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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

FORT MCCLELLAN, ALABAMA

Taken pursuant to stipulation and  
agreement before Donna D. Gallahar, Court  
Reporter and Commissioner for the State of  
Alabama at Large at the Quintard Mall, Oxford,  
Alabama on the 17th day of August, 1998,  
commencing at approximately 6:30 p.m.

-----  
  
NOBLE & ASSOCIATES  
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PHONE: (205) 238-0593

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1                   MR. CONROY: Well, folks, should we  
2                   get started? It is right now, 6:41, and  
3                   why don't we get this RAB started. It's  
4                   a little unusual to have a meeting in a  
5                   shopping mall, but I think it's probably  
6                   a pretty good idea. And it's nice to  
7                   have everyone in the audience with us.  
8                   We'll start by calling the roll. And  
9                   then if you all in the audience wouldn't  
10                  mind, we'd like for you to identify  
11                  yourselves as well, just so we'll know  
12                  who you are. Mark Anderson? Ike Brown?  
13                  James Buford?

14                 MR. BUFORD: Here.

15                 MR. CONROY: Barry Cox? Don  
16                  Cunningham? Jerome Elser? Alan Faust?

17                 MR. FAUST: Here.

18                 MR. CONROY: Mary Harrington?

19                 MS. HARRINGTON: I'm here.

20                 MR. CONROY: Ronald Hood?

21                 MR. HOOD: Here.

22                 MR. CONROY: Ed Kimbrough?

23                 MR. KIMBROUGH: Here.

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1 MR. CONROY: Margarette Longstreth?

2 MS. LONGSTRETH: Here.

3 MR. CONROY: Jim Miller? Jimmy  
4 Parks?

5 MR. PARKS: Here.

6 MR. CONROY: Fern Thomassy is out.  
7 Charles Turner? Chris Johnson?

8 MR. JOHNSON: Here.

9 MR. CONROY: Ron Levy?

10 MR. LEVY: Here.

11 MR. CONROY: Bart Reedy. Does  
12 everyone have an agenda in front of them?  
13 I saw that they were on the table out  
14 front if anyone in the audience does not  
15 have one. How about if we start with the  
16 audience, and Jonathan, start with you.

17 (Inaudible.)

18 MR. CONROY: And everybody knows  
19 Bill Wilson with the Anniston Star.  
20 Approval of the minutes. Do I hear a  
21 motion to approve?

22 MR. LEVY: I don't know that we have  
23 enough membership for that. We may just

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1           have to do -- does anybody have any  
2           comments on the minutes, let's put it  
3           that way, at this point. Can I ask a  
4           question? Is everybody getting copies of  
5           the minutes in the mail, able to  
6           understand them? Do we need to do  
7           anything in terms of redefining how the  
8           minutes are done? Okay, I guess what we  
9           had proposed to do at the last RAB  
10          meeting was to go back in and continue to  
11          look at the BRAC cleanup issues, in  
12          particular the BRAC cleanup plan and open  
13          up discussion. It was an open  
14          discussion, issues that people wanted to  
15          bring up, that RAB members wanted to  
16          bring up were there for just the  
17          mentioning, and we did attempt to try to  
18          answer as many questions as we possibly  
19          could. So with that we want to try to  
20          continue with the cleanup plan and  
21          discussion. I believe everybody got a  
22          copy of the draft cleanup plan. Is that  
23          correct? At this point does anybody have

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1 a specific cleanup issue that they want  
2 to talk about the cleanup plan?

3 Let me do this then, if there are no  
4 actual questions. In front of you there  
5 should be a piece of paper called a  
6 schedule. Have you all seen it? As  
7 we've mentioned in the previous RAB  
8 meeting, and Lisa put this schedule  
9 together, we told you that we were  
10 getting ready to kick off a significant  
11 aspect of the cleanup program, that's the  
12 site investigations at Fort McClellan.  
13 What you are looking at is a schedule.  
14 And the schedule is by packages.  
15 Essentially what we're doing is we've  
16 split up sites and grouped them together  
17 by likeness and we've awarded them  
18 contractually to IT our contractor for  
19 clean up purposes. On the schedule  
20 you'll see parcel number description, and  
21 again they correlate directly with the  
22 parcels off of the CERFA maps, and the  
23 CERFA map is out there in the coming into

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1 the area. So you can correlate them  
2 directly with that. And it tells you  
3 when the field work begins and when it's  
4 due to end, and then when a draft report  
5 of that field work is due to be issued to  
6 the Army and our regulatory agencies for  
7 review.

8 The purpose of this was to give you  
9 all an opportunity to come out and look  
10 at and understand and see what's going on  
11 in terms of the field work. Because  
12 there is a lot of field work. Lisa,  
13 we're expecting how many months of this  
14 actually occurring?

