

St. Juliens Creek Annex (SJCA) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Summary: October 11, 2005

RAB Members Present:

Bob Schirmer	NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic
Agnes Sullivan	NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic
Todd Richardson	EPA (Region III)
Jim Cutler	Virginia DEQ

Bob Mann	Community Co-Chair (Geneva Shores)
Kim Henderson	CH2M HILL
Janna Staszak	CH2M HILL

FROM: Janna Staszak/CH2M HILL

DATE: January 16, 2006

Location: Major Hillard Library, Chesapeake, Virginia

RAB Welcome and Introductions

At 5:30 pm Mr. Schirmer presented opening remarks and introductions. Mr. Schirmer introduced Ms. Sullivan, the new Navy Regional Project Manager (RPM) for SJCA to the RAB. Handouts of all of the presentations were distributed.

Review of May Meeting

Mr. Schirmer indicated that the May RAB meeting minutes had been distributed and verified that Mr. Mann had received them. Mr. Schirmer indicated that because most of Mr. Grant's comments from the May meeting did not apply to the Installation Restoration Program (IRP), he cannot provide a response; however, all the questions and comments have been forwarded to the appropriate parties and a response is being prepared.

Mr. Richardson informed the RAB that he had forwarded the May meeting minutes to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Community Involvement Coordinator. If the Community Involvement Coordinator finds it to be appropriate, a site assessment may be performed in St. Juliens Creek to determine if there is a hazard present. The site assessment would not be related to the IRP or SJCA. Mr. Richardson will provide an update when the EPA determines a path forward.

Mr. Mann thanked everyone for taking the time to look into the history and ownership of the sunken bridge, knowing that it is not within the scope of the IR program.

Community Involvement Plan

Ms. Henderson presented an overview of the Community Involvement Plan (CIP) to the RAB. She presented the objectives of the plan, an update on the status, the results of community surveys, highlights of the plan, and the schedule.

Objectives of the CIP are to provide opportunities for the community to learn about environmental issues at SJCA, ensure community involvement in the decision-making process for IRP sites at SJCA, and determine appropriate activities to ensure continued community involvement.

Ms. Henderson indicated that the original CIP was issued in November of 2000 and the update was prepared in September 2005. The updated CIP reflects the current status of the IRP sites, provides current community information and contacts, and provides details of how the Navy plans to maintain community involvement based on community surveys conducted. Ms. Henderson provided a profile of the community survey participants, which consisted of 16 total surveys. One public or elected official responded to the survey. Mr. Mann asked who the public official was who responded, and Ms. Henderson responded that survey respondents are anonymous.

Ms. Henderson reviewed the results of the surveys, indicating that they generally reflected a satisfactory relationship between SJCA and the community. Interest in the IRP was low to moderate. Regarding awareness and effectiveness of the IRP, about half of the participants were aware of environmental activities and had heard of the IRP. Participants suggested an informational web site, open houses, an email program, and the establishment of a more visible contact person for the IRP. Half of the participants indicated they receive information in the newspaper, and half indicated they receive information from TV, radio, email, and/or RAB/community meetings. The majority of the survey participants were not aware of the RAB, nor interested in joining; however, nine were interested in more information about the IRP.

Ms. Henderson reviewed the highlights of the CIP:

- LCDR Robert Mehal (Navy Public Affairs Officer, 757.322.2853) and Ms. Sullivan (Navy Project Manager, 757.444.4120) have been designated to maintain ongoing communication with the community
- A web site has been established to provide up-to-date information (<http://public.lantops-ir.org/sites/public/sjca>)
- An updated mailing/e-mailing list was created and will be maintained
- The information repository (at the Major Hillard Library) and Administrative Record file (<http://public.lantops-ir.org/sites/public/sjca>) will be maintained
- RAB meetings will continue to be conducted semi-annually in May and October
- Public comment periods and public meetings will continue to be held as appropriate
- The CIP will be updated every 5 years, or on an as-needed basis

Ms. Henderson reviewed the schedule for the CIP. The Draft CIP was placed in Major Hillard Library for RAB review on September 22. Comments are due November 22, 2005 to Ms. Sullivan. On December 30, 2005, the Final CIP will be placed in the Major Hillard Library.

Mr. Cutler asked if the SJCA web site is listed in the public repository. Ms. Henderson indicated that it is in the CIP, which will be left in the library. Ms. Sullivan suggested that future document covers include the web address. Mr. Cutler asked if the Administrative Record documents could be read on the web site. Ms. Henderson indicated that documents are not available on the web site; there is only a list of documents. The actual documents must be requested from the Public Affairs Officer. Mr. Schirmer indicated that the Navy librarian is responsible for visiting and updating the information repositories to ensure the contents are appropriate and consistent. Ms. Henderson explained what documents were kept in the repository, including the CIP and documents out for public review.

