RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

FORT McCLELLAN, ALABAMA

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Taken before SAMANTHA E. NOBLE, CCR, Certified Court Reporter and Commissioner for Alabama at Large, at Fort McClellan, Alabama, on the 21st day of October 2014, commencing at approximately 5:05 p.m.

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MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Call the meeting to order. We'll do the roll call and hopefully -- I am here. Phillip is here. Mr. Buford is not. Dr. Cox is not. Mr. Elser?

MR. JEROME ELSER: Here.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Mr. Foster?

MR. BOBBY FOSTER: Here.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Dr. Harrington, I've not seen Mary yet. Mr. Howard?

MR. GENE HOWARD: Here.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Dr. Kimberly?

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: Yoah.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Mr. Kimbrough?

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: Here.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: And Mr. Hall --

MR. JOHN HALL: Here.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: -- is here.

Let's see, John Pearce and Dr. Steffy are not going to be here. Mr. Thompson? And Mr. Ed Turner?

MR. ED TURNER: Here.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Now, as far as guests go, we've got Karen Pinson, who is obviously a regular here with the National Guard down there; and Gerald Hardy is from MDA Matrix; and Julie Ange is the ADEM representative. Are you going to be our new full-time ADEM representative or --

MS. JULIE ANGE: Brandi said she would be back next time.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: We were speculating that since you work the MMRP side, and what we've got going on now is the RI/FS, that maybe, like, y'all were going to, you know, do your

functional areas or something. Okay. All right. So --

And, oh, additional guests here. Obviously, Lisa Holstein, who most everybody knows; Alison Zeytoonian from Osage; and Brenda Cunningham. Brenda and Lisa both work for Osage as contractors, so that's what the relationship or the linkage there is.

So, we're glad to have everybody. We have some minutes.

Has everyone had a chance to look at their April 21st, 2014, minutes?

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: Thank you for sending those out.

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: You're welcome.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: So, do we have a motion to approve --

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: I make a motion --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: -- same?

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: -- to accept the minutes of April 21st.

MR. JEROME ELSER: Second.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Thank God. I was afraid it would die for lack of a second.

All those in favor? Any opposed? All right, the motion carries.

Old business. Okay, one of the -- the last remaining item we've tried to get to in the past is to elect a new vice-chair person. And, obviously, Phillip is the community co-chair. And in the advent that something disastrous were to happen to Phillip or something --

MR. PHILLIP BURGETT: God forbid.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: -- you know, we've have somebody to step back in.

Brenda, can you help me again on what -- I know we've monkeyed with the terms of -- and so forth on these positions. Do you recall off the top of your head what --

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: What a vice-chair is?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Well, not what the vice-chair is --

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: Oh, how long?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: -- but what their term is. The terms are what?

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: Two years.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Two years

now.

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: Uh-huh. Four meetings.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Four meetings, yeah.

So, do we have any nominations for someone to be vice-chairman or a volunteer? We'll even take those.

MR. GENE HOWARD: Has Turner served?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: No.

MR. GENE HOWARD: I throw him in the barrel.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Would that be a nomination?

MR. ED TURNER: See, I'm new. What about Hall?

MR. GENE HOWARD: No. We're on tee right now.

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: I make a motion the nominations be closed.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: All right. So we have --

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: Second.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Okay. We have a motion and a second that they be closed.

We have Mr. Ed Turner nominated to be the new vice-chair. All in favor? Any opposed? Irrelevant. Congratulations.

MR. GENE HOWARD: Go home and tell your wife about that new job.

MR. ED TURNER: I got a promotion.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Okay. So that's --

MR. JOHN HALL: Gee, Ed, I wonder what that feels like.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: So we've now checked that box, which is good. Okay, it's been a long

time since we've been able to check any box with this group, so this is good. Moving right along.

All right, this brings us up to the old -- excuse me -- up to the -- is there any other old business that I'm not aware of that we need to deal with? I don't think there is.

This brings us up to the program, and Gerald Hardy, of Matrix Environmental, representing -- I guess, doing the work for the McClellan Development Authority is going to do the presentation today, right?

MR. GERALD HARDY: Right.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: On Range 16.

MR. GERALD HARDY: Range 16.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Which was

quite an operation, so --

MR. GERALD HARDY: Is it okay if I just remain seated?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Okay with me.

MR. GERALD HARDY: I won't be doing any of this --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: I mean, do we want the lights on? I guess we can do whichever.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: No, turn them off.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Who wants them off? All right, they're off.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: That's a lot better. We don't want any snoring.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: I was going to say, the first snore, they go back on.

MR. GERALD HARDY: Well, I was going to talk a little bit about

we've -- if y'all paid attention, you know, in the paper and all, we did the big bang last week and so I just thought I'd follow up. And, of course, I'd been asked to do something on Range 16 or Landfill 3 or Range 29, but since we really don't have anything for Landfill 3 or Range 29, I picked Range 16.