15 MS. KINGSBURY: All through the fall  
16 and probably into the spring of next year  
17 for this task.

18 MR. LEVY: Various sites, and they  
19 are all going to be different in terms of  
20 the work plans that are out there. So  
21 there's various sampling investigations  
22 ongoing for each of the sites. If you  
23 are interested and want to see that, we

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1 want to know that and we want to try to  
2 set that up so that we can get you out to  
3 the sites and have you take a look at it.  
4 If you would take a look through these  
5 here, these areas that you understood  
6 were not included and you want to bring  
7 those up, if there's issues particular to  
8 a site that you are concerned about that  
9 you want to bring up, please do. Because  
10 now is the time to bring it out. If you  
11 are interested in seeing a copy of the  
12 work plan for those sites, we can do that  
13 for you. I'd ask that if you do want  
14 that that you actually take it home and  
15 read it because they are expensive to  
16 produce and get out to everybody. But we  
17 have those available. And we can take  
18 some comments from you as well. Does  
19 anybody have any comments on this? Take  
20 a moment to go through and see what we're  
21 doing here. I will tell you that the  
22 last page represents some of the  
23 projects, the last two pages represent

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1           some of the projects that have either  
2           completed, the field work has already  
3           been completed or is being done under  
4           different contracts. Example is the  
5           long-term monitoring for landfills one  
6           and two. Those sites have been  
7           completed. At this point decisions are  
8           made for no further monitoring, that's  
9           different from no further action. I want  
10          you to understand that. Still discussion  
11          is going on with the BCT and with  
12          landfill three some additional  
13          characterization requirements on that  
  
14          site. And then some ranges that are on  
15          hold until the BCT can define exactly  
16          which direction we're moving on those.  
17          And other sites that are on there, like  
18          range data out on Pelham Range, survey  
19          work for creeks and tributaries as it  
20          relates to risk assessment. Pistol  
21          ranges, we have two of those right now in  
22          some of the attics of the buildings. You  
23          can see that we're still involved in work

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1           that was done by another contractor.  
2           Remember I've told you in the past that  
3           we've actually got three different  
4           contractors at Fort McClellan doing  
5           various aspects of the work. We're  
6           eventually transitioning all to one  
7           contractor, that being IT. But we still  
8           have work left over from previous  
9           contractors. And we the BCT are still  
10          reviewing those documents. So there's a  
11          number of sites on there too that we have  
12          gone through and we actually have not  
13          gotten to a decision point or a point  
14          where we can establish where we're going.

15                 MR. PARKS: Ron, is there any  
16          particular rationale of why you picked  
17          the first six to be done before the  
18          other? Is it prioritized or tied in to  
19          the redevelopment plan or something as to  
20          why you've got these starting in '98 and  
21          the others starting in '99? The first  
22          six starts in '98 to be complete.

23                 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, it's tied to

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1 reuse.

2 MR. KIMBROUGH: Since I wasn't here  
3 last time, maybe you discussed, but I  
4 noticed in the minutes it said there was  
5 a difference of opinion between EPA and  
6 DOD. Is that on all clean up or was that  
7 just a particular area of Buckner Circle?

8 MR. JOHNSON: That was just for  
9 lead-based paint in soils. That should  
10 be clarified.

11 MR. KIMBROUGH: That's lead-based  
12 paint only?

13 MR. CONROY: You would like that  
14 clarified in the minutes?

15 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, I think it  
16 should be to make it a little clearer.

17 MR. LEVY: You might want to  
18 reiterate what that was about, Chris,  
19 because there were some RAB members that  
20 weren't here.

21 MR. JOHNSON: We talked briefly  
22 about lead-based paint. Really we talked  
23 about some issues that are ongoing, and

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1           lead-based paint was one of them. And  
2           the EPA and, of course, we at the state  
3           feel that lead-based paint in soils  
4           should be treated as a hazardous  
5           substance just like any other lead in any  
6           other type medium, because it does get  
7           released into the soil, especially around  
8           the building pad and drip lines of  
9           buildings from past scraping activities  
10          or just where the paint gets old and  
11          chips off the building. So we just want  
12          to go in those areas and look at them and  
13          make sure they are okay before the  
14          property is turned over to the public.  
15          And the Army right now, they want to kind  
16          of follow the HUD guidelines and what's  
17          kind of evolving through HUD. And the  
18          criteria between HUD and EPA, there's,  
19          you know, there's some difference there  
20          of opinion as far as what's clean and  
21          what's the proper method of  
22          investigation. So that's an issue that  
23          we need to get worked out between all of

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1 us.

2 MR. CONROY: Of the two of those --

3 MR. JOHNSON: EPA being more  
4 stringent.

5 MR. LEVY: And that's EPA's  
6 guidance. I don't know that it's written  
7 in law at this point. The Army's  
8 position is that -- or I should say DOD's  
9 position is that requirements that are  
10 set up for DOD should be the same  
11 requirements that would affect not just  
12 the Department of Defense but all  
13 entities, which it's not. In fact, those  
14 laws don't apply across the board.  
15 That's their position, if you are going  
16 to do that to us, then you should be  
17 doing it to everybody.

18 MR. JOHNSON: And we'll end it  
19 right there.

20 MR. FAUST: Ron, the specifics on  
21 the investigations you are going to do at  
22 all these sites, that's captured in the  
23 work plan, not in this BRAC document?

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1           MR. LEVY: Those are in  
2 site-specific work plans.

3           MR. FAUST: You have those in your  
4 offices?

5           MR. LEVY: We do. Some of them are  
6 still in a draft phase. Some of them  
7 actually are still being produced.

8           MR. CONROY: Do you loan those out?

9           MR. LEVY: As I said, I would be  
10 willing to reproduce those that people  
11 are interested in seeing if they are  
12 going to use them for review and want to  
13 bring up questions as it relates to them.  
14 So we'll do what we can to get them to  
15 RAB members.

16           MR. HOOD: Here in packet 16 on your  
17 schedule, I was just curious about that  
18 one. No particular reason, just that  
19 isn't that outside what's already been  
20 released to the state?

