Final
FORMER MARINE CORPS AIR STATION (MCAS) El Toro
105th Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: Irvine City Hall, Conference and Training Center (CTC), Irvine, California
Meeting Date/Time: 9 November 2011/ 6:30 PM to 7:25 PM
Minutes Prepared by: Dorothy Norton, Accord MACTEC 8A Joint Venture (AM8AJV)

Attachments:

Presentation Slides: Remedial Action Update Anomaly Area 3

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/AGENDA REVIEW:

Mr. Jim Callian, Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator (BEC) and Navy RAB Co-Chair, welcomed everyone to this Former MCAS El Toro 105th RAB meeting. Mr. Callian asked Ms. Marcia Rudolph, RAB member and Subcommittee Chair, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Self-introductions proceeded after the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Callian began the meeting with the following announcements and discussion:

- Mr. Callian referenced the meeting agenda for old business, new business, and the subcommittee report.
- Mr. Callian announced that the evening's presentations would discuss the status of Anomaly Area 3 (AA 3).
- Mr. Callian reviewed the RAB meeting agenda.
- Mr. Callian preliminarily addressed taking a vote on reducing the number of RAB meetings each year and asked for questions. He pointed out that if the RAB meetings are reduced to semiannually, the next meeting date would be in April 2012 rather than January 2012.
- Mr. Callian presented a series of RAB Meeting introductory slides listing dates and times for the upcoming 2012 quarterly RAB meetings. In addition, he presented slides listing key Navy and Regulatory Agency contacts, RAB points of contact, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Administrative Record (AR) File and Information Repository (IR) locations and hours, and environmental and reuse/redevelopment websites.
- Mr. Callian noted that there were no action items from the last RAB meeting.

- Mr. Bob Woodings, RAB Community Co-Chair, noted that Mr. Peter Hersh was granted an excused absence for tonight's RAB meeting. Mr. Callian asked that RAB members who know they are going to be absent to please inform either Mr. Woodings or Mr. Callian.

APPROVAL OF 31 AUGUST 2011 RAB MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Callian asked for approval of the 31 August 2011 RAB meeting minutes. He stated that the RAB Meeting was followed by the site tour. Mr. Woodings commented that it was an excellent tour and asked for additions or corrections to the minutes. There were none and the minutes were accepted as presented. Mr. Callian stated that the minutes would be finalized and posted to the Navy BRAC website: http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:

Mr. Callian asked Ms. Rudolph for the subcommittee meeting report. Ms. Rudolph explained that there was no meeting because instead some RAB members were interviewed regarding the update to the Community Relations Plan.

REGULATORY AGENCY UPDATE:

Ms. Mary Aycock (United States Environmental Protection Agency [U.S. EPA])

Ms. Aycock thanked everyone who is participating in the Community Relations Plan update interviews and said that it is very helpful to get input from everyone to help improve the way we communicate information to the public.

Ms. Aycock provided the following update:

- Over the next 2 to 3 years, upcoming activities include three Remedial Action Completion Reports (RACRs). RACRs are issued when remedial action work is completed at a particular site and are one way to measure milestones for completing work on the Superfund Program.

- Scheduled for December 2011 is the signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) for groundwater at IRP Sites 1 and 2. The Navy is working toward getting the Final ROD to all the agencies in November 2011 and required signatures in December 2011. This will be another large accomplishment for the environmental restoration program.

- Thanks to all RAB members for continued support on the projects.

Mr. Quang Than (DTSC)

Mr. Than stated that he is working on the same projects as Ms. Aycock. Mr. Than reported the work for the Finding of Suitability for Transfer (FOST) #7 is still ongoing. DTSC has provided comments and the Navy is currently preparing responses to those comments.

There is a request from Heritage Fields for a partial de-listing from the National Priorities List for part of Former MCAS El Toro. DTSC is working with the U.S. EPA to provide State

concurrence. Once concurrence is provided, the U.S. EPA can move forward. There was a recent meeting regarding the de-listing between Heritage Fields, U.S. EPA, DTSC, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). DTSC has scheduled a meeting in-house for the week of 13 November 2011 for this item. Hopefully, this will be completed next year.

Mr. Than asked whether there were questions; the RAB had no questions.