Next slide. The old map showing, you know, the green area is Fish & Wildlife, and essentially, the gray area to the left was what the MDA, the JPA, and then the MDA took over.

And what we're talking about is going to be somewhere right in -- right there, with Range 16.

Next. Little backup for the whole numbers for the MEC

cleanup that we've done on -- which was the Alpha -- the area that the MDA or the JPA, that was considered the Alpha and the Bravo MEC areas, and the C area is what's under Fish & Wildlife.

So, anyway, we cleared two thousand, seven hundred eighty-one acres of munitions. Now, that was a combination of clearance to depth and a one-foot clearance.

Initially, the push was for the roadways, which you saw in that very first map, which was the dark lines, which was the bypass still under construction, and the industrial road, which is, I think, constructed to Bains Gap.

We've destroyed one thousand -- one -- fourteen

thousand, three hundred and thirty-eight UXO items. Recycled, to this point -- we're still doing some recycling -- over -- almost three billion pounds scrap metal. And then -- yes?

MR. GENE HOWARD: Getting any money out of that? Is it worth the recycling effort?

MR. GERALD HARDY: A lot of it, the beginning was -- we basically got a trade-off in the beginning for them to take it. And now we're getting a little bit. But if it was sorted better, they'd -- it'd bring a better price, but there's a lot of effort to do that.

MR. GENE HOWARD: The recycling people are -- they have a hand at that; is that what you're saying?

MR. GERALD HARDY: Yeah, we get somebody that will take the metal and -- but anything that looks like a weapon has got to be destroyed, hammermilled or cut.

Almost six thousand miles of geophysical data collected. That's a lot of pulling of EM61, or whatever else, to do the data mapping, so -- which is associated because we divided the two thousand, seven hundred eighty-one acres into roughly thirty -- almost -- almost fourteen thousand grids that are a hundred by a hundred feet.

And out of that we found -- identified three hundred and eighty-seven thousand geophysical anomalies, which is what rang off, either in the one-foot clearance or to

depth.

So, that -- next. So, the focus tonight is Range 16, which is this impact area, and that's situated into MRS-9.

For a little background, just off the edge over here are the Starships buildings. And then this is out of range -- MRS-8 was Range 18, where the -- anybody got to go to the big bang, that's where the big bang occurred, was right there.

But this is one of the -- Range 16 was saved for last because it was one of the most contaminated parcels on McClellan, and in fact, probably one of the most heavily contaminated ranges, I think, that's being cleaned up in the country.

We divided that into -- if you

go to the next slide -- if you remember that -- thirty-nine acres into tract 9B. It was clean up to only a foot because of the -- how many munitions had been fired out there. It was divided into essentially two areas, which was -- if you go back to that -- can we go back one slide?

Remember this seven six and thirty-one -- the 7.6 is the main impact area right in the center, and the other thirty-one was the area surrounding the impact zone.

Next. It was determined that the best way to clean that was to actually dig and sift -- this is following a surface sweep, which was done a couple years ago -- because of so many anomalies that would be present,

that it was -- the best approach was to actually dig down to a foot and sift all the metal and munitions out of that one foot of dirt.

In order to do that, the trees had to be removed and -- before they could get into sifting. And then -- I've got some pictures to show you how that was accomplished -- but it also required that the -- next slide -- that the heavy equipment to the -- for the dig and sift had to be armored up so that the operator wouldn't -- if he ran across a live round and it detonated wouldn't be injured. So, we had -- there was big -- four big pieces of equipment.

Bottom line, the numbers, we got out three hundred and

twenty-five thousand pounds of munitions-related scrap. There were thirty hard targets that were in the area that ended up being pulled out -- or in -- and in the process of being recycled now. Some of those have got to be cut up, so you -- when you talk about cutting up a tank body, it's not an easy thing to do.

We ended up finding four hundred and forty-four munitions that needed to be destroyed out of -- out at range -- in the tract 9B.

When we got to the dig-and-sift operations, the contractors worked seven days a week. We started that.

And true removal started in about the second week of July. And the actual digging operation

for the soil started in the first of August and was completed by the end of September, which was the target goal.

Next slide. A little background. We talk about the -- how many miles of geophysical data -- it was dragging an instrument similar to that. You can see, in order to accomplish that, the trees have got to be grubbed so they can actually pull a cart through there. So, that just gives you a picture -- and this is recording the sound-off, the beeps that you'll get from the equipment.

Next slide. That's a little picture of some of the Stokes -- let's see -- oh, that's three and a half inch rocket motors --

that were collected. And they're stacked and they're waiting to be sheared. I mentioned they had to be rendered unrecognizable as a weapon, so these are actually stacked and waiting to be mechanically sheared.