21           MR. LEVY: No, Choccolocco Corridor  
22 is going to undergo investigation by the  
23 Army. It's still under lease to the

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1           Army. And we've agreed to go out and  
2           investigate the sites where we've used  
3           the property.

4           MR. HOOD: It's just some mound that  
5           you've discovered there?

6           MR. LEVY: I can't remember exactly  
7           what, I'd have to go back and review this  
8           particular site. Lisa, do you remember  
9           what this site was?

10          MS. KINGSBURY: I'm sorry, I wasn't  
11          listening.

12          MR. LEVY: Packet 16, do you  
13          remember what this site was about?

14          MS. KINGSBURY: Do I remember what?  
15          It's hard to hear.

16          MR. LEVY: Package 16, do you  
17          remember what that site was on?

18          MS. KINGSBURY: Yeah, it was out in  
19          the Choccolocco Corridor.

20          MR. LEVY: What specifically was it  
21          about?

22          MS. KINGSBURY: It was taken from  
23          the EPIC (phonetic) report, aerial

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1                   photography.

2                   MR. LEVY:   It was an undefined site?

3                   MR. JOHNSON:   Probably an undefined  
4                   ground scar that we need to go in and  
5                   look at.

6                   MR. HOOD:   You've got it in here as  
7                   a mound.

8                   MR. LEVY:   Probably because it  
9                   looked like a mound and it was the best  
10                  thing we could do to describe it.

11                  MR. PARKS:   When they get to the end  
12                  of that and they issue a report, who does  
13                  that go to and what would it say in it?  
14                  Would it have recommendations on the  
15                  cleanup?

16                  MR. LEVY:   If you remember how we  
17                  move through the process, we do site  
18                  investigations, from there we move into  
  
19                  remedial investigations, feasibility  
20                  study.  It's at that point where there  
21                  will be defined actions for a particular  
22                  site.  If there is no data to support  
23                  moving beyond the SI, it'll just drop

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1 out. But for removal action, once we get  
2 into the RI, remedial investigation  
3 phase, there will be a feasibility study  
4 that will define actions to be taken and  
5 a decision process will evolve from  
6 there. The decision, again, will be  
7 between the Army, EPA and the state.

8 MR. PARKS: It goes through the  
9 base cleanup team?

10 MR. LEVY: It goes through the team,  
11 through the BRAC cleanup team.

12 MR. PARKS: So they will issue that  
13 report to y'all, and what they found and  
14 what the recommendation is to clean it  
15 up?

16 MR. LEVY: All reports are sent in  
17 to the BRAC cleanup team, yes. They will  
18 become a matter of public record though.

19 MR. KIMBROUGH: And the transfers of  
20 property are not going to take place  
21 until this resolves?

22 MR. LEVY: Yeah, in fact EPA or the  
23 state will attempt to, I would think,

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1 stop any property transfers that don't  
2 meet -- that would be the wrong word --  
3 but that aren't protective of human  
4 health and environment.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Absolutely. I've got  
6 a question, Ron. I was thinking when we  
7 got going that the RAB formed a technical  
8 review committee and that committee would  
9 kind of be the focal point for reviewing  
10 documents and so forth. Did that ever  
11 come to pass?

12 MR. LEVY: No, we were attempting to  
13 do that. I don't think we ever got that  
14 far. We were going to ask the RAB to  
15 form a group that was technically  
16 oriented to actually look at the  
17 documents, and those who really have the  
18 technical background and then come back  
19 and report to the RAB. I don't know that  
20 we ever got that far.

21 MR. CONROY: Is that something that  
22 you still want to pursue?

23 MR. LEVY: That's up to the RAB, of

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1 course. The point would be that if you  
2 are uncomfortable looking at very  
3 technical documents and trying to  
4 interpret from those documents what it  
5 says. I mean, there are members of the  
6 RAB who have very technical backgrounds,  
7 Barry Cox is one being a chemistry  
8 professor. I'm sure Alan is another.  
9 You know, Ron has got a degree in  
10 environmental science, he'd be another.  
11 But you know, those folks who may be more  
12 technically oriented or interested in the  
13 technical side to be looking at the  
14 documents. I don't know that we ever got  
15 to a decision on that.

16 MR. CONROY: Is that something you'd  
17 be interested in Alan?

18 MR. FAUST: Sure.

19 MR. JOHNSON: I think from our  
20 standpoint it's nice to have something  
21 that comments from all the RAB members,  
22 kind of funnels through. That way we  
23 know we've gotten RAB comments or

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1 community comments. At least, the RAB,  
2 they focal through one point and we know  
3 we've got them instead of them trickling  
4 in here and there, sometimes it's hard to  
5 keep up with the concerns of the RAB  
6 unless it's kind of done in a systematic  
7 approach. So that's a recommendation I  
8 have. And that way I guess Ron could  
9 just go ahead and supply one copy of  
10 every document to the review committee.

11 MR. FAUST: That sounds like fun.

12 MR. LEVY: You've been through some  
13 of those documents, Alan, you know what  
14 they are like.

15 MR. FAUST: I guess, it seems to me  
16 that we're at a point now where we are  
17 actually getting into the field. I don't  
18 know that a technical committee or even  
19 the whole RAB needs to digest all the  
20 work that's done to get to the work plan.  
21 I think there's just going to have to be  
22 a certain leap of faith that the work  
23 plan is established. I think when it

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1 gets more interesting and more adaptable  
2 to comment is when you start getting  
3 results back and you get a hit of this or  
4 a hit of that and we as a RAB want an  
5 explanation for that. You know, I think  
6 that's where it would be easier or more  
7 applicable. I, for one, don't want to go  
8 back and dissect every work plan you guys  
9 have generated. And it looks like we're  
10 on the brink of some of that starting to  
11 happen. And I realize too that you guys  
12 are going to be getting data in and you  
13 want to have it for a certain amount of  
14 time to understand what the implications  
15 are, make sure it's validated and all of  
16 that too. We don't need to see  
17 invalidated data or data too early.

