

**LONG BEACH NAVAL COMPLEX
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
FINAL MINUTES FROM 26 JANUARY 2005 MEETING**

The Long Beach Naval Complex (LBNC) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) held a meeting on 26 January 2005, at the Long Beach Airport, 3250 Airflight Way, Long Beach, California.

RAB ATTENDANCE:

John Essington, RAB Co-chair - Present
Joseph Petway, RAB member - Present
Darwin Thorpe, RAB member - Present
Martin Hausladen, USEPA - Present
Jennifer Valenzia, Navy Co-chair- Present
Liz Barr, Navy - Present
Sharon Ohannessian, Navy - Present
Sue Hakim, DTSC - Present
Ana Veloz-Townsend, RWQCB - Present
David Lange, CDM - Present
Howard Hargrove, RAB member - Absent
Tom Johnson, Port of Long Beach - Absent

Administrative Issues

The meeting began at 6:30 pm. Ms. Jennifer Valenzia presided over the meeting as co-chair and welcomed everyone. Mr. John Essington started the meeting by approving Draft Meeting Minutes from the 27 October 2004 RAB meeting without change. Mr. Darwin Thorpe was absent for the October 2004 RAB meeting but thanked the Navy for the handouts detailing Navy spending at the Long Beach Naval Complex (LBNC) that he received in the mail. He expressed that the documents sufficiently addressed his questions.

RAB Accomplishments

Ms. Valenzia passed out a copy of the LBNC Installation Restoration (IR) program update sheet. The update sheet describes each IR site and displayed their current progress in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. No significant updates were added since the 27 October RAB meeting.

Ms. Valenzia provided a summary of the history of LBNC IR program. She reported that the Long Beach Naval Station closed in 1994 and the Long Beach Naval Shipyard (LBNSY) closed in 1997 as part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) II effort. Following closure, the Navy performed Preliminary Assessments (PA) which evaluated

304 Areas of Concern (AOCs). Out of the 304 areas, 15 IR sites emerged and became the focal point of the RAB's responsibilities. Ms. Valenzia explained that the mission of the RAB is to operate as the eyes and ears for the public on the Navy's environmental program. The RAB acts as an advisor to the Navy and regulatory agencies and provides comments on the IR process. Ms. Valenzia expressed the Navy's gratitude to all the RAB members for their dedication and commitment to the Navy's IR program.

Ms. Valenzia announced that with the exception of IR Site 7, all of the 15 IR sites have traveled through the CERCLA process and entered into the final stage known as the Record of Decision (ROD). Currently, RODs are signed for IR Sites 1 and 2, 5, 6a, 8 and 10 with RODs for IR Sites 9, 11, 12, and 13 forthcoming. Mr. Thorpe questioned the status of IR Site 16. Ms. Valenzia indicated that due to the outcome of the recent site investigation, the Navy is recommending "no further action" for IR Site 16.

Ms. Valenzia explained that IR Site 14 began in the CERCLA process and then it was determined that a Removal Action would be performed. Subsequently an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis as well as an Action Memo were prepared. Ms. Valenzia reported that because the regulatory agencies have requested that the Navy perform a ROD for IR Site 14, IR Site 14 will be transitioned into the Remedial Action process which will include the 5-Year review program.

Ms. Valenzia provided a handout entitled, "Long Beach Naval Complex Disposal Stats" (January 2005) which outlined the number of transferred acres at the LBNC. Of a total 1104 acres, all but 90.5 acres have been transferred to the Port of Long Beach (POLB). The Fuel Pier, totaling 11 acres, was retained by the Navy and will not transfer to the POLB. Mr. Thorpe questioned whether the Navy would remain a potentially responsible party (PRP) if environmental concerns were revealed after the property had transferred. Ms. Valenzia assured the RAB that the Navy will retain environmental liability. Ms. Valenzia indicated that the current schedule for the transfer to be completed is in 2006.

Mr. Thorpe questioned whether the Navy was planning to issue a press release outlining the accomplishments of the IR program. The RAB expressed interest in publicizing the committee's accomplishments and requested supporting documentation from the Navy. Ms. Valenzia pointed to the IR program update sheet as the source for detailed information regarding the Navy's environmental program at the POLB if the RAB wanted to write an article. Ms. Valenzia indicated that any Navy endorsed publication would need to travel through the existing levels of security and approval, but that the RAB could use the information provided in the information repository which is public information to prepare an article.

Ms. Valenzia distributed a copy of an aerial photo of the LBNC and a letter of appreciation to RAB members and regulators. She thanked the RAB members and regulators for their service and dedication to the Navy's IR program.

Mr. Thorpe asked for copies of a "before" aerial photo to be able to compare the shipyard prior to its redevelopment to current conditions, for use in an article. Ms. Valenzia agreed to make an effort to provide the RAB with useable copies of the photograph.

Extreme Engineering Video, a Discovery Channel Program, Featuring the Port of Long Beach

Mr. Martin Hausladen introduced the Discovery Channel program called "Extreme Engineering", which featured the POLB and its current activities, by acknowledging the RAB's contribution in the successful redevelopment of the shipyard. The film featured the POLB's current operations and served as a reminder to the achievements of the RAB. Mr. Joseph Petaway asked for a DVD copy of the film. Mr. Hausladen indicated that he would attempt to get copies of the tape for the RAB members.

RAB 2005 Schedule

With regard to the RAB 2005 schedule, Mr. Essington stated that he felt the RAB should meet as much as necessary but not beyond. Ms. Valenzia indicated that the normal evolution of the RAB is to meet frequently in the beginning of the process, but then to reduce the meeting frequency over time when there are fewer remedy selection decisions to make until the point where only mailers with updated information similar to our IR status sheet are distributed. She noted that while the Navy continues to work on LBNC projects that new information is less frequent. Ms. Valenzia reminded the RAB, that the frequency of RAB meetings is entirely the decision of the RAB committee.

After some discussion, the RAB committee changed the frequency of RAB meetings to a semi-annual schedule with an option for an additional meeting based on need. The semi-annual meeting dates were set for 27 April 2005 and 26 October 2005. In the event that an additional meeting is required, a scheduled date of either 27 July 2005 or 25 January 2006 may be used. The RAB requested a month notification period prior to the scheduling of any additional meetings beyond the semi-annual dates.

Open Forum for RAB Members and Members of the Audience

Mr. Essington asked if the Navy had any additional information explaining the POLB procedures for removal and notification of unexploded ordnance. Ms. Valenzia distributed a packet that contained POLB records for all ordnance discovered in the last six months. She explained that if ordnance is discovered, dredging operations are immediately halted. Notification is then made to the Port Hueneme Explosive

Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team who removes the object(s) and submits a report to the POLB. Ms. Valenzia noted that specific locations of ordnance removal are not recorded as part of the report. Ms. Valenzia indicated that she has requested additional information from the Port Hueneme EOD team on their specific procedures but noted that she has received no response to date.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next RAB meeting is scheduled for 27 April 2005, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, at the Long Beach Airport site.

Approved RAB meeting minutes are located on the internet and in bound copy at the following locations.

Long Beach Information Repository

Long Beach Information Repository
Long Beach Public Library, Government
Publications Section (lower level)
101 Pacific Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90810.
Telephone Number: (562) 570-7500
Hours of Operation: Mon 1000-2000, Tue-
Sat 1000-1730, and Sun 1200-1700

Navy's FEC Environmental Web Page

<http://www.efdswww.navy.mil/Environmental/LongBeach.htm>