Next slide. This is one of the largest rounds that was found out here at McClellan. That's a 77mm pull-up (phonetic) unfired round that was actually dug up out here at McClellan. So, that's a pretty good sized round.

Next slide. Here's a picture of some of the work that was done earlier. That's three inch Stokes mortars that they're setting up to do a demo, demolition of. And you can see these little shiny things are

perforation devices that will explode the munition. So, that's a couple of technicians putting -- setting up a demo shot.

Next slide. And this is just one that's -- after it's been completed, up a little closer. You can see how they have to go through and -- that's det cord, detonation cord, with the perforation in it.

Next slide. This is an example of -- we -- I mentioned that not everything looked uniform. This is a collection of munitions scrap that was found in one of the areas. And that's a flex linear charge, which is this copper pipe, that will be used to detonate all those pieces and bits of munitions that were dug up.

Next slide. When we do some of these, they're set up by -- this is a remote device. That one is actually wired to the detonation charges, and that -- what communicates with the orange box is another one that you have to push two fingers, push two buttons simultaneously, and that sends a signal to that receiver, which sets off the charge.

And if any of y'all got to attend the big bang or you saw a picture of it, that's what the lieutenant governor and Congressman Rogers, they had to push at the same time to send the signal to the little box to set off the explosion, the big bang.

Next slide. This is a picture of some white phosphorous rounds

there. The three and a half inch rocket warheads that were found out in McClellan -- that's a piece of crumpled up paper to give you a representative what the size was.

And then these were -- had to be blown in place, so they're sandbagged up. And there was a -- let's see, I don't know if I included the -- I didn't include the picture, but basically these were capped off with some more sandbags, and then it was detonated. But it was determined through X-rays that these contained white phosphorous.

Next slide. I mentioned that we -- they fired on Range 16 at some hard targets. And this is a turret from an Abrams tank that was a flame thrower. This

is the bottles for -- that would have been used to house the chemicals that made the flame.

And so, that's a device that -- I mean, we've got -- this has got to be cut up. Got to determine that the bottles are -- no longer contain a hazardous material. So, this is an example of one of the -- one of the hard targets we brought out of there.

Next. This was probably the most desirable piece that was -- that's an M3 Stewart light tank. There was only about twenty-eight thousand ever made, I think, from World War One up to the early days of World War Two.

There is a representing -- you can see, that's a Ford Ranger pickup truck. So, this wasn't a

very large tank.

Interesting to note that the wheels still move. The way they got it out of the grid is they hooked to it and it rolled. And when they --

This was actually recycled. The war museum gave the MDA, I think, five thousand dollars for something that's probably worth two hundred and fifty thousand, if it was restored.

But anyway -- and the way they got it on a flatbed and semi-trailer is they got on one end, hooked to it, and it actually rolled up on the trailer.

It's amazing that as long as it's been out there, that the bearings and all weren't frozen up on it. But that was the most desirable. And, as you can see,

soldiers didn't do a good job, because they didn't hit it very much.

Next slide. And here is the -- once they were -- of course, they wasn't this closely situated. We pulled them out of the grid. They were spaced out into the -- over the thirty-nine -- primarily, that seven and a half acres -- but pulled them all to one location.

You can see some of them, they got hit pretty -- quite a few times. And so, that's what's being cut up for -- be hauled off as scrap.

And that's the -- that's not all of them. That's a portion of the thirty that was dug up.

Next slide. Here is before. I mentioned we did a surface sweep before we actually started

doing the sifting a couple of years ago. And this is just a picture from an area out of Range 16 where they had fired at one of these hard targets. And that looks like a hub or something that's still left.

But -- I don't know if you can pick out the munitions, the MEC items out of this, but -- next slide -- that's where they're at. So, that's how many -- when we talk about this was a heavily contaminated area from a unexploded ordnance standpoint, this gives you an example of what -- and they had to -- initially went through and actually just picked those up by hand, doing a surface walk in the beginning.

Next slide. I said that the seven and a half acres that we

had to remove the trees. And here is a picture. The reason it's sort of a little bit fuzzy is the trees -- we burned the trees. There is a pit burner in the foreground right here. But that's after the -- that section where the trees have been removed. And we burned the trees.

We had to inspect the root balls before they went into the pit burner to make sure there was no obvious munitions there. And then we had to go back and check the ash to make sure that there was -- we pulled the scrap out. And that's just a -- when we started.

Next slide. I mentioned we went down -- dug up one foot. Here is the armoring for this bulldozer I mentioned that had

to be armored up to protect the operator.

Here's the trammel devices that are on the blade to know if it's cutting actually one foot. And you can see here where that they've gotten approximately a foot out of that, and they, you know, would push, and this would tell them what elevation they were.