Reduced Frequency of RAB Meetings:

Mr. Callian stated that four RAB meetings were originally scheduled for next year (2012), but that it would be more efficient to forgo the January 2012 meeting. Mr. Callian called for a RAB member vote to reschedule the RAB meetings from quarterly to semiannually. The RAB members in attendance unanimously approved this change. Mr. Callian thanked the RAB members for their support and stated that the reduction in meetings would help the Navy reduce its expenditures. He commented this is a mature program and it was appropriate to reduce the meeting schedule at this time.

The next RAB meeting is scheduled for 25 April 2012. If an issue arises before the next meeting, Mr. Callian will contact RAB members via e-mail. The decision regarding which of the two remaining originally scheduled RAB meeting dates (August 2012 or November 2012) will be retained and will be made at later date based on the schedule of upcoming documents. Mr. Callian acknowledged RAB input regarding the efficacy of the Site tours and indicated that August might be a better time of year to conduct a tour. Ms. Rudolph asked that the Navy consider annual tours, which allow RAB members to keep up with changes at the sites. Mr. Callian agreed and stated that during the Community Relations Plan Update interviews, many interviewees have mentioned the value of the RAB tours. The Navy will take this into consideration regarding the scheduling of the August 2012 meeting.

There were no further questions or comments. Mr. Callian introduced Mr. Louie Cardinale, Navy Remedial Project Manager, and Doug Bielskis, ERRG Project Manager, for their presentation on AA 3.

PRESENTATIONS:

<u>Anomaly Area 3 Update</u>

Mr. Cardinale began with an overview of the presentation (Slide 2).

Slide 1 – Title slide.

Slide 2 – Presents an overview of the presentation and includes site overview and history; components of the selected remedy; remedial action status; next steps/project documentation; and schedule.

Slide 3 – AA 3 is approximately 5 acres within Carve-Out Area (CO) II-C. It was a source of borrow material from 1972 to 1988, which means soil was taken from the area for construction activities elsewhere. Some borrow pits were backfilled with construction debris (mostly concrete and some wood) and later covered with soil. At the time of the Feasibility Study, an

average of approximately 4.5 feet of soil covered the debris, with isolated areas having approximately 2 feet of cover.

Slide 4 – Shows a map of the site location.

Slide 5 – Shows the AA 3 site plan, including the monitoring wells and Carve-Out (CO) boundary.

Slide 6 – Describes the components of the selected remedy. The Final ROD was signed in August 2010. The components of the selected remedy include: waste consolidation and limited grading; construction of passive/active landfill gas (LFG) control system; construction of a finger dike and riprap; implementation of institutional controls; long-term monitoring for LFG and groundwater; operation and maintenance (O&M); and conducting five-year reviews.

Mr. Doug Bielskis took over the presentation for the following slides:

Slide 7 – Shows the remedial action status, consisting of waste consolidation, limited grading, and construction progress. Waste consolidation consists of excavating the debris and soil located less than 100 feet from the boundary of CO II-C (completed) and ensuring that the final cover has a minimum 4-foot thickness (in progress).

Slide 8 – Presents a picture showing the excavation of existing soil cover and stockpiling.

Slide 9 – Presents a picture showing the excavation of soil and construction debris.

Slide 10 – Presents a picture of the north central portion of the landfill showing placement of the excavated construction debris. Debris is primarily large pieces of concrete.

Slide 11 –Presents a picture of backfilling at the west end of the site, where soil was replaced in layers and compacted to be brought back up to the final design grade.

Slide 12 – Shows the placement of final soil cover.

Slide 13 – Presents the progress of LFG monitoring and control system construction to date. Includes construction of LFG collection tranches (completed), installation of LFG Vents (planned for late November 2011), and installation of perimeter LFG probes (planned for late November 2011).

Slide 14 – Presents a graphic of the area showing LFG collection trenches, vents, and perimeter monitoring probes. The LFG vents will be installed around the perimeter of the landfill. The purpose of the vents is to vent any potential gas before it could migrate beyond the limits of the waste. The LFG collection trench is an added feature to help direct potential LFG toward the vents. The perimeter monitoring probes are spaced evenly about 50 feet away from the edges of the landfill. These probes will be monitored long-term to demonstrate that, if generated, LFG is below regulatory limits.