18 MR. LEVY: I wouldn't disagree with  
19 you. Let me give you an example of  
20 something I talked to Chris about  
21 earlier, before the RAB meeting started.  
22 Landfill 1 and 2, we thought sometime in  
23 October we might want to open that up for

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1 discussion, because essentially we've  
2 come to a point where we haven't actually  
3 got to a decision for no further action,  
4 but we've got enough data to support that  
5 there's not much there. But that would  
6 be good for the RAB to go in, maybe even  
7 a technical review committee, to go in  
8 and look at the data we got and make  
9 their own interpretation and then come  
10 back and advise us as to what their  
11 feelings are about the site. I've even  
12 thought we could supplement that with a  
13 contractor coming in and giving a  
14 discussion of the work that went on out  
15 there and the results that came from it.

16 MR. FAUST: Just a quick overview  
17 that would facilitate our review. We  
18 have to be able to understand it as  
19 members of the public. That's your  
20 charter to be able to make us comfortable  
21 that there is enough data and that would  
22 be a valid decision. I think some kind  
23 of review to get us over that hurdle to

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1 understand what you've done at a site  
2 like the landfill I think would be real  
3 good.

4 MR. LEVY: Maybe we might want to  
5 hold off on any decision for a technical  
6 review committee within the RAB until we  
7 can get some more members involved and  
8 get some more discussion on it. Maybe we  
9 can open it back up for discussion at the  
10 next RAB meeting.

11 MR. CONROY: That sounds good. I'll  
12 talk to Barry Cox about it in the  
13 meanwhile.

14 MR. LEVY: Anybody else got any  
15 issues or questions they want to raise at  
16 this point? I hate to sound like a  
17 broken record, but I really need you all  
18 to look at this document and provide us  
19 with comments if you've got them. We're  
20 getting ready to go in and update this  
21 document. So the more input we get, the  
22 better the document is going to be.  
23 Hasn't really stopped us from moving

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1           ahead on our investigations. We really  
2           want to finalize this document, and we're  
3           trying to mirror what we've got in here  
4           now, but it's changing, and as you know  
5           things evolve, as we get new data it's  
6           going to track us in different  
7           directions. But it'll also give you, if  
8           you haven't had a chance to, it'll give  
9           you a good history background of some of  
10          the processes we've got to go through and  
11          why we're doing what we're doing. If  
12          nothing else, it will give you an  
13          education if you would sit down and read  
14          it. Anybody here not been given the  
15          document or sent the document? John, I  
16          know you are just starting out.

17                 MS. MCKINNEY: I'll get one to John  
18                 on Thursday.

19                 MR. KIMBROUGH: When is the testing  
20                 on landfill 3 scheduled for?

21                 MR. LEVY: Well, actually you see  
22                 9/18 February, so that gives you a  
23                 sampling of events, when we are going to

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1 start, and the draft report.

2 MR. KIMBROUGH: That's '98, that's  
3 right now. It should have already been  
4 started.

5 MR. LEVY: I stand corrected, that  
6 should be '99.

7 MS. MCKINNEY: Could you speak a  
8 little louder.

9 MR. LEVY: He was asking about  
10 landfill 3 and sampling, and I think  
11 we've got a mistake in there, Lisa, that  
12 should be February '99, right? On  
13 landfill 3?

14 MS. KINGSBURY: Which one? The one  
15 under long-term monitoring?

16 MR. LEVY: Right. We've got the  
17 wrong calendar year.

18 MS. KINGSBURY: No, May '98 the  
19 report came out and it's been under  
20 review.

21 MR. KIMBROUGH: That was the one  
22 where no recommendation was made, wasn't  
23 it?

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1                   MR. LEVY:    The reference there is  
2                   to work that has already been done.  
3                   Right now what recommendation, are you  
4                   talking about peer review?

5                   MR. KIMBROUGH:  (Inaudible)

6                   MR. LEVY:   That's the recommendation  
7                   that we're going to do out at landfill 3.  
8                   We're doing additional work out there.

9                   MR. KIMBROUGH:  It's already  
10                  started?

11                  MR. LEVY:   No, no.

12                  MR. JOHNSON:  They are going to have  
13                  to submit another work plan for the work  
14                  they are going to do and what it's going  
15                  to involve and they are going to submit  
16                  it for review to us, EPA, the whole --

17                  MR. KIMBROUGH:  The contractor?

18                  MR. JOHNSON:   Right.  I'm not sure  
19                  when that report actually is going to be  
20                  due to us for review.  We really two  
21                  weeks ago --

22                  MR. CONROY:   What's the ballpark?

23                  MR. JOHNSON:   I really don't know.

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1 I don't know about the funding.

2 Contractual funding has to be done --

3 MS. KINGSBURY: They've got funding  
4 for it. They will use whatever was left  
5 over with the recommendation of no  
6 further monitoring at this time, they'll  
7 just use whatever's left over. So it's  
8 funded. They've got a lot of work going  
9 on right now, and they are throwing out  
10 work plans left and right. It may be  
11 three months before they can get that one  
12 developed.

