



Naval Air Station South Weymouth, MA Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes August 9, 2012

1. INTRODUCTIONS/ APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

John Goodrich, RAB facilitator, opened the meeting at approximately 8:30 PM following the public hearing on the Building 82 Proposed Plan. He requested that all attendees, including RAB members, regulators, and audience members, introduce themselves. He noted that the meeting agenda, handouts, and the sign-in sheet were available on the table at the back of the room. The sign-in sheet for the meeting is provided as Attachment A. J. Goodrich asked if everyone had time to read the minutes from the June 2012 RAB meeting and if there were any comments. There were no comments.

J. Goodrich reviewed the guidelines for the meeting and reminded everyone that the focus of the meeting is cleanup issues. Any issues and/or comments not related to base cleanup will be noted and referred to the appropriate agency or organization. He reminded the participants when asking questions to wait to speak until they are acknowledged, to state their names and affiliations, and to speak clearly or into the microphone when they have questions.

He then reviewed the agenda for the meeting. The meeting agenda and the action item tracking list are provided as Attachment B. Since the RAB presentation provides updates on all the active sites and the RAB meeting followed the Building 82 Proposed Plan public meeting and hearing, the meeting will not include the typical updates and action items. The minutes, agenda, and action items for the meeting are posted on the BRAC PMO website: <http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/>.

2. PRESENTATION

J. Goodrich introduced Phoebe Call to give the presentation, an update of all the active environmental sites at former NAS South Weymouth. The referenced slides are included in Attachment C.

P. Call stated that a similar update for all of the environmental sites on the Base was presented at the RAB in July 2009. At that time, two of the three landfills on the Base had not been capped, but they are now. Environmental work at two Areas of Concern (AOCs) was not completed in 2009 (AOC 55C and Main Gate); removal actions and Records of Decision (RODs) have now been completed for both sites. There were seven active Review Item Areas (RIAs) in 2009; now only two RIAs remain active.

The environmental sites being discussed tonight are listed on Slide 2. The three active Installation Restoration (IR) sites are shown on Slide 3; all are groundwater sites (Building 81, Building 82, and Solvent Release Area (SRA)). There is only one AOC remaining, the Industrial Operations Area (IOA). The two RIAs remaining are RIA 11 (PFC/AFFF investigation) and RIA 111 (Old Hangar 2). There are on-going post-ROD activities at other sites where long term monitoring (LTM) is the primary activity.

Installation Restoration Sites

The Building 82 site status is summarized on Slide 4. The Proposed Plan is out for public comment; comments will be accepted until August 31, 2012. The written comments received during the public comment period and the public hearing transcript will be part of the public record for the site. The Building 82 ROD has been drafted and is under review by the regulators. Comments received on the Proposed Plan will be addressed in the responsiveness summary, which is part of the ROD. The Navy and EPA anticipate signing the ROD, with MassDEP concurrence, by September 28, 2012. The preferred alternative described in the Proposed Plan includes in-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO), land use controls, and monitoring. A detailed remedial design will be prepared for the ISCO treatment and groundwater monitoring program after the ROD is completed.

M. Smart asked about the different colors shown on the figure illustrating the preferred remedy for the Building 82 site. P. Call responded that in addition to the TCE plume treatment area shown on the figure there are two localized hot spots of groundwater contamination. There is no plume in those two areas and ISCO will also be performed in the two areas.

The SRA site status is summarized on Slide 5. The SRA FS was presented to the RAB in April 2012. The draft final FS was issued in July and is under review by the regulators. The Navy anticipates issuing the Proposed Plan (presenting the proposed remedy) in late 2012 to be followed by a public meeting and hearing. The Navy anticipates completion of the ROD in early 2013. The ROD will present the selected remedy for the SRA site. There are five groundwater remedial alternatives being considered for the SRA (Slide 6).

The Building 81 site status is summarized on Slide 7. The FS was presented at the June 2012 RAB meeting. The Navy is preparing responses to the comments received on the draft FS. The Navy anticipates issuing the Proposed Plan for public comment in spring 2013 with completion of the ROD by summer 2013. There are four groundwater remedial alternatives being considered for the Building 81 site (Slide 8).

All of the remedial alternatives being evaluated for the IR sites are groundwater remedies.

AOCs

The IOA site status is summarized on Slide 9. The field program was completed in 2011 and focused on surface and subsurface soil. A streamlined Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) was prepared. The HHRA will be included in a field report which is under review. Once the report is issued and reviewed by the regulators, the Navy, EPA and MassDEP will discuss a path forward. While there are a number of AOCs within the IOA site boundary that have been completed with No Further Action or No Action required, a Proposed Plan and a ROD will be prepared for the entire IOA site. The IOA is located in the center of the Base with Building 82 to the north and Hangar 1 to the south, and the southwestern edge of the SRA to the east. The data from historical investigations at sites within the IOA site boundary have been compiled and used along with the data gathered in 2011 for the HHRA and field report.

RIAs

The RIA 11 status is summarized on Slide 10. RIA 11 was discussed at the January 2012 RAB meeting. The RIA 11 site is referred to as "Releases of Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) in Hangar 1." AFFF contains perfluorinated compounds (PFCs) which are considered emerging contaminants. EPA has established Provisional Health Advisory (PHA) values in groundwater used for drinking water for two PFCs, PFOA and PFOS. There are no enforceable standards.