Site 4 Construction Completion

Ms. Staszak presented an update on the status of the Site 4 remedial action and informed the RAB of the post-remedial action steps. She reviewed the Site 4 background and the remedial design, summarized the remedial action, showed photographs of the current site conditions, summarized the land use controls, reviewed the reports that would be prepared to document the action, and presented post-construction activities.

Site 4 is a 10.1-acre landfill in the northeast portion of SJCA, located at the confluence of Blows Creek and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. It operated as a sanitary landfill from 1970 to 1981, where wastes including primary trash, wet garbage, construction material, and out-dated civil defense stores were disposed. A soil cover was selected as the remedy.

The remedial design consisted of the removal of surface debris, improvement of site drainage, construction of a 2-foot soil cover, excavation of mercury-impacted sediment from the eastern drainage ditch, stabilization of the southern extent of the landfill, and installation of land use controls around the landfill. Mobilization for the remedial action occurred on March 21, 2005. The remedial action was completed in accordance with the remedial design with the following exceptions: the southern toe was stabilized with riprap instead of erosion control matting and the western extent was greater than anticipated so the cover was extended to the west. Construction quantities included 43,674 cubic yards (cy) of imported general fill, 7,992 cy of imported topsoil, and the off-site disposal of 60 cy of recycled metal, 210 cy of miscellaneous debris, 2.04 tons of recycled tires, and 442 of excavated soil.

Land use controls were implemented in order to prohibit digging into or disturbing the landfill. Land use controls are required because the waste was left in place. The land use controls for Site 4 include a perimeter chain link fence and signs indicating that a landfill is present and construction and excavation is not permitted.

Ms. Staszak indicated that a Construction Closeout Report (CCR) and an Interim Remedial Action Completion Report (IRACR) will be prepared to document the completion of the remedial action. The CCR will summarize the actual construction process, and the IRACR will document the completion of the remedial action in accordance with the Record of Decision (ROD) and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Ms. Staszak informed the RAB that post-construction activities at Site 4 will include site inspections and groundwater monitoring. The site inspections will be conducted quarterly

for the first year then annually, and will check for settling, erosion, vegetative cover condition, drainage, fence integrity, monitoring well integrity, and signs. The groundwater monitoring will evaluate the site's impact on groundwater quality to ensure no releases have posed an unacceptable risk.

Site 19 Removal Action

Ms. Henderson reviewed the objectives of the presentation. She reviewed the history of the site, presented the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), and discussed the path forward. She showed where the site is located on the SJCA map and a photograph of the building that was once located at Site 19 then reviewed the history of the site. Site 19 is former Building 190, where ordnance management activities occurred from the early 1900s through the 1970s. The building was demolished in 2000. During the Site Investigation completed in 2005, metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were identified in soil posing a potential human health risk.

Ms. Henderson indicated that an EE/CA was prepared to compare the removal alternatives based on technical feasibility, protection of human health and the environment, prevention of the release of hazardous constituents, and cost. Ms. Henderson indicated that the removal action objectives (RAOs) for Site 19 were to implement measures that would eliminate potential unacceptable risk to human health and the environment and to prepare the site for closeout under CERCLA with No Further Action (NFA). The three alternatives that were evaluated in the EE/CA were no action, excavation and backfill, and soil cover. The no action alternative was not effective in meeting the RAOs, although it was easy to implement and had no cost. The excavation and backfill alternative was highly effective in meeting the RAOs, moderate to implement, and had moderate cost. The soil cover alternative was moderately effective in meeting the RAOs because contaminated soil would be left in place, moderate to implement, and expensive due to the long-term maintenance and monitoring. Therefore, the excavation and backfill alternative was selected as the preferred alternative.

Ms. Henderson reviewed the path forward for the EE/CA. A public notice was scheduled to appear in *The Virginian-Pilot* newspaper to announce the availability of the EE/CA for public review and comment. The public review period will be held from October 17 through November 16, 2005 and the EE/CA is available at the Major Hillard Library. Comments should be sent to Ms. Agnes Sullivan. A responsiveness summary will be prepared by November 30, which will summarize the community preferences, document concerns raised, and aid the Navy in reaching a decision. The Final EE/CA will be submitted on December 10, 2005 and the Action Memorandum documenting the Navy's approval of the removal action will be submitted on December 15, 2005. The removal action will be completed by June 30, 2006.