13 MR. LEVY: The answer right now is  
14 that we don't have definitive dates when  
15 to start the additional work.

16 MR. CONROY: Community report.

17 MS. MCKINNEY: In response to the  
18 RAB's concerns about us getting out into  
19 the community, this past month I went  
20 ahead and have set up several firm  
21 meetings, firm presentations. I've given  
22 you a list in your package. We've got  
23 about four more that are tentative. So

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1 next month I'll have another listing that  
2 will show more of these. We're also  
3 working on developing some of the  
4 television program for the chamber live  
5 that they do. Hopefully we'll be able to  
6 do a seven-minute segment there with a  
7 group of us later on in the fall. But if  
8 you all have any other groups that you  
9 want me to do the coordination with,  
10 we're happy to do that. Just let us know  
11 who it is.

12 I also heard earlier talking about  
13 the tours for these sites. We had also  
14 discussed in the office any groups that  
15 you may have or that you represent or  
16 that are interested in this, if we can  
17 work it out, you know, we will include  
18 those in some of the tours to the sites.  
19 Now, obviously there may not be something  
20 going on at that time. But at least we  
21 can go to the site, we can discuss what  
22 it is, and we can show the folks that are  
23 interested what we're doing there. Last

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1           week we spoke at Kiwanis at Oxford and  
2           they asked the question, if we, perhaps  
3           if they could hold a meeting, they do a  
4           lunchtime meeting, if they could hold the  
5           meeting there at the Fort and then do a  
6           site observation. Which I thought was  
7           very good, and so I said sure, we can  
8           probably work that out. So we'll do that  
9           later on in the fall. So anything at all  
10          that we can do for the groups that you  
11          represent or to help you feel more  
12          comfortable with what we're doing, just  
13          let us know.

14                 MR. CONROY: Thanks. Ready for old  
15          business?

16                 MR. LEVY: Well, old business was a  
17          request for the schedule which I actually  
18          showed you and talked about. So we  
19          didn't get into much on the BRAC cleanup  
20          plan, although it directly relates to it.  
21          So the schedules in front of you had been  
22          requested during the last RAB, and in  
23          fact, that's what we've already gone

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1 through. And I will have Lisa or Joan  
2 send out the schedule to the missing RAB  
3 members so they can look at it and maybe  
4 come to the next meeting and bring some  
5 additional discussion about it. I think  
6 what we want to do though, is we want to  
7 get people to respond back to us about  
8 what they want to see, in terms of field  
9 work that's going on, looking at the  
10 schedule and knowing the dates that the  
11 field work begins. So if you'll come  
12 back to us, either call me or call Lisa,  
13 and say "Look, I want to go out and see  
14 those items that are going on within  
15 package four particularly the wash rack  
16 at Building 1298, I want to see what kind  
17 of work they are doing out there." Just  
18 let us know and we'll schedule it for  
19 you.

20 MR. FAUST: Ron, again, without the  
21 work plan, it's hard to tell what kind of  
22 activities are going to go on.

23 MR. LEVY: Yes, what I'll do too

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1           for you then at that point, is if you  
2           tell me which particular site you are  
3           interested in, I will provide you with  
4           what the work plan says as well. Or, if  
5           you are looking at a particular package,  
6           we can provide you with the entire work  
7           plan for that package.

8           MR. FAUST: Is there a matrix set up  
9           at all that says for a particular package  
10          soil sampling, ground water sampling?

11          MR. LEVY: No, it's all going to be  
12          different.

13          MR. JOHNSON: Well, now, pretty  
14          much for most of these sites, I now I've  
15          already reviewed and turned in comments  
16          for packages one through six, they should  
17          go into final work plan status pretty  
18          soon. And pretty much every one of them  
19          on here we're doing multi-medium  
20          sampling.

21          MR. LEVY: But it's all driven by  
22          site specific. I mean there are going to  
23          be consistencies amongst the sites in

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1 terms of what we're doing.

2 MR. PARKS: On the underground  
3 storage tanks which we've got in there, I  
4 thought you just replaced all of them.  
5 What needs to be done on them? All of  
6 them are brand new, been replaced, got  
7 that sealer in there where they guarantee  
8 they don't leak and all of that.

9 MR. LEVY: I'll let Chris talk to  
10 you about that one. That's an issue that  
11 ADEM has brought up in the past.

12 MR. JOHNSON: Well, there are USTs  
13 that have been replaced --

14 MR. CONROY: What's a UST?

15 MR. JOHNSON: Underground storage  
16 tank, I'm sorry -- That Ron has been  
17 upgrading through compliance and they  
18 have the monitoring systems in whether  
19 it's wells or whether it's the gas  
20 protection systems. But the old tanks  
21 that were there prior to the ones that  
22 were dug are really the ones that we're  
23 concerned about and that we're going to

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1           be looking at.   And the department,  
2           through the closure process, on some of  
3           the tanks have issued no further action  
4           to Ron.   The problem, though, is that a  
5           lot of no further actions were based on  
6           the Army staying at Fort McClellan and  
  
7           the property would remain the way it is  
8           at that time.   Now that it's being  
9           transferred, we want to go back and look  
10          at every UST and make sure that every  
11          site meets the reuse and meets the risk  
12          criteria that we've established.   So  
13          that's why we're going back and making  
14          sure all tanks have been addressed.

15                 MR. LEVY:   Anybody else got any  
16                 questions that relate to the schedule or  
17                 the BRAC cleanup plan?

