

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE
INSTALLATION RESTORATION PROGRAM
COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
18 September 2003**

Ms. Bea Kephart called the Vandenberg Air Force Base (AFB) Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting to order at 1000 hours. Ms. Kephart welcomed the CAB members and introduced Col Susanne LeClere, 30 MSG/CC, who was filling in Col Louis as the Air Force CAB co-chair. Col LeClere and Dr. Welt thanked all the CAB members for coming.

Ms. Kephart outlined the meeting's agenda:

- Installation Restoration Program Update;
- Perchlorate Discussion;
- Performance Based Contracting;
- CAB Charter/Membership Review; and
- Member Comments.

Installation Restoration Program Update

Ms. Kephart reported that the total program funding for fiscal year 2003 (which ends September 2003) was awarded through the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE). This includes the Results Based Contract for Interim Remedial Actions (IRAs) at Sites 21 and 31. The total program funding for fiscal year 2004 (which begins October 2003) increased and includes Interim Remedial Action-Construction (IRA-C) or Remedial Action-Construction (RA-C) projects at Sites 3, 8, 19, 23, 32, and 50. The peer review of construction projects at Sites 3, 8, 15, 23, and 32 was just been completed. Additionally, the IRP will be completing Remedial Investigation (RI) reports with ecological risk assessments and finishing Feasibility Studies (FSs) and Records of Decision/Remedial Action Plans (ROD/RAPs) at multiple sites.

Perchlorate Discussion

Ms. Kephart reported that a primary source of perchlorate contamination is from the use of solid rocket fuel and the major environmental concern is its presence in drinking water. Due to solid-fuel rocket testing at Edwards AFB and McClellan AFB there are high levels of perchlorate contamination at these two bases. Even though the levels of perchlorate contamination at Vandenberg AFB are much lower than at these bases due to the nature of the activity at Vandenberg AFB, the IRP is addressing the issue because of extensive news media coverage in which health risks have been magnified.

Ms. Kephart reports that the main health concern for perchlorate relates to its potentially harmful influence on the thyroid function of the body. She also indicated that there is a dispute between regulatory agencies as to the action level — how much is too much. Ms. Kephart does not expect a resolution of this dispute for a year or more.

At Vandenberg AFB, perchlorate was detected in the groundwater at SLC-4 (Site 8), most likely from Titan IV launches. An ion exchange resin system for the treatment of perchlorate in groundwater at SLC-4 was added to the TCE treatment system. The entire groundwater treatment system is scheduled to start

up in September/October 2003. Treated groundwater will be reinjected back into the ground. Confirmation sampling will occur to ensure that no TCE or perchlorate is injected into the clean groundwater area at the launch complex.

Performance Based Contracting

The goal of Results Based Product Delivery (RBPDP) contracting, a type of performance based contracting, is expedited site closure, emphasizing objective results and minimal government involvement. Basically, the contractor works directly with the regulators to perform specific, measurable activities and the Air Force is "out of the loop."

Sites 21 and 31 were chosen for RBPDP contracting because they are low risk sites with soil only environmental issues. Nine contractors attended the site meeting and only two proposals were received. AFCEE and Vandenberg AFB are currently evaluating them. Contracts for both sites are to be awarded no later than 30 September 2003.

CAB Charter/Membership Review

Dr. Linda Fargo presented the draft copy of the new CAB Charter expressing appreciation to the members of the document review committee for their work. The committee includes Sharon Conley, Mel O'Campo, Ron Fink, Jim MacKenzie, and David Watts. Dr. Fargo hopes to present the final CAB Charter at the next CAB meeting. In the interim, she requested that CAB members review the draft and submit comments to her. She can be reached at the following numbers 934-3353 and 605-6473 and her email address is linda.fargo@lmco.com.

Member Comments

Col LeClere and Dr. Welt thanked Dr. Fargo and the document review committee for their work in preparing the draft charter. The meeting was adjourned at 1100 hours. The next quarterly CAB meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 4 December 2003 at the MXG conference room in Building 7015. A visit to Site 8 is planned with a short stop at Site 60.