



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE  
201 HWY 34 SOUTH  
COLTS NECK, NEW JERSEY 07722-5001

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NWS EARLE  
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IN REPLY REFER TO

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Ser 043/258  
08 Jul 97

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station Earle  
To: Distribution

Subj: MINUTES OF NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE RESTORATION  
ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING OF 29 MAY 97

- Encl: (1) "1997 Program Plan," prepared by Mr. John Kolicius, Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 29 May 97.  
(2) "Naval Weapons Station Earle Site 13 (Shea's Yard) Clean up Status-to-Date, prepared by Mr. Gregory Goepfert, Naval Weapons Station Earle, 29 May 97.

1. A meeting of the Naval Weapons Station Earle RAB was held on Thursday, 29 May 97 at 7:00 P.M. in Building C-54 (Conference Room), Naval Weapons Station Earle. The following Station and community representatives attended:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Kevin Bova	Executive Director, WPNSTA Earle
Deborah Sciascia	Office of Counsel, WPNSTA Earle
Gus Hermanni	Safety Director, WPNSTA Earle
Gregory Goepfert	Environmental Engineer, WPNSTA Earle
John Kolicius	NORTHNAVFACENGCOM
Barbara Douglas	NORTHNAVFACENGCOM
Merwin Kinkade	Tinton Falls
Vincent Moran	Leonardo
Mary Lanko	Resident, Howell Township
Marilyn Boak	Colts Neck, Board of Health
Janet Coakley	Howell Twp. Environmental Commission
Carole Balmer	Resident, Holmdel
Lester Jargowsky	Monmouth County Health Department
Jeffrey Gratz	EPA Region II, Project Manager
Russ Turner	Brown & Root Environmental
John Mayhew	NORTHNAVFACENGCOM
Richard Brandstetter	Friends of Pine Brook

2. The minutes of the 11 Mar 97 meeting were reviewed, approved and entered into the record.

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3. Mr. Goepfert stated that the Navy conducted a Public Hearing at the Colts Neck, New Jersey Courthouse on 24 Apr 97. The topic of the hearing was the proposed remedial plans for Site 4 (Landfill South of Lake Earle), Site 5 (Landfill by Explosives Ordnance Disposal Range) and Site 19 (MK8 Ordnance Stripping Area). Members of the Public present were Mr. Lester Jargowsky and Mrs. Marilyn Boak. Mr. Jargowsky commented that the proposed plans adequately address concerns. Members of the regulatory community present included Mr. Jeffrey Gratz, U.S. EPA Region II and Mr. Robert Marcolina, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The proposed plans include capping the landfills (Sites 4 and 5), and removal of lead-laden soils at Site 19.

4. Mr. Kolicius presented the Program Plan for the remainder of 1997 (encl.(1)).

a. A discussion ensued regarding the "iron wall" remedial technique at Site 26 (Building GB-1). The economics and clean up efficiency are being examined more closely, vis-a-vis other alternative technologies (such as air sparging).

**Mr. Jargowsky questioned, "What was NJDEP's position?"**

**In the absence of Mr. Marcolina, it was Mr. Kolicius' opinion that the NJDEP would accept any active form of remediation.**

**Mr. Kinkade asked, "Was there any indication of natural attenuation taking place at Site 26?"**

**Mr. Kolicius answered that there is some natural breakdown [of solvent] occurring. There is slow groundwater movement in that area. Navy experts and consultants are looking more closely at the Site 26 problem.**

**Mr. Goepfert asked, "What is the schedule for addressing Site 26?"**

**Mr. Kolicius explained that the remedial design may be initiated by the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 97 (Sep 97), with construction underway sometime in FY98.**

b. The "Bioslurper" units will be installed at Site 16/F by the end of July 1997. Free product (diesel fuel) will be extracted from the ground using this technology.

**Mr. Kinkade asked if the effluent from the Bioslurper will be tested prior to introduction to the Earle Sewerage Treatment Plant.**

**Mr. Goepfert responded, "Yes." [Tests will include pH, priority pollutants and petroleum hydrocarbons].**

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**Ms. Sciascia asked, "Will the Sewer Plant Operator be called in the event of an upset condition?" Ms. Balmer asked, "who exactly would be called in the event of a problem?"**

**Mr. Goepfert answered that the strict protocols have not been formalized, but will be prior to commencing operations. [The units will "fail safe;" operations will automatically completely shut off in upset mode. The unit will send automatic faxes identifying the problem to the Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) at Earle, Foster Wheeler (the Bioslurper operating contractor), and the Naval Weapons Station Earle Environmental Office. Problems with the unit will be addressed by the next business day. Further, Foster Wheeler personnel will conduct a maintenance visit on a weekly basis for the duration of Bioslurper operations.**

5. Mr. Goepfert presented the interim cleanup status of Site 13 ("Shea's Yard") (encl. (2)). A video documenting the work was shown.