Mr. John Hills asked whether it was mainly construction materials that were deposited at AA 3 and what is the source of the LFG. Mr. Bielskis responded that it is mainly construction

materials, including concrete and some wood, which has the potential to generate methane gas. Anytime you have organic material such as paper or wood, it can decompose and generate gases. Previous investigations have identified relatively low concentrations of methane in the central portion of the landfill, which is what prompted the Navy to include the passive/active LFG control system in the ROD.

Mr. Callian added that no impact to groundwater has been demonstrated at AA 3. Mr. Bielskis stated that groundwater at the site is approximately 25 to 30 feet below ground surface. The Navy will continue to monitor groundwater at AA 3 despite the fact that groundwater has not been impacted to ensure that there continues to be no impacts in the future.

Mr. Jim Werkmeister inquired as to the size of the LFG collection trenches. Mr. Bielskis stated that the trenches are approximately 80 feet long and 15 feet deep. The bottom 3.5 to 4 feet is filled with gravel. Any LFG would preferentially go into the gravel and be forced into the ventilation piping and out through the risers.

Slide 15 – Shows pictures of LFG collection trenches being constructed (left) and of one being completed that is 80 feet long with 15 feet deep (right). A horizontal pipe is in place and is being covered with gravel.

Slide 16 – Presents ongoing RA construction activities, including constructing a finger dike (soil berm) which will be placed in the southeast portion of the site to prevent flooding. Next, a shallow ditch around the perimeter (a drainage swale) will be constructed and runoff will be directed to the swale. Then, the soil cover will be hydroseeded with grass seed during the rainy season. Last, the Navy will begin quarterly LFG monitoring and semiannual groundwater monitoring, with periodic inspections. Planned activities are detailed in the O&M/Long-Term Monitoring Plan.

Slide 17 – Presents the RACR, which documents all construction activities to demonstrate that it was built in accordance with the approved design. Also presents the Operating Properly and Successfully (OPS) determination, which shows that a remedy is operating as designed and is protective of human health and the environment.

Mr. Cardinale presented the final slide (Slide 18).

Slide 18 – Presents scheduled activities through 2013. These include completing the remedial action construction in December 2011, beginning the monitoring and O&M in December 2011, submittal of the Draft RACR in April 2012, and submittal of the Draft OPS Report in February 2013 after one year of monitoring and O&M.

Mr. Woodings asked whether there were any surprises as they were excavating the construction debris. Mr. Cardinale replied there were no surprises; it was mostly large pieces of concrete. Everything went as expected except that there was very little debris on the west side of the landfill; it was mostly soil. The contractor screened out the small amount of concrete from this soil and used the clean soil as backfill.

Ms. Mary Aileen Matheis asked whether the site was eventually going to be all open space. Mr. Cardinale replied that there would be landfill vents and a fence around the perimeter of AA 3. Mr. Werkmeister added that this area is planned as open space.

Mr. Callian reiterated that there is very little gas being generated, and that is only from the central portion of the landfill. This confirms the Site Conceptual Model that it is only construction debris. Because of this, the Navy does not expect a significant amount methane to be generated, if any at all.

Mr. Bill Sedlak stated that when the first investigation was done, it was found that the Marine Corps closely monitored this area and that every truck sent there to drop debris was strictly controlled, which shows that when you put your mind to it that you can keep a site well-organized.

Mr. Callian thanked Mr. Cardinale and Mr. Bielskis for their presentation.

OPEN QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Callian opened the meeting for general questions and comments; there were none.

MEETING EVALUATION AND CLOSING:

Mr. Woodings stated he liked the pictures in the presentation and thought they were telling. He did not see anything that looked like a "surprise." Mr. Woodings appreciated the comments regarding the initial surveys and the fact there is little, if any, methane being generated. He indicated that future topics will be driven by the documents. He likes the idea of an annual site tour.

Mr. Callian asked whether there were any other suggestions for future topics.

Mr. Roy Herndon suggested a before and after visual report on the site, similar to a report card, to provide an opportunity to see the condition of the site today compared to when the project was started. The visual report could show areas where plumes had been, and what they look like today. It would not have to be every site, but an overview of before and after.

Mr. Callian said that idea might be applied to the RAB tour.

