



Prepared by  
Tulsa District Corps of Engineers

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**Subject:** Minutes, Quarterly Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)  
Meeting, Longhorn Army Ammunition Plant (LHAAP)

**Location of Meeting:** Caddo State Park Recreation Hall, Karnack, Texas

**Date of Meeting:** July 19, 2012, 6:30 – 08:30 PM

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**Meeting Participants:**

**LHAAP/BRAC:** Rose M. Zeiler

**USACE:** John Lambert, Aaron Williams, Wendy Lanier

**USAEC:** Marilyn Plitnik

**AECOM:** Dave Wacker, Manish Joshi

**TCEQ:** Fay Duke

**USEPA Region 6:** Steve Tzhone, Terry Burton, Rich Mayer, Paul Torcoletti,  
Janetta Coats, Barry Forsythe (USFWS Liason to EPA),  
Kent Becher (USGS Liason to EPA)

**RAB:** **Present:** Paul Fortune, Carol Fortune, Judith Johnson, Ted Kurz,  
Judy Van Deventer, Richard LeTourneau

**Absent:** Ken Burkhalter, Lee Guice, Robert Cargill, Charles  
Dixon, Jim Lambright, Nigel Shivers, E.V. Wilson, Pickens  
Winters

**Public:** Lee Thomas, William Techels, William Hatfield (Harrison Co.  
Commissioner), Dawn Orsak (CLI - TAG), Bryan Hughes  
(Texas House Representative)

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An agenda for the RAB meeting was distributed prior to the meeting. Paul Fortune called the meeting to order.

**Welcome – Rose Zeiler**

Dave Wacker and Manish Joshi were introduced as the new contractors (AECOM) conducting environmental restoration at Longhorn. They were asked where they were located. They responded that they will perform the contract from offices in San Antonio, Dallas, Austin, and

Houston Texas. Ted Kurz asked what the deliverables are on the contract. Since AECOM had just received notice that stop work had been rescinded on Monday there was no time to put together a presentation. A discussion of deliverables will be included at the next meeting.

William Hatfield was introduced as the Harrison County Commissioner-elect. Bryan Hughes was introduced as the Texas State Representative-elect.

The previous RAB meeting minutes were distributed as handouts and the RAB was informed that if they had any revisions for the meeting minutes to submit comments for inclusion prior to uploading the minutes to the Administrative Record. Ted Kurz made a motion that the January 2012 minutes be approved and Judith Johnson seconded the motion. Rose Zeiler noted that in the future RAB minutes will be sent to RAB members for review so that approval can take place at the next meeting. Any comments or edits can be sent to Paul Fortune who will send them on to Army. Judy Vandeventer asked about previous meeting minutes. Rose Zeiler responded that they were available in the administrative record. Because the minutes for meetings held in 2011 were inadvertently not presented to the RAB for review, comments on the minutes will be accepted through the next RAB meeting. The 2011 meeting minutes will be emailed to the RAB for review.

### **Open Items – Rose Zeiler**

#### *Charter Approval Status*

Rose informed the group that the RAB charter had been approved and the signed copies were emailed to the group and provided as handouts at the RAB.

#### *Community Involvement Plan (CIP) Update Status*

Rose informed the group that the Community Involvement Plan was being revised, not merely updated as previously indicated. Marilyn Plitnik with AEC reported that the funds to support new interviews and a revised CIP are in the works. It was determined that new interviews should be conducted since the last interviews were conducted in 2002. Steve Thzone stated that Janetta Coats with the EPA would also be involved in supporting the effort of updating the CIP.

#### *Wooden Cover on way to Fire Station*

Rose informed Paul Fortune that she would discuss the matter with him after the RAB meeting.

#### *Contract Status - USACE*

John Lambert informed the group that the stop work order on the new contract was rescinded on Monday and that the post-protest process was completed. AECOM was introduced as the new contractor. Ted Kurz asked about the length of the contract. AECOM responded that the contract covered 5.75 years.

