

Meeting Minutes
Restoration Advisory Board – 9 Feb 99
NAS Oceana

Attendees: Bob Giovanelli, Paul Hofstad, Fred Adams, Stephen Mihalko, Tim Reisch, Will Bullard, Sam Werbel (visitor)

Will Bullard welcomed everyone and commenced the meeting at 7:00 PM. Everyone was given a copy of the evenings agenda and a hard copy of the presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

RAB members were reminded that applications for Board membership for the 1999 calendar year were due in January. Several members had not yet reapplied.

CERCLA STATUS

The Draft Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) stipulating how work would be accomplished under the CERCLA process was submitted to EPA in October 1998. As this was the first FFA for a facility not listed on the National Priorities List (NPL), a lengthy review process was expected. The EPA agreed that ongoing work should proceed under CERCLA in anticipation of a signed FFA.

SWMU 15 BIOREMEDIATION STATUS

Soil samples of the biopile and around the perimeter of the excavation were taken the week of October 24, 1998. Validation and statistical evaluation of the data was underway.

Thirty five soil samples were taken in the biopiles and analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH). Selection of sample locations was statistically based both horizontally and vertically. Nine of the TPH samples exceeded 50 ppm, the cleanup goal. In addition, soils with TPH exceeding 50 ppm can not be used as clean fill per the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations.

A review of the locations of the high TPH samples revealed that 6 of the 9 samples were collected from a depth of 7 feet below the top surface of the piles (pile approximately 9 feet high). Additionally, a statistical evaluation of the top 7 feet of the piles demonstrated that this section, as a whole, had a TPH concentration of less than 50 ppm at the 95% confidence level. The Navy was currently proposing additional treatment of the pile bottoms (below 7 feet) and a volume of soils around the 3 previous sample locations where TPH exceeded 50 ppm above the 7 foot depth. Based on initial discussions, regulatory approval was expected for this proposal. With cooperating weather, the additional treatment was expected to take 4 weeks. Afterwards, another round of

confirmatory samples would be taken to document that soil TPH levels were less than 50 ppm.

The biopile soil data was also being analyzed to determine if access to the treated soil should be restricted based on potential risks to human health, particularly from residual concentrations of PAH. CH2MHill was performing this assessment. Access restriction options could include a clean soil cover or fencing. If the soils presented no risk, the Navy proposed to spread them on site. (The Navy originally planned to backfill the excavation with the treated soils because there were fears the water filled hole would attract birds producing a hazard to aircraft. However, upon further review the Navy determined that the newly created small pond would not produce a hazard.)

SWMU 24 STATUS

An additional groundwater investigation was conducted in November to thoroughly delineate the current location of the contaminant plume (chlorinated organics) and to determine if an expanded pilot test with another NOVOCs well (in-well aeration) was necessary. Samples were collected using a direct push technology (DPT) method in a grid pattern in the area of the plume and its down gradient direction. At EPA's request, the DPT samples were taken at three different depths to distinguish any vertical concentration gradients. A preliminary review of the data reveals monitored natural attenuation may be sufficient to complete remediation of any remaining chlorinated organics. Concurrent with the DPT investigation, groundwater samples were collected from existing monitoring wells for use in a baseline risk assessment for the site.

FY99 PLANS

The Navy budget included human health and ecological risk assessments, Focused Feasibility Studies (FFS), Proposed Remedial Action Plans (PRAPs), and Records of Decision (ROD) for SWMUs 1, 15 and 24. Actual completion of the FFS, PRAPs and RODs would most likely occur in FY00.

Based on a review of previous site data, groundwater had not been impacted by subsurface soil contamination at SWMU 1. The anticipated remedial alternative for this site would involve long term monitoring to insure future integrity of the groundwater. At SWMUs 15 and 24, existing site data supported examining monitored natural attenuation of any remaining groundwater contamination as the remedial alternative for these sites. If final review of the data from the November sampling event revealed a remaining small hot spot of groundwater contamination at SWMU 24, application of an innovative technology to quickly address the area (hot spot) would be evaluated.

Additional groundwater delineation was also planned at SWMU 2C. Sample collection would be from existing wells and from DPT. The Navy would explore the use of innovative technologies for future remediation of isolated hot spots.

NEXT MEETING

Following a discussion of member's schedules and the time frames necessary to complete proposed work, the next RAB meeting was scheduled for July 13, 1999, at the NAS Oceana Officers Club (7 PM).