Fiscal Year 2006 Goals

Mr. Schirmer informed the RAB of the current status of the IRP sites and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 goals. Mr. Schirmer explained that goals are established in order to serve as a budgeting tool for allocating funding, to prioritize sites to be investigated and remediated based on their risk, and to keep the remediation projects on schedule. The presentation addressed the six active sites and indicated that to-date, 47 sites have been determined NFA.

For each of the active sites, Mr. Schirmer showed an aerial photograph then reviewed the site history and current status. Summaries of the discussion for each site were as followed:

Site 2: Waste Disposal Area B

Site 2 is a 4.4-acre unlined waste disposal area that operated from 1921 to 1942. Construction debris, blasting grit, waste ordnance, and solvents were disposed there. The Remedial Investigation phase was completed in 2004. Potential concerns include waste; chlorinated solvents in groundwater and surface water; and metals, pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and PAHs in soil and sediment. The FY 2006 goal for Site 2 is to finalize the Expanded Remedial Investigation Report of findings and determine potential remedial actions by June 30, 2006 and to conduct an interim remedial action or pilot study to address chlorinated solvents in groundwater by September 30, 2006.

Site 3: Waste Disposal Area C

Site 3 was a 2.1-acre unlined waste disposal area that operated from 1940 to 1970. Refuse was dumped and burned, and the ash was used to reclaim low-lying areas. A removal of waste, contaminated soil, and drainage sediment was conducted from 2002 to 2004. The Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) and ROD were completed in 2005. The FY 2006 goal for Site 3 is to finalize the ROD by December 31, 2005 and publish a public notice. The ROD is complete and currently awaiting signatures.

Site 4: Landfill D

Site 4 was a 10-acre sanitary landfill that operated from 1970 to 1981. Wastes managed included primarily trash, wet garbage, construction material, some solvents, acids, bases, and PCBs. Potential concerns include waste; metals, PCBs, and PAHs in soil; and mercury in drainage sediment. The ROD and remedial design were completed for the soil cover and drainage ditch sediment removal in 2004. The remedial action was conducted from March through October of 2005. The FY 2006 goal for Site 4 is to complete the IRACR by June 30, 2006.

Site 5: Burning Grounds

Site 5 is a 21-acre former burning grounds for ordnance disposal that operated from 1930 to the 1970s. Other wastes reportedly disposed of included solvents, paint, sludge, pesticides, and various types of refuse. The Remedial Investigation phase was completed in 2005. Potential concerns include waste; metals, pesticides, and PAHs in soil and drainage sediment; and metals in groundwater. The FY 2006 goal for Site 5 is to finalize the Expanded Remedial Investigation Report of findings and determine potential remedial actions by December 30, 2005 and to complete the EE/CA to evaluate remedial alternatives for the waste area by March 31, 2006.

Site 19: Building 190

Building 190 was used for ordnance management activities from the early 1900s through the 1970s. The Site Investigation phase was completed in 2005. Potential concerns include metals and PAHs in soil. The draft EE/CA for Site 19 was completed in October and will be available for public comment for the period of October 17 through November 16, 2005. The

FY 2006 goal for Site 19 is to complete the soil removal by June 30, 2006 followed by a NFA closeout report.

Site 21: Building 187

Site 21 was a former locomotive shed used for maintenance. The Site Investigation phase for Site 21 began in 2004. The potential concern is chlorinated solvents in groundwater and the adjacent storm sewer. The FY 2006 goal for Site 21 is to complete the investigation of chlorinated solvents in groundwater and begin planning for treatment by September 30, 2006.

Blows Creek

Several past and present IRP sites are potential sources of chemicals to Blows Creek. The Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) investigation of sediment for Blows Creek was completed in 2004. Potential concerns identified include metals and PAHs in sediment. The FY 2006 goal for Blows Creek is to complete the report of findings, including recommendations for next steps, by March 30, 2006.

Roundtable / Q & A

Mr. Mann asked about the historic preservation status of SJCA. Ms. Henderson indicated that certain buildings at SJCA were on the historic preservation list. She indicated that the historic society had come to a previous RAB meeting and indicated that she will look for the presentation on historical preservation and forward it to Mr. Mann. Ms. Henderson asked if Mr. Mann would like to invite the historic society back to speak to the RAB, but Mr. Mann declined. He indicated that many of his friends are interested in the topic but would prefer to read the presentation rather than attend a RAB meeting.

Mr. Mann expressed interest in a site visit for the next RAB meeting. Mr. Schirmer indicated that it could be arranged.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for May of 2006.

Meeting Adjourned.