#### *April 2012 Minutes*

The April 2012 minutes were provided as a handout and the minutes will be emailed to the RAB group again since the RAB members reported they did not receive the original email.

### **Groundwater Treatment Plant (GWTP) Update**

Aaron Williams informed the group that Groundwater Treatment Plant operations halted on May 21<sup>st</sup> when a bearing on the scrubber blower shattered causing hot gases from the catalytic oxidation unit to enter the scrubber stack which resulted in warping of the stack. The Groundwater Treatment Plant had been operating in recirculation mode to keep the bacteria in the Fluidized Bed Reactor alive up until recently when the PLC programming went down. AECOM is assessing the GWTP status. An interim measure to allow untreated gas emissions from the air stripper is being considered to get the GWTP up and operational in the near-term while more permanent long-term solutions are reviewed. The Groundwater Treatment Plant has been down before for periods of weeks and months in the past.

Wendy Lanier presented historical information leading to the Interim Remedial Action (IRA) at LHAAP-18/24. The Army considers LHAAP-18/24 to be the most contaminated site at Longhorn. Wendy was involved in the Corp's initial design of the IRA. The GWTP was constructed in the 96/98 timeframe. Construction photos were shared in a binder at the meeting for those who were interested in seeing the level of effort that went into it. It was pointed out that the GWTP as part of the IRA has outlived its estimated life going on almost 10 years. The timeline from beginning operations at the Burning Ground to GWTP operations was presented. Details of operations at LHAAP 18/24 were presented including washing out of rocket motors at the Unlined Evaporation Pond and use of the Air Curtain Destructor and washout pads. Wendy explained why the IRA was implemented. From comparing the Methylene chloride (MEC) and Trichloroethylene (TCE) 1992 plumes to the 1993 plumes it was clear that the plume was migrating in the shallow groundwater. Wendy presented the findings to the Longhorn Installation Commander. The Commander subsequently requested funds to implement an IRA to remove source material at the site which include the highly contaminated soil and shallow groundwater. The Army provided the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District with \$15 million to begin the design/construction process to address the source material that was contributing to plume migration, ASAP. Wendy pointed out that the timeline from conceptual design of the IRA to construction and operation was extremely fast due to the Army's and regulator's commitment to working together by such means as agreeing to quick reviews and use of a Cost Plus Contract. Wendy discussed some of the technical aspects of the IRA (i.e. Interceptor Collection Trenches, use of an organic slurry (guar gum) to hold trenches open during construction, treatment of at least 30,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil in a low temperature thermal treatment plant and extracting and treating groundwater). A comparison of the 1993 sampling results to the 2009 sampling results at LHAAP-18/24 were displayed to show that the Interim Remedial Action has been effective controlling the MEC/TCE plume migration and bringing the concentrations in the shallow groundwater down significantly.

### **Perimeter Well/Surface Water Sampling (Creek) Results and Update**

Aaron Williams informed the group that handouts for the recent creek sampling have been provided but that there is nothing new to report since the creeks were dry during the June sampling event.

### **Other DERP Environmental Restoration Update – Rose Zeiler -LHAAP-37 – Bioplug Demonstration Project**

Rose informed the group that the demonstration consists of bioplug wells offset by 10 feet and inoculated with aerobic microbes, air and nutrients. Project will last 2 years. To date 81 out of

the 300 bioplugs have been installed. Plan to start operation in late August. Monitoring wells were sampled during the week to establish baseline.