18                 We've got new business.   The video.  
19                 I believe Joan put in front of you some  
20                 information as it relates to the longleaf  
21                 pine ecosystem and protecting our  
22                 properties on Fort McClellan.   Most of  
23                 you know the issues with the longleaf

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1 pine. Is anybody here not familiar with  
2 what's been going on in that area?

3 MR. FAUST: Did we talk last month  
4 that Chris was going to give us an  
5 overview of the background metals report?

6 MR. LEVY: We did, and I kind of  
7 skipped over that because it wasn't on  
8 the program. Do you still want to do  
9 that, Chris? Are you ready to talk about  
10 it?

11 MR. JOHNSON: Sure.

12 MR. LEVY: We'll backtrack then.

13 MR. JOHNSON: We will be brief.  
14 That request came from you, right?

15 MR. HOOD: I did that.

16 MR. JOHNSON: The report he's  
17 referring to is the background metals  
18 report that we did for both Pelham Range  
19 and Main Post. And really the purpose of  
20 the report is basically to determine what  
21 is naturally occurring as far as the  
22 metals on Post. Okay, looking at all  
23 mediums, we're looking at surface water,

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1 surface soil, subsurface soil, sediment  
2 and ground water. So five matrix there  
3 that we're actually turning our  
4 concentrations. What we did in the past,  
5 if you look back at the RI's, we're  
6 trying to establish background for each  
7 site. It might be a half acre or it  
8 might be ten. We would compare site  
9 versus background within one little piece  
10 of parcel. Well we kind of looked  
11 forward through the BRAC process and  
12 realized that if we continue that route,  
13 we're going to be spending a lot of  
14 unnecessary time and tax dollars trying  
15 to determine background for each parcel.  
16 So we went with this base-wide approach.  
17 It's going to basically streamline the  
18 whole process. We're going to use this  
19 report for every single site we have out  
20 here to compare against background.

21 Why do we need to know what's  
22 naturally occurring? Well, naturally  
23 occurring metals, they unnecessarily

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1 create risks. Okay, mother nature put  
2 metals in the ground, you know, that when  
3 you look at it from a risk standpoint,  
4 they just naturally cause problems.  
5 Especially like leads and arsenic and  
6 beryllium, they create risks and they  
7 certainly do in the southeast and they  
8 especially do in northern Alabama in the  
9 soils we had. So we knew we were going  
10 to have this problem. We had already  
11 seen it in the RI. It drove a lot of  
12 site risk unnecessarily in the RI. So  
13 basically with the report we're going to  
14 be able to differentiate what the Army  
15 did versus what was there to begin with.  
16 Our key strategies really are, again,  
17 sample the different matrix water verses  
18 sediments. At first we segregated Main  
19 Post and Pelham Range. They weren't  
20 contiguous, they were separate pieces of  
21 land, so we kept the work plans different  
22 for each one. We looked at different  
23 geologic formations in the water. We

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1           looked at different soil types, we  
2           studied aerial photography, we used the  
3           environment baseline survey to determine  
4           where we need to go and where we know  
5           it's clean. So there was a lot of  
6           up-front work to go in to find a sample  
7           location on the Fort and saying we know  
8           that this area is clean and we can sample  
9           here and use it to establish a  
10          background.

11                 MR. FAUST: You say clean, but even  
12           though there may be some presence of  
13           metals in a certain medium.

14                 MR. JOHNSON: Right, I'm saying  
15           clean meaning there is no Army activity.

16                 MR. FAUST: That contributed beyond  
17           background.

18                 MR. JOHNSON: Right. Manmade versus  
19           naturally occurring. We also used  
20           existing data. We had from SI works,  
21           from RI works, from '91 to '95. We also  
22           used some background data from Anniston  
23           Army Depot. We used Weaver wells as some

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1 of our background data. We did go and  
2 use whatever we could as long as it met  
3 our criteria for being able to use it.  
4 The sample size, we wanted minimum of  
5 twenty-five samples per medium for each  
6 Main Post and Pelham Range. After we  
7 went and took all the data and got it  
8 back and looked at it, we realized that  
9 we could combine the data sets. The  
10 water was pretty much the same, the  
11 differences in the metals in the soil  
12 were really not statistically different,  
13 so we combined them. It gave us a  
14 stronger data set. On average we had  
15 sixty-five to seventy samples per medium,  
16 which is a lot, and it made our  
17 confidence of background a lot, lot  
18 better. And we had, I think, around  
19 averaging around fifty to fifty-three per  
20 metal for the ground water. But up to  
21 even seventy in say the surface soil and  
22 subsurface soil. But in the end, after  
23 looking at the report, SCIC went back and

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1           they did a really good job with it. Real  
2           good job in looking at all the different  
3           aspects of the property from  
4           precipitation to soil types to geologic  
5           formations, to looking at the creeks and  
6           water sheds and we got some, what I feel  
7           is going to be a good report, and it's  
8           certainly going to save a tremendous  
9           amount of time and effort down the road.

10           MR. LEVY:     And money.

11           MR. JOHNSON:   And that's what you  
12           got, was it the last meeting y'all got  
13           this from SCIC? That was the average  
14           background concentrations. I'll pass  
15           this around, but this is basically the  
16           numbers they come up with. We're still  
17           going to have to thoroughly go through  
18           the data set, but I think it's pretty  
19           much right.