Ms. Rudolph asked for an indication of how much money has been spent so far on cleanup and what is out there that still requires funding. Mr. Callian noted that we are lucky because it is a mature site, and other sites are facing severe cutbacks.

In closing, Mr. Callian thanked everyone for attending and reminded everyone that the next RAB meeting is scheduled for 25 April 2012.

The RAB meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

LIST OF HANDOUTS PROVIDED AT THE MEETING:

- 09 November 2011 Former MCAS El Toro RAB Meeting Agenda
- Public Notice for the 09 November 2011 RAB Meeting
- Draft RAB Meeting Minutes from the 31 August 2011 meeting for RAB review
- Sign-in sheets from the 31 August 2011 RAB meeting
- Final RAB Meeting Minutes from the 27 April 2011 meeting
- Presentation Slides: "Remedial Action Update Anomaly Area 3"
- Where to Get More Information & Environmental Websites
- Former MCAS El Toro IRP Site Location Map
- Former MCAS El Toro RAB Mission Statement and Operating Procedures
- Former MCAS El Toro RAB Membership Application
- Former MCAS El Toro Mailing List Coupon

Copies of the meeting minutes and handouts are available at the IR for former MCAS El Toro located in the Government Publication Section of the Heritage Park Regional Library, in Irvine, California. Library hours are 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM Monday through Thursday; 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Friday and Saturday; and 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Sunday. The library phone number is (949) 936-4040. In addition, copies of the meeting minutes and handouts are also available at the CERCLA AR File maintained at Building 307 at former MCAS El Toro by Ms. Sue Rawal. Documents may be viewed by appointment; call Ms. Rawal at (949) 859-6014 between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM Monday through Thursday.

Final minutes from previous RAB meetings can be found on the internet at the Navy BRAC Program Management Office (PMO) website: www.bracpmo.navy.mil.

INTERNET SITES:

Navy and Marine Corps Internet Access:

BRAC PMO Web Site (includes RAB meeting minutes): http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/

Department of Defense – Environmental Cleanup Home Page Web Site:

Homepage: http://www.dtic.mil/envirodod/

U.S. EPA:

Homepage: www.epa.gov

Superfund information: www.epa.gov/superfund

National Center for Environmental Assessment: www.epa.gov/ncea

Federal Register Environmental Documents: www.epa.gov/federalregister

California Agencies:

California Environmental Protection Agency Homepage: www.calepa.ca.gov

DTSC: www.dtsc.ca.gov

Department of Health Services, reorganized into the Department of Health Care Services and the Department of Public Health: www.dhs.ca.gov

Santa Ana RWQCB: www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana

Additional Websites: Reuse and Redevelopment

Orange County Great Park: www.ocgp.org

Great Park Conservancy: www.orangecountygreatpark.org

Remedial Action Update
Anomaly Area 3

Former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting
9 November 2011

Louie Cardinale, P.E., Navy Remedial Project Manager
Doug Bielskis, P.E., ERRG Project Manager

Overview

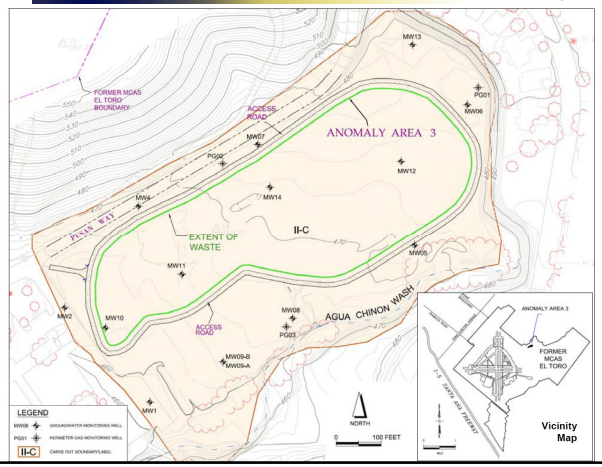
- **Site Overview and History**
- **Components of Selected Remedy**
- **Remedial Action (RA) Status**
- **Next Steps/Project Documentation**
- **Schedule**