They went over one foot to make sure we had the safety factor of, you know, actually removing one foot, or Julie would have gotten all on them.

Next slide. That was pushed up into a pile. And then, as you can see, here is two more pieces of equipment. The dump truck and the trackhoe had to -- both had to be armored up. But the bulldozer would push the top

one foot into a pile, and then they would load it into the truck.

Some of the operators said they could tell, when they went over some items, they could hear the little pop underneath the wheels and all. So, some things did try to go off.

Next slide. It went to the sifting operation. And there's the mechanical sifter. They had the magnetized belts that would hold onto the metal and drop it off. And they went through a series of sifting in the metal dropping, you can see right there.

And then it would go through another conveyor, and there would be a dirt pile. Some items were separated and had to go -- this was a crusher that

actually crushed up some of the metal items that came through, leaving -- a lot of that stuff fell in that little yellow bin. And we had the piles of the stuff after it was crushed.

But, at this point in time, because we were working seven days a week to avoid being shut down when it was -- we had a lot of heavy rain. On the dry days, if there was something wrong with one of the pieces of equipment -- and all of this was new except for the crusher. The crusher was a used piece of equipment, and that tended to break down more than the new pieces.

But, anyway, to get a stockpile, they would bring the soil in and cover it with a tarp so that if they had a problem or

had a rain where they couldn't actually dig out of the grid and haul in to do the sifting, they could take out of the pile that was covered so it would be dry. But that just -- that was the sifting operation that handled this top one foot of soil.

Next slide. Here is a picture of some of the pieces that actually came out of 16. I think, at some of the peak, we were collecting over sixty buckets a day out of the material that came out. And it's got to be inspected. A lot of -- and he's not waiting to get launched, but --

But you can see, a lot of these have been determined to be already fired. These are rocket motors that got to -- that have to be sheared. So, a lot of

that, he's just going through the scrap -- this is after it's been determined not to need detonation, because they go through and screen that initially. And they do -- did a lot of demo shots out there when they found that -- this is the remaining scrap material waiting to be sheared or rendered in compliance with our action plan.

Next slide. And then that's just a picture peering down into one of the bins that we had for carry-off to -- for recycling of all the various pieces of material. So, MEC scrap.

That's what it looked like after it was scraped down, and then was leveled back up. That -- out of the sifter, the pile that was clean, removed the metal and roots and everything,

that soil was brought back and repacked into the area.

And next slide. That's what it sort of looks like today. There are some erosion areas that we're continuing to work on. The contractor will still be here for a year to make sure all that is addressed and taken care of.

This was a heavy rain event, I think, right after they got the grass to pop up, so -- and they're going back to work on it. But that's what the seven and a half acres looks like today.

And last slide. That's my contact information.

MR. PHILLIP BURGETT: How much did this cost?

MR. GERALD HARDY: Uh, this --

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: You don't want to know.

MR. GERALD HARDY: This one grid to do, 9 -- the entire 9B, which was the sifting, plus the other, was five plus million dollars, which was actually under budget.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: Yeah. That's something you can say about what they've done over there at the MDA -- I'm one of those nosy people that go to a lot of their meetings. And every time Scott does his reports on finances, it's very seldom that he doesn't show you how much money he saved during that quarter or that he has saved a ton of money, and done more in four years than was done in the previous ten years.

MR. GERALD HARDY: Y'all got

any other questions? I mean, that's more of a show-and-tell, since we finished up.

MR. GENE HOWARD: Very thorough job.

MS. KAREN PINSON: Who was your contractor, if you don't mind?

MR. GERALD HARDY: I don't mind. SGO, Sterling Global Operations.

(Inaudible discussion.)

MR. GENE HOWARD: I'm just being nosy.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: All right. Do we have any other questions?

MR. PHILLIP BURGETT: What happens if you have a munition over one foot?

MR. GERALD HARDY: It was determined that's all we'll do. There's construction support, so they put soil back in to --

greater than one foot to fill in over that. And any -- there's not supposed to be any digging or anything.

That piece of property is actually, I think, already transferred -- going to be transferred to the dog kennel, Auburn University. It's part of a big lease for Auburn. And it's going to be used, not for residential -- it's either park or they're industrial -- call it industrial use, running around out there training dogs.

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: But there are restrictions put on that property.

MR. GERALD HARDY: There'll be a restriction --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Right.

MR. GERALD HARDY: -- if they try to dig --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: They're separate covenants that are filed. There's also -- usually, there's restrictions that -- and they all run with the land, so they're in the deeds.

There's -- anything that's not been cleaned up to unrestricted use will have periodic reviews. I don't know what the plan -- under CERCLA, it's mandatory five-year RCRA, can vary, if at all.