20           MR. HOOD:    We didn't get that last  
21           month.

22           MR. JOHNSON:   I'll pass this  
23           around. Whoever needs a copy, we'll try

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1           to get you one. But that summarizes all  
2           of the work we did.

3           MR. HOOD: So you are saying it was  
4           fairly constant across both areas, over a  
5           large area? There weren't any gray?

6           MR. JOHNSON: It was constant --  
7           are you talking about as far as Pelham  
8           Range to Main Post?

9           MR. HOOD: Or like let's say certain  
10          metals, like you might find a higher  
11          rating uphill than you would down lower,  
12          did you even see anything like that?

13          MR. JOHNSON: Not really, we used  
14          what we call an outlier package to see  
15          what didn't fall within what we felt was  
16          the range. You've got some pretty good  
17          ranges. Let's just take beryllium and  
18          say maybe we had a low of fifty and a  
19          high of a hundred. But when you look at  
20          the data set from a statistical  
21          standpoint and see how it fell in the  
22          range, we really didn't have anything  
23          that was out of the normal. We also

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1           luckily are able to compare against other  
2           sites. We've got backgrounds for  
3           Redstone Arsenal, from NPO sites  
4           throughout the state, for NASA. So we  
5           did more than just compare.

6           MR. HOOD: What you are saying, this  
7           is fairly common for northeast Alabama?

8           MR. JOHNSON: Absolutely.

9           MR. JOHN JOHNSON: That's no  
10          comparison as to what is good or what is  
11          standard?

12          MR. JOHNSON: What, as far as how  
13          Fort McClellan stood around the south?  
14          We didn't really do that. We can  
15          certainly look at that. I know just from  
16          experience it does fall in the range of  
17          soils in northern Alabama and even the  
18          southeastern United States. So, if  
19          there's any questions on it, I'll try to  
20          answer. But overall, I'm happy with the  
21          results and I think SCIC really did a  
22          good job on it.

23          MR. LEVY: I think EPA was happy

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1 too.

2 MR. JOHNSON: They were. That's  
3 it's.

4 MR. LEVY: I think one thing Chris  
5 really didn't mention is that it will  
6 save us some dollars, taxpayer dollars as  
7 we go out and look at sites.

8 MR. FAUST: Because you did a global  
9 approach rather than individual site by  
10 site?

11 MR. JOHNSON: Right. I've got to  
12 prepare a pretty detailed presentation  
13 for a conference down in Mobile next week  
14 and I'm going to have actually some  
15 dollars savings or cost avoidance by  
16 doing this versus us going and doing it  
17 the old way. Just a gut feeling, I'm  
18 thinking we're probably getting into the  
19 hundreds of thousands of dollars if not  
20 even approaching the million range.  
21 Because it gets expensive when you really  
22 start taking background in each medium  
23 for each site. You just can't take one

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1 per medium per site. You can't do  
2 anything with that statistically, you  
3 have to take more. So we're dealing with  
4 a hundred and fifty to two hundred sites  
5 out here, that would be a lot of  
6 background, which was really unnecessary,  
7 looking back on it. And this is the best  
8 approach we feel to use especially for  
9 the large installations like this.

10 MR. CONROY: Back to the longleaf  
11 pine ecosystem?

12 MR. LEVY: Right. You might want  
13 to lead into, you know, why this is  
14 important.

15 MR. CONROY: Sure. At one of the  
16 earlier RAB's I gave a presentation about  
17 the possibility of establishing about ten  
18 to twelve thousand acres of Fort  
19 McClellan as a national wildlife refuge.  
20 And the local reuse authority at the time  
21 voted in favor of that, and the process  
22 has been moving forward and forward. In  
23 fact, tomorrow there will be a big

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1 meeting at 1:00 o'clock at Fort McClellan  
2 between the Fish and Wildlife Service and  
3 the Army and the Corps of Engineers and  
4 ADEM as well as the Department of  
5 Conservation, other state and federal  
6 agencies to discuss the details. And  
7 it's really getting down to, it's not a  
8 matter of if it's going to happen, I  
9 think it's going to be how it's going to  
10 happen and exactly when it's going to  
11 happen is what we're worried about now.  
12 A tool that Ron's office worked on, I  
13 know Ron Smith was probably the principle  
14 fellow working on this, he pulled  
15 together a video that summarizes the  
16 project. I've never seen it. Is that  
17 essentially what this is?

18 MR. LEVY: Well, I think it  
19 summarizes the longleaf pine.

20 MR. CONROY: The need to protect the  
21 longleaf pine ecosystem. Can we roll the  
22 tape?

23 MR. KIMBROUGH: Who is this property

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1 going to be transferred to?

2 MR. CONROY: Ed just asked a good  
3 question here, who is the property going  
4 to be transferred to? It's what they  
5 call a lateral transfer, it's from one  
6 federal agency to another federal agency.  
7 That makes it much easier. So it goes  
8 from Department of Defense to the  
9 Department of the Interior.

10 (Whereupon a video was shown.)

11 MR. CONROY: I don't know who would  
12 want to rush home to the President's  
13 testimony when you have exciting video  
14 like that to watch. That was good. That  
15 will be a very useful tool in trying to  
16 sell our project.

17 MR. LEVY: Anybody have any comments  
18 on the video. Any questions?

19 MS. MCKINNEY: Ron, it might be nice  
20 to tell the local folks here that that  
21 was done locally with very limited funds.  
22 Ron, you might want to mention.

