

**NAS JRB WILLOW GROVE
RAB MEETING No. 36 (IR SITE TOUR) MINUTES**

Meeting Date: September 17, 2008
Meeting Time: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Place: NAS JRB Willow Grove Orion Club Parking Area

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Attendance:	Mary (Liz) Gemmill (R)	Community Co Chair
	Peter J. Choate (R)	RAB Member
	Margaret E. Choate (R)	RAB Member
	Rick Myers (R)	RAB Member
	Eric Humphreys (R)	NAS JRB Willow Grove Executive Officer, RAB Co Chair
	Curtis J. Koval	Navy, Willow Grove
	Bob Lewandowski (R)	Navy, BRAC PMO
	Curt Frye (R)	Navy, NAVFAC
	Gloria Abarca (R)	Navy, Willow Grove
	Hal Dusen (R)	Navy, Willow Grove
	Richard Frattarelli	Air National Guard
	Charles Clark (R)	PADEP
	Jessica Kasmari (R)	PADEP
	Russ Turner	Tetra Tech NUS, Inc
	(R) Designates RAB Member	

Bob Lewandowski welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the 36th Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting, mentioning that the meeting would consist of an Installation Restoration (IR) program site tour as requested by RAB members.

Russ Turner introduced himself as the project manager for the Navy's consulting contractor, Tetra Tech and provided a brief historical background of the Air Station, beginning as a small air field purchased in the early 1940's by the government to support war efforts. In the execution of its assigned Department of Defense (DoD) missions supporting training and warfare efforts over the years, some waste handling practices lead to contamination of Base property. The Navy is currently actively working together with the community, EPA and PADEP to remedy IR program sites that were contaminated by past practices. Mr. Turner explained that there has been progress made toward remediation at each of the Navy's sites under the Navy's IR site cleanup program. Three site operable units (OUs), Site 1 soil, Site 5 soil and Site 1 groundwater have progressed to signed Records of Decision (RODs).

Curt Frye provided each tour attendee with a copy of a printed handout (attached), consisting of a short written synopsis of activities completed at each of the four Navy sites and one Air Force site to be visited. The handouts included figures helpful to visualize each site and its' location on the Air Station property. Before the bus moved to the first site, Site 1 – Privet Road Compound, Mr. Frye mentioned that the historical off-Base source of groundwater contamination beneath Site 1 is suspected to be near the north end of the commercial facility east of Route 611, across from the parking area where the bus tour began, possibly near the former Kellett Aircraft manufacturing facility.

At Site 1 Mr. Frye referred to the handout sheet for Site 1, pointing out monitoring wells, the Bowling Alley, the Navy potable water supply wells, the water treatment air stripper tower, and discussed contaminants in groundwater as well as the previous soil removal action for PCBs in soil. A general discussion ensued with RAB community member questions and answers.

Lt. Col. Richard Frattarelli provided an update on investigations and pending remedial action at the Air Force POL (fuel spill site) at the northern end of the Base. Historically, this area resulted from a jet fuel spill in the late 1970's. Over the last five to ten years, the Air Force developed a remedial strategy of combining chemical oxidation in-situ and biosparging. Lt. Col. Frattarelli mentioned that site remediation

work will concentrate on removal and segregation of contaminated soil along the natural gas right-of-way, adjacent to the Base north of the fuel storage tanks. Contaminated soil will be placed in a currently disused hangar for bioremediation. Soil that is deemed uncontaminated according to chemical analysis, will be returned to the excavation after the pipeline owner completes maintenance activities on each section of the exposed pipeline. Clean soil will be purchased and placed into the excavation as necessary to replace soil removed for bioremediation. The Air Force Reserve is currently seeking permit approval to treat water from the planned excavation in a treatment plant placed on the site for that purpose. Treated water would be discharged to the creek if the permit is approved by PADEP.

Referring to the Base-wide figure in the handout, Mr. Frye stopped the bus and pointed to Site 4- the former North End Landfill, located north of the runway. This was a potential IR site investigated by the Navy, EPA and PADEP, that has been found to not require further action under the CERCLA (superfund) program. The Navy is preparing paperwork for a no action consensus agreement to be signed along with EPA and PADEP.