So, that's -- yeah, there is a -- there will be a land-use control implementation plan that talks about, you know, what you can do where and so forth. And so everybody's pretty well aware of it.

And the reality of life is, even on a range like that, probably -- you've probably got

70 to 90 percent of -- of the munitions within the first foot. I can't remember the exact number. We've had discussions about that with some of our contractors and the Corps of Engineers. And so, most munitions are -- are going to be within the first foot or two.

It takes a -- takes a big round to get deep, particularly in the soils and stuff that we have here, these heavy, cherty, dense clays and stuff. You know, it's got to take a one five five and got to be wet, you know, to penetrate much in the ground.

So, a one foot clearance gets a lot of it, but there's still potential for residual. And so, that's why all those controls are always put into effect.

MR. GERALD HARDY: When it was closed back in, I guess, the '99 timeframe --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Uh-huh.

MR. GERALD HARDY: -- the actual closure, they had developed a reuse plan. And they had designated certain areas for clearance to depth, and other areas that were only clearance to a foot. And those clearance to a foot were what was to be park or industrial under that.

If anything was -- the areas designated for clearance to depth would be potential reuse, unrestricted reuse from a MEC standpoint.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Any other questions?

Gerald, thank you. That was a -- those of us who are

familiar with Range 16 over the years, that was quite a range. Even the EOD people did not like it at all. A lot of the old 40mm grenades and stuff out there, and that's not a very friendly round at all.

MR. GERALD HARDY: Yeah, the -- if you remember, I pointed out -- I highlighted that little yellow bin that was there in the crusher. One of the things that would not stick to the magnetic belt were these zinc -- I called them bottle caps. They were off of forties. They were, you know, about yea big around. And they would just stay in that crusher and roll around and around. And periodically they'd have to go push them out. And they'd put them in that yellow bin.

And when they'd bring it over for inspection, I mean, that -- that's all that would be in there were those little caps. And then they'd be half to three-quarters full every time they'd bring it. But that was -- those were -- that was zinc, and it wouldn't stick to the magnet.

But we had a ton of pictures. I just picked a few I thought would sort of tell the story.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Well, I appreciate it. Thank you, Gerald.

MR. GERALD HARDY: Uh-huh.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: I guess we'll move on to new business. And that will take us -- first up is going to be agency reports. So, ADEM, Julie, you are it.

MS. JULIE ANGE: All right. Well, you got our list of documents since the last meeting. And we had a couple of RODs that got signed, T-24 Alpha and Choccolocco Corridor ranges.

And another big one for me was getting the Charlie area RI/FS work plan approved so that they -- the Army can start doing that remediation or the investigation, any remediation that's left there.

And I guess that's about it. We've had quite a few documents come in, and I think we've gotten probably a few more out than we had come in, so --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Any questions anybody? Karen, NGB.

MS. KAREN PINSON: We -- we're, you know, still working the groundwater issues

at Range J and K on Pelham Range. And I kind of revised our report a little bit to throw in some little maps and kind of see the area a little bit. It's small, but --

In the report, the map of Pelham Range is on the -- well, you can see which one that is. And you can barely see two little red dots on that report -- on that map area, with the Range K pointing to one red dot and the Range J pointing to the other red dot.

The red dots are the plumes, the groundwater contaminated plumes on -- in those areas. So, they're not large plumes. And even though this is -- but just to -- just so you'll know kind of what we're -- relatively what we're talking about out

there.

Anyway, we've sampled the groundwater again in October of 2013 -- since our last meeting here, in October of 2013 and March and April of 2014.

And the October 2013 sampling showed that we needed more carbon source at Range K, so we put in some more lactose in December and January -- this past December and January.

And we've completed a report. We have to do annual reports of the results. And so we completed another annual report in May of 2014. And ADEM concurred with that.

And we have another annual report that is currently under review at ADEM. So, that's kind of where we are on the reports for the site out there and --

for those two sites out there.

The remedy consisted of several parts, and one was land-use controls to protect human health from the groundwater issues out there. So, we prepared a land-use control implementation plan and -- to just kind of lay out the restrictions we had at those sites, at those two sites, and to document -- because we're an active installation, we just document some of our mechanisms that are in place to manage the land-use controls. And so, we submitted that report to ADEM in September.

And we're also doing a five-year review of the remedy for the ranges J and K. And that report is in -- is being prepared now, and we'll be

submitting that to ADEM, eventually.

And we've also issued a revised remedial investigation report for the toxic gas area, the decontamination training area. We're still doing -- you know, still trying to complete the investigation and wrap it up in those areas, so -- and working on the risk assessment.

So, we submitted another report to ADEM in June of 2014. And we'll -- we're kind of working on -- out a few details on that report. So, that's where we are.

That's all I have, Scott.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Okay. Thank you. Any questions?

