video because of the upcoming releases of the investigations in the Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie areas. There were no questions from the RAB.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Agency Reports

ADEM – Mr. Stroud reported he has spent time bringing his UXO subcontractor up to speed on issues and going on field visits with him. Mr. Stroud also has accompanied the EPA hydrogeology subcontractor on field visits.

EPA – Mr. Brittain stated that a lot of work had been done on small parcels in the developed area, but now things are slowing down as they move into some of the more complex work. He has been doing research on data collected from the ranges and the landfills. Mr. Brittain reported that he has a hydrogeologist, Ben Bentkowski, who is now working with the Army's hydrogeologist to understand and review all information concerning groundwater and determine if there are data gaps. Mr. Brittain is also working on some FOSTs (Finding of Suitability to Transfer) for property.

JPA – No one was present to provide a report.

2. Discussion of Land Use and Cleanup

Mayor Kimbrough asked whether the Army was changing its review and evaluation of property based upon the JPA changed land use plan. Mr. Ryan replied that the Army has received only one submission for the economic development conveyance that included the JPA reuse plan, and although there had been some maps of a transportation study there had been no change to the reuse plan. Mayor Kimbrough mentioned the JPA has a proposal for a new road in the northern area and wanted to confirm whether the Army was acting on this information. Mr. Ryan replied the Army was not acting on this.

3. Action Summary Sheet

In response to a question regarding whether other remedial investigations should be added to the action summary, Mr. Levy replied some of the RI documents are still in early draft stages. Regarding Mr. Grant's summary of EPA and ADEM comments on the landfill EE/CA, there was a question as to what an RI, FS, and BRA entailed; and Mr. Levy provided an explanation. Mr. Levy then proceeded to go through the action summary. Mr. Branchfield questioned what was the time frame for responding to comments on the landfill EE/CA, to which Mr. Ryan responded the Army is reviewing the comments received during the 120-day public comment period, and he did not have a date.

4. Technical Review Committee Report

No report.

5. Update of TAPP Contract Hours

Mr. Branchfield reported there are approximately 462 hours remaining in the contract and encouraged RAB members to offer suggestions to him for the TAPP contractor's assistance.

E. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

There were no audience comments.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Branchfield reminded RAB members to submit applications for RAB membership and to submit to him any ideas on things they would like Mr. Grant to look at. With no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned.