



CHANUTE AFB ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 3363

AGENDA

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

8 October 1998

7:00 P.M.

1. Introductions
 - RAB members
 - Review of AFBCA mission/plan/strategy
2. Old Business
 - Minutes from last meeting
 - Other
3. Landfill OU-2
 - Fencing completed
 - Status of project
 - Stilling wells for Salt Fork Creek and Heritage Lake
4. Wells
 - Sampling off-base wells
 - Well canvas
 - Background
5. Seven Sites OU-2
 - Site Reconnaissance
 - Field work this fall on seven sites
6. Areas of Concern OU-1
 - Development of project document
7. Reuse Progress
8. Community Involvement
9. Next Meeting
10. Adjourn



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE BASE CONVERSION AGENCY

December 9, 1998

AFBCA/DB Chanute
501 E. Condit Drive, Suite A
Rantoul IL 61866

SUBJECT: Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes, October 8, 1998

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1. Virlon Suits opened the October 8, 1998 RAB meeting at 7:00 p.m. All attendees introduced themselves to the group. The May meeting minutes were approved as there were no additional corrections stated from the RAB membership. Corrections to the August minutes were pointed out and the membership was asked to review those for final approval at the December 10, 1998 RAB meeting.
2. The landfills in Operating Unit 2 (OU-2) were discussed by Bryan Rundell of Jacobs Engineering. Mr. Rundell spoke briefly about the necessary documents required for the investigation effort. He indicated formal approval of the work plan was expected within a few weeks. He indicated pilot borings at the landfills would be the next field work undertaken. Pilot borings help determine where a test well is to be located and what interval it is to be screened at. Ms. Barbara Rauch questioned the meaning of "FSP." Mr. Rundell explained it was a Field Sampling Plan that dictates how a sample is collected in the field and outlines the established field procedures. Mr. Rundell went on to explain the "QAPP" stands for Quality Assurance Project Plan which outlines the procedures of how the laboratories are to do the lab work. Dan Brady offered the comment that a precise and accurate document will decrease the chances of a Remedial Investigation (RI) failing. Barbara Rauch asked whether a QAPP existed for the RI that failed. Stephen Nussbaum, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), answered even though a QAPP existed, it is necessary for the contractor and the Air Force to apply a procedure called data validation and also an audit on the laboratory work to assure the QAPP is followed. He suggested those procedures were not adequately implemented last time.
3. Next topic discussed included residential wells off-base. Mr. Suits said an off-base resident expressed concerns about water quality of their well. He said the Air Force subsequently made the decision to test three off-base wells in close proximity to the landfills. Bryan Rundell explained that the contractor will be testing for all the basic contaminants which were tested in March. He explained "VOCs", volatile organic compounds would be tested for. He went on to give an example of VOCs which include benzene found in gasoline. He went on to explain the exposure pathways of VOCs. Mr. Rundell also said that "SVOCs" are semi-volatile

compounds which contain a heavier chain of hydrocarbons. SVOCs do not volatilize as easily as VOCs. He explained PAHs are polyaromatic hydrocarbons which are the heaviest in the hydrocarbon chain. Included are coal tars. Mr. Rundell said pesticides and PCBs are also tested for in addition to herbicides, used to kill grasses and weeds.

Mr. Suits interrupted the meeting at this point to introduce Mr. Max Harmon from Congressman Ewing's office in Pontiac, IL. Mr. Harmon was introduced to the attendees.

Mr. Rundell continued by saying that metals such as lead, mercury, and cyanide are tested for. Dioxins and furans are tested for which are products of burning trash. He said dioxins were found in the landfills. Mayor Brown asked when results were expected back. Mr. Rundell explained it would be approximately a month. Mayor Brown asked what will be done for the residents if contamination is found. Mr. Suits said they will be offered an alternative source of drinking water. If contaminants are found above acceptable levels that also harm the body, then a new well or alternate source of water may be offered. Mr. Fred Rauch asked if herbicides and insecticides could be expected from farmland. Mr. Rundell indicated that as a distinct possibility. Mr. Suits explained the residential wells are screened in the Illinoian aquifer and not the shallow aquifer. Mr. Suits clarified the Illinoian aquifer is the center of the three aquifers in the area. Mr. Rundell went on to explain in more detail all three water bearing units. More detail about the residential wells will be offered at the next RAB meeting on December 10, 1998. Mr. Rundell said a larger more encompassing screening effort will be conducted to find information about wells within a mile of the base. Mr. James Skridulis clarified the "mile of the base" meant the one mile radius around OU-2. Mayor Brown asked if something was found within one mile would the plan be to go two miles for example. Mr. Rundell and Mr. Nussbaum explained that the extent of contamination would need to be determined. Background wells are used to determine what is existing outside the base. These wells are located in areas not believed to be impacted by base activities. These are then used to determine what constitutes a contaminant caused by Air Force activities. Many metals exist in the larger geographical area in varying concentrations and are naturally occurring. Mr. Rundell went on to explain the background well effort will be located in the community in areas mostly north of the base and over the next few months Jacobs Engineering will be seeking permission from the landowners to install them on the private and other public property. Gary Schafer, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), asked whether the Village would be talked to about some of the public locations and the answer was yes. Dan Brady explained how the target sites for the wells were selected. Ray Boudreaux, Village of Rantoul, asked whether previous off-base wells will be used. Mr. Skridulis asked Mr. Rundell to explain how many wells were to be installed in conjunction with Mr. Boudreaux's question. Mr. Rundell said they had been examined and the condition and original construction procedures place doubt on the integrity of the wells and reduce the level of confidence in them. Mr. Nussbaum explained the background issue was so important to (1) "We don't want to spend money cleaning up something that doesn't need to be cleaned up" and (2) "We want to clean up what needs to be cleaned up and we need the information to know." Ms. Rauch asked Mr. Rundell to say something about the stilling wells. Mr. Rundell apologized for overlooking the item. He explained stilling wells are vertical stainless steel pipes installed in surface water bodies and the surface water elevation in the well is continuously measured by a pressure transducer. The stilling wells are located in areas in water bodies to a surface water body such as Salt Fork

Creek or Heritage Lake for example. These elevations are then compared to groundwater levels to determine if groundwater discharges to surface water. Also Heritage Lake is recharged to keep it at the elevated level. Dan Brady said this effort would be coordinated with the Rantoul Recreation Department to assure they are not damaged in the course of recreation activities.

4. Seven Sites OU-2 project. Jeff Villnow, The Environmental Company, indicated comments have now been received to a Draft Work Plan submitted to USEPA and IEPA earlier this year. Proposed revisions and responses to the work plan have been returned to the regulators. They are expected back soon. The FSP and QAPP for this project are scheduled to go to the regulators approximately October 23, 1998. Mr. Villnow said the cone penetrometer and geophysics survey were accomplished and highlighted some of the results of those studies. Mr. Villnow made mention of the fact Joyce Miyageshima had briefed the reconnaissance effort and records search from all the sites. A field strategy was developed including revisions to the original effort to enable a comprehensive plan to investigate the original sites encompassing everything in OU-2 except for the landfill project. Mr. Villnow said a screening level effort will begin in November and involve five basic activities at each site. The five activities include source identification, geologic investigation, hydrologic investigation, vadose zone, soil investigation and Wisconsin groundwater investigation. A fairly detailed discussion on the screening approach was then provided. Mr. Villnow explained how very important it is to have thorough knowledge of the geology to be able to focus on where the contamination is. Mr. Villnow spoke more about the hydrologic investigation and how stilling wells and continuous water level monitoring stations are used to obtain good hydrology of the sites. He explained the procedures and screening techniques used to "sniff" for contamination in the upper five to ten feet normally which is the vadose zone. For the Wisconsin groundwater, direct push technology (DPT) holes are used and water is sucked up and sent to an on-site screening laboratory for investigation.

Mr. Villnow stated the key was to complete the hydrologic work to begin with. The entire effort will require several months. Ms. Sylvia Delgado of the University of Illinois asked when results would be available in the vadose zone. Mr. Villnow replied a broad classes of organic contaminants will be screened for with an X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) for metals contaminants. Mayor Brown asked how capping a landfill stops hurting the water. Mr. Schafer replied it stops the rainfall from going down. Mr. Nussbaum explained the construction makeup of a cap including compacted clay and high density polyethylene plastic of 40 and 50 mil thickness is used. This is placed between clay layers to what finally yields a cap of 10 to the minus 7 hydraulic conductivity. Mayor Brown asked about when the caps might be under construction. Mayor Brown indicated the Village would offer property at no cost so that a lake or more specifically a retention pond could be constructed for the Village. Mr. Nussbaum indicated it would be within three years. He further indicated soil samples from potential borrow or source areas could possibly be sampled at the same time. Mr. Rundell indicated most clays in this geographic area will generally lend themselves very well to suitability for the capping initiative. Mr. Suits added the till layer between the Wisconsin and the Illinoian aquifers is a very hard blue clay. Mr. Nussbaum said the Record of Decision is set to be completed in 2001. Actual construction would take place in 2002. There was a funding concern expressed by Ms. Rauch whether money would be available in that timeframe. Mr. Suits replied AFBCA Headquarters assure the program is fully funded. Mr. Nussbaum and Mr. Schafer again expressed concern about available funding in the

year required considering inflation, groundwater remediation and two to three years into the future. Mayor Brown made the general statement that some of the federal budget surplus should be directed towards shutdown bases such as Chanute so Rantoul is not left holding such a "heavy bag." Old buildings needing to be torn down are only examples among other problems. Mr. Nussbaum said the Air Force has made the decision to not obligate the money now or put the money aside until the RI and FS is completed. Barry Dempsey of the University of Illinois asked about completion of the area between 933 and 975 so that some 1999 construction can possibly occur next summer. Mr. Nussbaum indicated Air Force will have to work details on how it can possibly be accomplished. Mr. Suits indicated he would elevate the question to the Headquarters.

5. Mr. Suits discussed the different areas of concern (AOCs) in OU-1. Lead chunks in the playground, carbon tetrachloride on the apron, former Air Force open house fire demonstration areas, 747 chlorinated solvents area, coal storage yards are five areas currently identified. Mr. Suits said programming documents are currently being prepared for further investigation of areas. Mr. Suits indicated to Ms. Rauch they were to be finished by the end of November.

6. Ray Boudreaux discussed reuse. He indicated a new taxiway had been installed at Hangar 2. Also installed was an automated weather observation system. He indicated the hangars are to be constructed at the museum location. Plans are to resurface the north-south runway early next year. Textron plans construction of a 16,000 SF addition to Hangar 1. In response to Mr. Rauch's question, Mr. Boudreaux said several areas at the mini warehouse storage facility required structural repairs because of termites. Ms. Wirges asked who is presently in possession of Building 3 property by saying the purchase contract and related lease have been canceled. Mr. Suits indicated an immediate action the Air Force is taking is to secure Building 16 (the former People Center) to keep people out of the building. He said secondly there will also be landscaping cleanup on the entire parcel. Mayor Brown discussed the Amerinvest buildings consisting of three or four building that are on the 100 foot easement. Rantoul will be working more into this as spring approaches to look more into removal of those facilities. Mr. Nussbaum reminded the Mayor about necessary asbestos removal. A significant amount of money will be required for removal of these buildings. Mr. Brady the skeet range buildings are advertised for contracting action.

7. Mr. Suits announced the next meeting will take place December 10, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. More and more work will be starting in so it is important to bring everyone up-to-date. Ms. Shirley Curry of AFBCA Headquarters took several more pictures of the group. Mr. Suits thanked Mr. Harmon for his attendance and the meeting was adjourned.



VIRLON J. SUITS

BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Attachment:
Distribution List

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