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: Is the funding provided through you, Scott?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: No. They are funded through -- we're funded through what's called BRAC, obviously, base realignment and closure. They are funded through what's called the installation restoration program, which is ultimately at the top of the food funding chain, if you will.

It's all the same dollars, environmental restoration Army, but it splits out into BRAC and IRP. IRP dollars fund active installations and excess installations like the work in Tennessee, the other site I've got, that's an excess installation. I get the funding there through Army Environmental Command, whereas here we get it through BRAC.

So, they are different streams

slightly and different masters to some extent in that -- in that. But that's -- I think -- you guys are IRP funded, right, yeah.

MS. KAREN PINSON: Yeah. Thanks.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: And no other questions.

Gerald, I assume y'all -- are you doing MDA?

MR. GERALD HARDY: Yes. Nobody here from MDA but me.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Well, that's kind of how I looked at it.

MS. LISA HOLSTEIN: Unless Karen wants to do it.

MS. KAREN PINSON: What?

MR. GERALD HARDY: As you can see -- I won't go through all -- this covers our report sort of broken out by our area that

we've got to remediate, clean up. I'll just touch on a couple of what I consider more high points.

On the first page there, T-6, that's an area that's got chlorinated solvent, groundwater contamination. We were doing an air sparge and vapor recovery, and that really wasn't getting us to the point we needed to be in a timely manner, so we decided to change course, which was originally envisioned as a possibility in the corrective measures implementation plan to go to in-situ bioremediation similar to what is done at Range J and K.

We finally got the underground injection control permit from ADEM on October the 1st of this year, so we'll be installing

some additional wells. And hope to have that injection done and the first sampling event in around December of this year.

One other little thing I'll point out, you'll see north of landfill two, the final entry there is received ADEM concurrence of corrective measures implementation report on 6-18-14. And why do you say that's important? Well, to get the concurrence we had to have a signed covenant, and that required one of the -- a small portion of that site is owned by the federal government, and so getting a signature on that took almost two years, so that's just why I highlight that, that that's not a speedy process.

Down for landfill four. Landfill four is the one that

contains the industrial landfill within the boundary, which is the active landfill on the -- on the sight.

We were required to submit the MPDS permit for storm water. It was -- had expired. We had to renew it. And we did get that concurrence on the renewal back in January of this year.

On page three you'll see MRS-12 and 13. One of the things I would point out, we -- all of these -- we had some approximately fifteen munition response areas on the -- out of that three thousand, seven hundred acres that we said we put in to -- whatever the number was that we cleaned on the MDA property.

The final thing is, after

you've done all the removal, you have to write up what you did and submit what's called an after-action report to ADEM and the agencies for concurrence. And for MRS-12 and 13 we got that concurrence this past year. So, that area has gone through all the -- those steps.

And we'll be working on the other areas through the next couple of years, as we crank those out.

And then, on page four, I'll just highlight what I talked about. MRS-9 is we've completed a mechanized removal of the impact area, which was a high point.

And I will -- you know, the other stuff you can read at your leisure, but --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Thank you.

MR. GERALD HARDY: Any questions?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: No? All right.

That leaves us with the Army executed actions here. And as y'all are aware, our work is done in what's now the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service Refuge.

The most notable things that have come up with -- is we have a remedial investigations and feasibility study underway. We're really in the remedial investigation portion of it. And this is for munitions.

And that's -- they're in the field, as we speak. They're surveying in transects and so on. In other words, lines that they will wander and investigate and take with the geophysics and dig all anomalies and so forth.

They'll also put some grids and so on.

The purpose of an RI is to characterize the nature and extent of your contamination. In this case it will be -- it's munitions.

Then associated with the RI is the feasibility study. In other words, what are you going to do about it.

It's pretty cut and dried when you're dealing with munitions and stuff, so there's not a lot of gee-whiz technology that's going to go in. It's a function of digging them up and getting them out of there.

We already know what the Fish & Wildlife Service's planned use of the area is and what activities they need, so that will govern our clearance

depths, just like you heard Gerald talking about a one-foot versus a clearance to depth.

We'll also do some analysis, because we have a little bit different terrain, some of the steeper terrain, some of the shallower soils and so on. And so, one of the things that we will take a look at is when we get the analysis out of the feasibility study as to what has -- you know, what areas need to be cleaned up, we'll probably take a hard look and say, well, do we want to -- you know, it might be feasible to clean more of it up to clearance to depth because the soils are shallow and we think it's, you know, a more effective way to do it. So, those determinations will be made kind of on the back end of

the feasibility study.

As I said, they're in the field, as we speak, surveying in transects, grids and so forth. The actual investigation work probably won't start up for another month, or at least when they're out there geophysically mapping and digging anomalies and so on.