M. Parsons asked if PFCs were found in the groundwater above the PHA. P. Call stated that they were.

Based on the results of the PFC investigations at Hangar 1 and the Fire Fighting Training Area (FFTA), the RIA 11 Decision Document recommends No Further Action for soil at Hangar 1 and also No Further Action for soil, surface water, and sediment at FFATA. The Decision Document recommends a CERCLA action for groundwater at both sites due to the exceedances of the PHA values in groundwater.

H. Welch stated that he is concerned about the aquifer resource. P. Call noted that the Building 82 aquifer does extend into a portion of the Hangar 1 Site. The groundwater in this aquifer protection district is a potential drinking water source, but it is not currently being used due to the identified contamination. D. Chaffin added that the aquifer has to be preserved as a potential drinking water source for the future, but the investigation was just completed and the extent of the PFCs in groundwater determined. The next step is to figure out what needs to be done. The aquifer designation is based on a potential yield, but if the groundwater was going to be used it would need to be cleaned up to drinking water standards.

C. Keating stated that there is a Land Use Control restriction in place south of the plume (south of Hangar 1). M. Parsons asked if there is any concern about installing an irrigation well downgradient that could potentially draw in the contamination. D. Chaffin responded that monitoring can be performed to make

certain that this does not happen. In addition, the boundary of the restricted area can always be adjusted to ensure protection of human health.

The AFFF used for training purposes was trucked over to the FFTA. The FFTA was investigated under CERCLA, and then transferred to the MCP. A remedial action was conducted and the site was closed out under the MCP. At the time PFCs were not included in the sampling program. Knowing that AFFF was used at the FFTA, site groundwater, soil, surface water, and sediment were sampled. Groundwater was the only media sampled where PFC concentrations were determined to be a concern.

The RIA 111 site status is summarized on Slide 11. Several investigations have been conducted at RIA 111 (Old Hangar 2). A concrete pad is all that remains of the old hangar. A portion of RIA 111 was included in the investigation and cleanout of the East Mat/West Mat storm sewer drainage system. Based on the findings of that work, the Navy has performed additional investigations at RIA 111. A geophysics survey was performed and the results used to determine test pit and soil boring locations to investigate areas of interest. More work, specifically at the north end of the site, needs to be conducted to fully characterize the site and determine the extent of contamination at RIA 111.

Post-ROD Sites

The status of the post-ROD sites is summarized on Slide 12.

The Rubble Disposal Area (RDA) is a capped landfill. LTM has been ongoing since March 2007. Quarterly monitoring was conducted for 2 years and then the frequency was reduced to semi-annual monitoring. Groundwater and surface water samples are collected during each event and sediment samples are collected once a year.

The Small Landfill is another capped landfill. LTM began in November 2010. Since the landfill was closed under the state solid waste program and not under CERCLA, groundwater sampling has been conducted semi-annually following the state landfill post-closure regulations.

The West Gate Landfill (WGL) is the third capped landfill on the base. LTM began in December 2011. Quarterly LTM rounds will be conducted for 2 years and then the frequency will be reduced to semi-annual monitoring. Due to the fact that wetlands were disturbed during construction of the cap, post-restoration wetland inspections are required on a semi-annual basis. The typical inspection schedule is June and early fall to cover early and late growing season conditions.

All LTM events at the three landfills also include inspections of the capped area, associated features, and the monitoring network to ensure the integrity of the cap and that there is no damage, erosion, etc. Recommended repairs are completed where needed.

A removal action was conducted at AOC 55C and the wetlands that were disturbed were restored. In accordance with the ROD, post-restoration wetland inspections are performed to assess the success of the restoration. Some invasive species have been observed during the inspections, so treatment is needed. The primary invasive species are glossy buckthorn and purple loosestrife. However a beetle that is a natural predator of purple loosestrife has been observed at AOC 55C. A berm was constructed to protect the vernal pool during the removal action. The vernal pool was observed in June 2012. As shown on Slide 13 the berm is in place and separates the vernal pool at the far right of the photograph from the balance of the site.

The former Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) site post-ROD status is summarized on Slide 14. A ROD for the STP site, also designated as IR Site 7, was completed in 2007. The remedial action was performed in 2009 consistent with the ROD, but while it was being implemented petroleum contamination was noted in the upland area of the Site (Area A-2). Test pitting was conducted and soil borings were advanced to further delineate the area at depth based on the test pit observations. The ROD-specified remedy included excavation of the top 1 to 2 feet of contaminated soil and the finding of contamination at depth was unexpected. The Navy has subsequently conducted a supplemental investigation of the subsurface soils. The project report that documents the additional soil delineation investigation and includes a risk assessment was issued in May 2012. Comments have recently been received from the regulators and responses are being prepared. The recent activities at the STP site will be presented at the RAB on October 11, 2012.

3. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS

Action Items: There are no action items to address.

IR/EBS Program Site Update: All sites were updated in the RAB presentation.

Conclusion/Next Meeting

J. Goodrich wrapped up the meeting. The next RAB meeting will be the second Thursday in October (October 11, 2012). The meeting will again be held at the New England Wildlife Center, 500 Columbian St., Weymouth, MA. The STP site will be the topic of the next RAB meeting.