Site Overview and History

- Approximate 5-acre site within Carve-Out Area (CO) II-C
- Source of borrow material from 1972 to 1988
- Some borrow pits backfilled with construction debris and later covered with soil
- Average of approximately 4.5 feet of soil covers the Site, with isolated areas having approximately 2 feet of cover

Site Location

AA 3 Site Plan



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Components of Selected Remedy

- **Final Record of Decision (August 2010)**
- **Waste consolidation and limited grading**
- **Constructing passive/active landfill gas (LFG) control system**
  - Would be converted to active extraction (if needed based on LFG monitoring results)
- **Constructing finger dike and placing riprap**
- **Implementing institutional controls in the form of land use and activity restrictions**
- **Long-term monitoring (LTM) for LFG and groundwater**
- **Operation and maintenance (O&M)**
- **Conduct Five-Year Reviews to assure continued protectiveness of human health and the environment**

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Remedial Action Status

Waste Consolidation and Limited Grading

- Waste consolidation to achieve a minimum buffer zone of 100 feet from the waste boundary to the CO II-C boundary
- Ensure the final cover has a minimum 4-foot thickness

Construction Progress to Date

- *Completed* - Removal of existing soil cover (nominal protective barrier left in place)
- *Completed* - Waste consolidation
- *In progress* - Placement of final soil cover

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Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Removing and Stockpiling Existing Soil Cover

8

Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Excavating Soil and Construction Debris

9

Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Placing Excavated Construction Debris

10

Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Backfilling

11

Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Placing Final Soil Cover

12

Remedial Action Status (cont.)

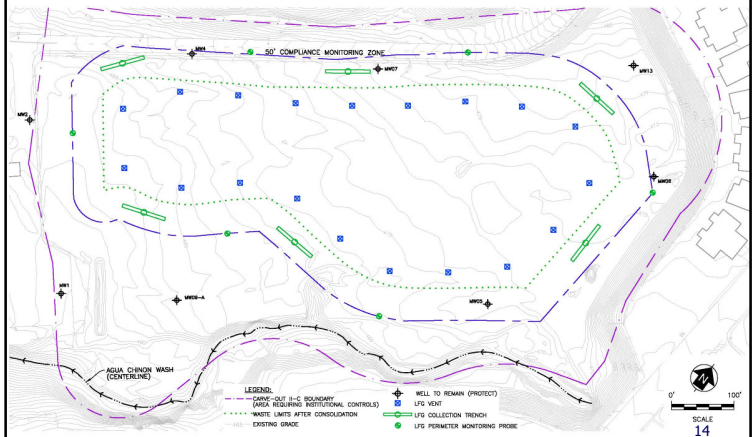
LFG Monitoring and Control System

- To minimize or control potential LFG migration within the 100-foot buffer

Construction Progress to Date

- *Completed* - Constructing LFG collection trenches
- *Planned for late November* - Installation of LFG vents
- *Planned for late November* - Installation of perimeter LFG probes

Remedial Action Status (cont.)



Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Constructing LFG collection trenches

Remedial Action Status (cont.)

Ongoing RA Construction Activities

- Construct finger dike and armor it with riprap
- Construct drainage swale
- Hydroseed soil cover

Begin Monitoring and O&M

- Quarterly LFG monitoring
- Semi-annual groundwater monitoring
- Periodic inspections of the landfill cover, settlement monuments, and monitoring components
- Planned activities detailed in Operation and Maintenance/Long-Term Monitoring (O&M/LTM) Plan (finalized in July 2011)

Next Steps/Project Documentation

- **Remedial Action Completion Report (RACR)**
  - Documents the completion of construction of the remedy including the landfill soil cover, LFG collection systems, monitoring wells, and surface water drainage systems
- **Operating Properly and Successfully (OPS) Demonstration**
  - Provides supporting documentation that demonstrates the remedy is operating as designed and is protective of human health and the environment

Schedule

- **Complete RA Construction – December 2011**
- **Begin Monitoring/O&M – December 2011**
- **Submit Draft RACR – April 2012**
- **Submit Draft OPS Report – February 2013**

Acronyms

AA 3	Anomaly Area 3
CO	Carve-Out area
LFG	landfill gas
LTM	long-term monitoring
MCAS	Marine Corps Air Station
O&M	operation and maintenance
OPS	operating properly and successfully
RA	remedial action
RACR	remedial action completion report

Questions?