**Other Environmental Restoration Issues – Rose Zeiler, Steve Tzhone, Fay Duke  
-Four RODs**

Army and Regulators re-iterated to the RAB that they are currently in dispute resolution over 8 issues arising from four RODs and 1 dispute over stipulated penalties. In the last month the Army and Regulators have come close to resolution on 7 issues. Based on those discussions, Army prepared redline RODs for regulator review. TCEQ comments have been received on the redline RODs addressing the 7 issues. EPA comments are pending. For the remaining issue regarding perchlorate cleanup concentration, Army and TCEQ disagree with EPA. The perchlorate issue will most likely go to the next level for resolution, the SEC, as will the stipulated penalties issue. Steve Tzhone explained that if the SEC cannot resolve the issue that it would then go to the EPA regional administrator for resolution. The Army and TCEQ would at that time have the opportunity to issue a written notice elevating the dispute to the Administrator in Washington D.C..The details for the dispute issues are included in the Administrative Record. Judy Vandeventer asked whether the Administrative Record could be accessed online. The answer was no, but that the CD was located at the Marshall Public Library for public access and that folks certainly could burn a CD from the one in the Marshall Public Library for their own copy. There followed some discussion about access to the Administrative Record CD.

**EPA Sampling of MMRP Sites' wells**

EPA informed the group that they were going to be sampling the 10 monitoring wells at the MMRP sites the week of August 13<sup>th</sup>.

**EPA Research Project - Phytoforensics study update – Rich Mayer**

Rich Mayer discussed the phytoforensics research effort conducted at Longhorn. The study included sampling of 200 trees throughout LHAAP-16, -17, and -18/24 including background trees and monitoring wells in and around the sites. One-third of the samples had TCE and perchlorate detections. This was the first time perchlorate had been analyzed for in a phytoforensics study. Rich displayed the grids for the sampling activities at the sites and provided a demonstration of how a tree coring is collected. Ted Kurz asked if there were any signs of stress to the trees. The answer was that there was no visual stress to the trees and it was added that trees have been used in studies to help remediate groundwater contamination.

**Look Ahead at the Schedule**

Presentation provided: Upcoming Field Work includes groundwater monitoring in September at LHAAP-18/24 and creek sampling quarterly.

**New Items/Question and Answer**

A member of the public asked why it is taking so long to cleanup, is it because the cleanup standards keep changing? Response was that sometimes standards change but that the reason for lengthy cleanup times was due to the nature of the contaminant and the media, with its lenses of clay which takes a long time to cleanup with current technology. The question was asked whether the site would be cleaned up during the life of one's grandchildren. The response was no for Site 18/24, but most likely yes for some of the smaller plumes, like Site

67. It was also pointed out that the lengthy cleanup being discussed was for groundwater and that soil cleanup is being done more quickly. The land will be available for refuge activities (e.g. bird watching) sooner.

Ted Kurz wanted to know whether funding would be available in 50 years. The response was that budgets are shrinking but the Army will get funding since it is a NPL site and there is a FFA. Each year Army prepares a 30-year environmental liability projection for the annual report to Congress. It was also pointed out that DERA funds are “fenced money” that is the funds must be used for environmental remediation.

The next RAB meeting was tentatively scheduled for October 18, 2012. The group had one objection to meeting at the Caddo State Park Recreation Hall for future meetings. Paul Fortune will discuss with other absent RAB members to reach a consensus on location for the next meeting. (Note: Immediately after adjournment, Judith announced that a decision was reached among the RAB members present that the next meeting will be held in the Karnack Community Center.)

A motion was made by Carol Fortune to adjourn and seconded by Ted Kurz.

### ***Adjourn***

### **July Meeting Attachments and Handouts:**

- *Meeting Agenda*
- *Meeting Minutes from April meeting*
- *Surface Water Sampling Results*
- *Signed RAB Charter*
- *IRA Presentation*
- *Phytoforensics Presentation*
- *Look Ahead*

### ***Acronyms***

<i>CIP</i>	<i>Community Involvement Plan</i>
<i>DERP</i>	Defense Environment Response Program
FFA	Federal Facilities Agreement
<i>GWTP</i>	Groundwater Treatment Plant
IRA	Interim Remedial Action
<i>MMRP</i>	military munitions response program
<i>PBC</i>	Performance Based Contract
PLC	Programmable Logic Controller
<i>ROD</i>	Record of Decision
SEC	Senior Executive Committee
TCE	Trichlorethene
<i>USGS</i>	United States Geological Survey