6. Mr. Jargowsky stated that the joint Brookdale Community College Student/NJDEP/Monmouth County Health Department "Bioassessment of the Navesink Watershed" visit to Earle of 9 Apr 97 was a success. The students were impressed that the Station's Commanding Officer (Captain Shick) met with them to discuss Navy initiatives in the environmental area.

**Mr. Gratz asked if there was any documentation of the visit. Mr. Jargowsky answered, "Yes, both digital photographs and a formal laboratory report explaining results would be available within a month."**

7. Mr. Richard Brandstetter stated that water quality in the Pine Brook has been good. The characterization of the Brook may be changed from trout maintenance to trout production based on New Jersey Fish and Game Department visits.

8. General discussion followed regarding the impressions of Earle by RAB members. Prior to their involvement with the RAB, members were somewhat skeptical as to what activities take place on WPNSTA Earle. Mr. Bova explained that Earle was never a heavy "production"-type facility. The mission of the Station has always been to receive, store, segregate and issue ammunition to the U. S. Atlantic Fleet. After their involvement with the RAB, the skepticism has been largely dispelled.

9. Messrs. Bova and Hermanni announced "Summerfest '97" and invited RAB members to attend (June 20-22).

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10. Other discussion regarding the potential for public use of Naval Weapons Station Earle property took place. Messrs. Jargowsky and Hermanni will talk about establishing Nature Trails in the future. Other suggestions came from Ms. Balmer ("Trout Unlimited" organization) and "Greenway" Projects from Mr. Brandstetter. Mr. Jargowsky stated that retired military personnel in the area may want to be involved in these activities.

11. Mr. Goepfert requested that if a RAB member knows of any other local resident who would like to join the RAB, please have them fill out a general interest form [provided at the meeting], and return it to him for consideration.

12. Mr. Jargowsky explained that there is a unique situation in Monmouth County, i.e., elevated background levels of arsenic and beryllium may be present in the top six inches of soils. Mr. Jargowsky said that he believed NJDEP had some report on this issue.

13. Milestones

a. The Record of Decision for Site 4, 5 and 19 will be complete for signature by the end of June 1997. NORTHNAVFACENGCOM responsibility.

b. Mr. Kolicius will obtain the report from Mr. Marcolina regarding elevated beryllium and arsenic background levels in Monmouth County.

14. All business completed, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M. Mr. Goepfert announced the next RAB meeting is scheduled for 17 Jul 97, 7:00 P.M. at Naval Weapons Station Earle, Building C-54 (Conference Room).

Submitted by:



GREGORY J. GOEPFERT  
Navy Co-Chair  
Restoration Advisory Board

Approved/Reviewed by:



DENNIS E. BLAZAK  
By direction

Distribution:  
RAB Members/Attendees

# 1997 PROGRAM PLAN

## PROPOSED FEASIBILITY STUDIES (Next Phase - Landfill Sites)

Sites 3, 10, 13

AWARD 6/97 - DRAFT COMPLETE 10/97

## PROPOSED NO FURTHER ACTION RODS (Interim Actions Completed)

Sites 14, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29

AWARD 6/97 - COMPLETE 11/97

29 MAY 1997

*Encl (1)*

# PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTIONS

## OU-1 SITES 4 & 5 LANDFILLS

Presumptive Remedy - Capping  
Groundwater Monitoring

DESIGN AWARDED 5/97

CONSTRUCTION AWARD PROJECTED 8/97

## OU-2 SITE 19

Surface Soil Removal

SUMMER 1997

## OU-3 SITE 26 BUILDING GB-1

GW Treatment Options Being Re-evaluated  
Reactive Wall vs. Air Sparging

SOURCE AREA REMOVAL - FALL 97

29 MAY 1997

# SITE 16/F UPDATE

Draft Work Plan for Full Scale System  
Submitted May 13, 1997

Under Navy & Regulatory Review

System set-up scheduled for July 1997

# NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE

SITE 13 ("SHEA'S YARD")

CLEAN-UP STATUS TO-DATE

◆ **DISPOSED:**

**80 CUBIC YARDS MIXED TRASH**

(Mixed trash and debris consisted of dunnage lumber, office chairs, bedding springs).

**60 CUBIC YARDS - SCRAP METAL**

(scrap metal consisted of 2 above ground heating oil tanks, boiler internals, steam header, old vehicle parts, and lightweight metal such as from electrical test equipment/meters, film cartridges).

◆ **FOUND: 8 Drums of automotive grease to be tested and disposed.**

◆ **OTHER: One and a half (1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>) bags asbestos pipe lagging removed from metal pipes**

5/29/97

Encl (2)