When they encounter stuff now, obviously, they have to take care of it, so --

The -- like I say, we -- the work plan, we got it approved by ADEM in 2014. We've got some other addendums. We had an interim removal action that we had to halt. And we decided to take those areas, since we hadn't completed them, to roll them into the remedial investigation, as well, so

they'll be characterized.

The purpose of this whole drill is to -- what we're hoping to do is to be able to, at the very -- late next fiscal -- this fiscal year -- excuse me -- this fiscal year, we're hoping to have the characterization done, in terms of nature and extent so we'll know what areas have to be cleaned up and so on, that we'll be able to do some cost analysis and award a contract, literally, that would span, you know, probably five years to do all the final munitions cleanup here.

So, that's our goal. It's awfully aggressive.

The folks that are in the field right now are talking about trying to be complete by the first of the year. That is

a real aggressive schedule.

The first time it rains, that may go south. I don't know. You know, it's -- they're -- but they are moving fast. And so, we'll see. But that's our goal, at any rate, for late this fiscal year. So, it'll be, you know, next summer, you know, July, August, September timeframe.

And if that's the case, that would allow us to have the final munitions, you know, cleanup at least in place. Like I say, it'll probably take five years to accomplish the cleanup, all the report writing, all of the mop-up that goes on after.

Five-year review, we completed a five-year review back in last August. The actual site visits, interviews and all of that kind

of stuff actually took place, public meeting and so on, in 2013.

On the -- what we talk about, we refer to as the IRP program. In this case what we're really talking about is hazardous waste cleanup. And basically, here at Fort McClellan, and in our footprint over there, it's metals contamination from former small arms ranges.

We -- we awarded, just last month -- it's been barely over a month -- a real substantial contract to clean up the four sites that you see listed here. These four areas, Bains Gap Road ranges; the old record fire range -- not -- those weren't record fires -- zero fire ranges and so on there; 81mm mortar range, which is up towards the

northern boundary of the installation; training area T-24 Alpha; and then the Choccolocco Corridor ranges, which are actually state forest property.

And so, we did award that contract just last month. They're in the process of developing the work plans and so on, as we speak. And when that is complete, that'll basically complete the metals cleanup in the Fish & Wildlife.

We had already cleaned the munitions in those areas on these interim-removal actions that we have done over the years in the past, so we had already gotten the MEC out of those areas, because we knew that those areas were going to require, you know, the metals cleanup.

And so that -- and those are -- the cleanup levels there are driven by ecological risk factors, so that's the -- so, there will be some that'll be higher above -- than unrestricted or residential use, and it'll be land-use controls. But then again, it's a wildlife refuge, so it shouldn't unduly affect them.

I think of note, a couple of things that happened, because there's a long lead time on these things -- I mean, this time last year we were scrambling and working like mad -- Lisa spent a lot of time doing this work in the scoping documents and all the things that have to go into a contract award.

And last year, just like this

year, you know, Congress has chosen to campaign instead of do their job, so we didn't have a budget in the first quarter of the fiscal year, just like we don't this year.

So, it always makes it exciting. So then you get to try and implement, you know, your entire year's worth of work in the final six months, nine months, whatever, if you get a budget. And so --

But these things take a long lead time. And I think Lisa and Bill Shanks have really been huge assets on these things. They've learned a lot over the years. And she basically writes the scope on these.

And we got a lot of help from ADEM on this, because there's a whole process we have to go

through.

You heard Julie mention that a bunch of RODs had been signed, you know, records of decision. Well, what goes into that is you have to complete your feasibility study. Then you have to go through with your proposed plan, okay. And there are, you know, public meetings -- public notice periods and all these things that are associated with that.

Then, after you get the approved plans approved, then you have to get the records of decision approved at various levels. And so, it's pretty daunting.

I remember we were having a conversation with ADEM not too long back, and they were saying, well, we really thought you

would start working covenants and stuff. You know, we did proposed plans. Said, well, if we don't get the proposed plans, we can't do this, we can't work that.

So, it's been very -- it's been good to work with ADEM in this fashion, okay, because they recognize what we're trying to get done, and they've been helpful in getting the process moving.

So, you know, I think that's important to point out, because we were literally seeking requests for proposals when we didn't have signed decision documents. All of them were signed. Some of them were still at the appropriate level, because you have to go fairly high up in the Army chain of

command.

And we had the draft documents. We knew what the standards were going to be, but we were doing all those things in parallel.

So, it was interesting pulling it all together. And it caused a little consternation at the Department of the Army, too, which was good for them, because they start panicking in September, are you really going to do it, are you really going to do it. And we're going, yeah, yeah, yeah. And on 27 September, you know, you pull a rabbit out of the hat, so --

But it took a big effort with a lot of different people, and we had a lot of help from ADEM. So, I think everybody needs to recognize that.