23 MR. RON SMITH: Yeah, it was done by

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1           Action Video, down in Saks, it was done  
2           by a local film director. They do more  
3           than wedding photography, as you can see,  
4           he did an excellent job for far less than  
5           if we had rented on a large scale. It's  
6           something that we wanted to use as a tool  
7           and can be used by anybody or that can be  
8           built on by anybody to let them know  
9           what's out there on Fort McClellan and  
10          this is one of the things that we looked  
11          at as closure goes through.

12                 MR. CONROY: Do you have multiple  
13                 copies?

14                 MR. RON SMITH: Yes, I think we have  
15                 twenty-five. I think we've used two. If  
16                 you need some of them to go out, we can  
17                 always make more.

18                 MR. CONROY: Local schools can  
19                 borrow them and that kind of thing?

20                 MR. RON SMITH: Hopefully.

21                 MR. CONROY: Are you going to have  
22                 one tomorrow at our 1:00 o'clock?

23                 MR. RON SMITH: I think Ron had

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1                   mentioned that earlier.

2                   MR. LEVY: That's up to you if you  
3                   want to show it.

4                   MR. CONROY: That would be great.  
5                   Maybe make it optional but sure would  
6                   love to have it available. Anything else  
7                   before we head home? And in particular  
8                   is there anyone who has been sitting with  
9                   us on the side who has any questions  
10                  about anything? If in case you do,  
11                  please state your name for the record.  
12                  Hearing nothing --

13                  MR. LEVY: Well, let me just mention  
14                  our next RAB meeting is 21 September, it  
15                  should be back at Fort McClellan. And  
16                  the October meeting should be the 19th of  
17                  October. I believe that will also be at  
18                  Fort McClellan in our conference room  
19                  down there. If anybody has any  
20                  particular interest in terms of  
21                  discussion for the next RAB meeting,  
22                  we'll continue to attempt to go through  
23                  the BRAC cleanup plan if we can get some

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1 discussion rolling on that. Comments,  
2 questions?

3 MS. LONGSTRETH: Just a statement  
4 about the video, I think it was very  
5 informative and I learned a lot. And I  
6 think if more citizens knew what was out  
7 there at Fort McClellan, they would be  
8 more concerned about the preservation of  
9 it.

10 MR. HOOD: I think that would be  
11 good for the schools, because I was  
12 watching my daughter over there who was  
13 yawning to begin with paid very close  
14 attention to the video when it got  
15 started.

16 MR. FAUST: What's the accessibility  
17 to one of the big boy trees? That's the  
18 first time I had actually seen one in  
19 context with a person standing. I didn't  
20 realize the needles were that big.

21 MR. CONROY: The biggest and most  
22 impressive trees, to be honest, are a  
23 little bit hard to find. But you can go

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1 up there and even driving on the paved  
2 road, Bains Gap, and see impressive trees  
3 that are a hundred years old, plus.

4 MR. FAUST: Those are predominantly  
5 longleaf?

6 MR. LEVY: If you look at the  
7 needles, you can tell just by the length  
8 of the needles the longleaf as opposed to  
9 the loplolly.

10 MR. ANDERSON: Now that I think  
11 about it, I do have kind of a dumb  
12 question. What's the concentration of  
13 these on the Post? Are they all over or  
14 in the south end where we're hoping to  
15 put that little walk trail?

16 MR. LEVY: What you saw was aerial  
17 photography at Fort McClellan, and you  
18 can see it's kind of like a mosaic. We  
19 did that during leaf out when all the  
20 hardwoods essentially were without  
21 leaves. So you can see kind of like a  
22 mosaic of the longleaf. But there are  
23 high concentrations in certain areas,

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1           particularly along Bains Gap Road as you  
2           go up through there you can see quite a  
3           number of them. It just depends on what  
4           area you are talking about. We do have a  
5           map that shows that if you are  
6           interested.

7           MR. ANDERSON: I was thinking if  
8           they are in the south where the UXO  
9           cleanup is a critical issue, that's kind  
10          of a slump your shoulders and say well,  
11          we've got to figure out a way to have  
12          access to them without damaging them.  
13          But if they are out in Bains Gap and the  
14          Choccolocco Corridor area, that's not as  
15          big a problem.

16          MR. LEVY: Throughout the entire  
17          area.

18          MR. CONROY: Right.

19          MR. LEVY: Any other questions?  
20          Focus on next month's RAB, BRAC cleanup.  
21          Additional questions? BRAC cleanup plan.  
22          Additional questions? I ask really to go  
23          back and take a hard look at the plan and

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1           come back and talk to us if you would.  
2           Unless you all are interested in a  
3           specific presentation.

4                   (Whereupon this meeting adjourned at  
5                   7:45 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E  
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STATE OF ALABAMA )

CALHOUN COUNTY )

I, DONNA D. GALLAHAR, a Court  
Reporter and a Notary Public in and for  
the State of Alabama at Large, duly  
commissioned and qualified, hereby  
certify that the above meeting was taken  
by me and reduced to shorthand in the  
presence of said, afterwards transcribed  
upon a computer; and that the foregoing  
is a true and correct transcript of the  
meeting as aforesaid.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that this  
meeting was taken at the time and place  
in the foregoing caption specified, and  
was completed without adjournment.

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1                   IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have  
2                   hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal  
3                   at Anniston, Alabama, on this the  
4                   \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1998.

5  
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7  
8                   \_\_\_\_\_  
9                   DONNA D. GALLAHAR  
10                  Notary Public in and for  
11                  Alabama at Large

12                My commission expires May 21, 2001.  
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