Referring again to the Base-wide figure in the handout, Mr. Frye stopped the bus and pointed to Site 7- Abandoned Rifle Range Number 2, located near the northwest corner of the Base, above the gas pipeline right-of-way. A consensus agreement for no action was signed for Site 7 in August 2008.

Mr. Frye gave a brief summary of recent events relating to the discovery process and delineation investigation underway for landfill activities discovered at Site 3 – Ninth Street landfill this past year or more. Mr. Frye mentioned that groundwater is also contaminated with chlorinated compounds. Mr. Frye summarized the rationale for performing the recent test pit investigation that resulted in the discovery of significant evidence of historical landfill operations. Sampling performed in conjunction with the test pit program verified that the site was not contributing to the (solvent) contamination found in groundwater. Debris encountered seemed to be inert metal-type debris that came out of the shops and food service kitchens, like soda cans, glass bottles, china serving ware, eating utensils and that type of thing. Some lead was measured in a sample at a concentration at around 4,000 ppm, and some pesticides were found, leading the Navy to conclude that some sort of active remedy may be required. We are currently working to delineate the extent of former landfill operations. The historical source of groundwater contamination below Site 3 is thought to have been an oil/water separator operating at the Army Reserve Hangar upgradient of Site 3. There is no record of soil or source removal, but apparently the source of solvent contamination was removed when the oil/water separator was removed and replaced in the mid 1990's.

At Site 5 – Fire training Area, Mr. Frye provided a discussion of the soil removal action completed, as well as the nature and extent of chlorinated solvent groundwater contamination at the site, and a historical perspective of discovery, and subsequent groundwater investigations, then handed over to Russ Turner to discuss pilot bioremediation activities completed and planned. Mr. Turner distributed a second handout (attached) showing the planned layout of the bioremediation pilot test facilities. Based on RAB member input to the Site 5 groundwater Feasibility Study (FS), the Navy has prepared a proposed sampling and analysis plan (SAP) for a pilot test of bioremediation of Site 5 groundwater. Preliminary testing of aquifer characteristics has been performed, including an extended groundwater pumping test to help design the pilot bioremediation system. The handout shows the proposed layout of the process trailer, injection wells and extraction wells for the proposed “closed loop” system. Mr. Turner discussed how the treatment system is planned to operate and the types of questions it is designed to answer for design of the eventual full-scale system.

Mr. Frye gave a summary of the status of Site 2 – Antenna Field Landfill. The draft RI report for this site was recently distributed for comments. Very little contamination or evidence of waste disposal was actually found at this site, leading the Navy to speculate that this area was never really a disposal site. The RI report concludes that there is not sufficient risk from this area to require remediation. At this moment, we expect that Site 2 will be recommended for “no further action.” However, adjacent to what we have labeled Site 2, there is another area we refer to as SSA 12. SSA 12 was identified by Navy follow-up to EPA photographic interpretation center (EPIC) identification of anomalies in historical aerial photographs. The Navy found and removed drums and surface debris in about 2003 and obtained soil

samples for analysis. When we cleared some of the brush, we encountered site conditions such as uneven terrain and protruding materials, possibly aircraft parts, that reminded the Navy of what was encountered at some of the locations at Site 3. The Navy thought that this SSA 12 area may actually have been what was reported as the landfill in the earliest site discovery phase. Mr. Frye summarized current investigations consisting of soil sample confirmation sampling and electromagnetic (EM) geophysical survey here at SSA 12. These investigation efforts will likely be followed by additional RI-type effort at SSA 12, depending on the availability of funds in FY (fiscal year) 2009.

Upon arriving back at the Orion Club parking area, Mr. Lewandowski proposed that the next RAB meeting be held on January 21, 2009, pending verification of the Horsham Sewer and Water Authority meeting schedule. After a period of general discussion among those in attendance, Mr. Lewandowski thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the 36th Restoration Advisory Board meeting.