I'm appreciative of the fact that we can work a lot more cooperatively than maybe have been many, many years ago. But things worked pretty well this way.

So, that's basically where we're at now. Like I say, we're hoping to have the feasibility study elements done by the spring in time that we can put out a request for proposal and look at awarding a contract.

And that would put us on about a five-year path for the cleanup. There will still be, you know, work to be done, as far as a lot of kind of cleaning up the paperwork trails and all of those kind of things for several years thereafter. Just because you won the battle -- the mop-up's always messy.

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: So, you're saying five years for --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: If --

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: -- for everything --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Well, probably from this time next year would be the -- would be the cleanup of the munitions done. Okay?

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: Okay.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: You've still got to go through and, you know, get all the approvals on the reports and --

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: Right.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: -- and reconcile --

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: I understand.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: -- any of those kind of things, you know. And there's always the potential

that, you know, you have to relook something or maybe reinvestigate or any -- there's always those potentials. But that's what we will try to do.

Now, that would be very aggressive to be real frank with you. But our intent is to try and push somebody into a base plus four option year type contract, which would be about a five-year period.

MR. ED KIMBROUGH: And you feel like the money flow is going to be there for you?

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: We think we are. With the -- what happened last fiscal year -- and we'd already exhausted the first of the quarter -- the reason a budget issue was so, so important to us, was the BRAC 2005 round had money left over,

but because we had not had a budget for four years, we couldn't touch that money.

So, it's -- when Congress finally passed an appropriation's act, which was what, back in January, okay, of '14, that allowed essentially the Army or the DOD to access that money. They had already kind of reconciled the checkbook, if you will, and they knew how much they had left over.

We had permission to use a big chunk of that to roll it into what they call legacy BRAC sites to get it done. And so, we were a beneficiary of that with our hazardous waste. McClellan Development Authority was, too.

Because one of the minor items that's -- not a minor

item -- one of the items that slowed them down sometimes was funding, was cash flow. And we got -- you know, a lot of times there was some brinksmanship between them and the Army and us scrambling to get them money. So, we were very fortunate there.

So, that'll, you know, smooth that kind of a process out and potentially speed things up a little bit, probably not a great deal. But those have been the issues in the past.

So, we think we're okay. And that's why we're really trying to get it done this fiscal year. The minute we cross that fiscal year boundary, you know, the game can change, and so --

But our director was down just last week, when we did our thing

with the big bang and so on, and Tom and I talked about that, and he said, yeah, I said -- he said, they know, it's very, very aggressive, because I was trying to caveat everything, you know, saying, look, we told you '16. You pulled it into '15. That doesn't necessarily make it so, you know. And he said, it's real, real aggressive, you know, make it happen.

So, hopefully, we can get it done. We shall see.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: Well, I think every organization that's been involved out here over the last several years has done a -- they need to be all kudoed. I mean, they've done a yeoman's job.

I am disappointed about one thing; with all the people

running around in these woods and in these mountains, there's not been one Sasquatch -- sign of any Sasquatch. I don't know what they're -- they're too busy to look for him, I guess.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Well, they're nocturnal in Alabama, so they're -- it's a nocturnal subspecies, so --

But other than that -- so, anybody have any other questions other than Sasquatch questions?

And the other thing is, you know, Ebola may take them out, too.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: (Inaudible.)

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: That brings us to new program ideas or upcoming programs, suggestions, ideas. If so, get them into Brenda.

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: Be nice.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Now that we're on a semiannual cycle, we do have a little bit of lead time. And -- but if somebody has some specific things that they want potentially addressed or whatever, if you will let us know, some way, shape or form, we will do our best, with a little bit of lead time, to get it incorporated into our next meeting, which is like, what, April, April 15th? Something like that.

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: April the 21st --

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Oh, okay.

MS. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: -- 2015.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: There we go.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: If I'm still around.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Well -- any other questions or comments?

Thank you all for coming, because I know it's a hassle sometimes, but we do appreciate it, we really do.

DR. MICHAEL KIMBERLY: I make a motion we adjourn.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: Any second?

MR. JEROME ELSER: Second.

MR. SCOTT BOLTON: We have a motion and a second. All in favor?

See you in April. Thank you.

(Whereupon, the meeting was concluded at 6:09 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ALABAMA)
CALHOUN COUNTY)

I, SAMANTHA E. NOBLE, a Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for The State of Alabama at Large, duly commissioned and qualified, HEREBY CERTIFY that this proceeding was taken before me, then was by me reduced to shorthand, afterwards transcribed upon a computer, and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceeding to the best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY this proceeding was taken at the time and place as noted and was concluded without adjournment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal at Anniston, Alabama, on this the 9th day January 2015.

_____

SAMANTHA E. NOBLE (ACCR 232)
Notary Public in and for
Alabama at Large

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 11-6-2017.