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## **Allegany Ballistics Laboratory**

### **RAB Meeting**

**November 4, 1998**

**6:00p.m.**

#### **Attendees**

Dr. Wanye Spiggle - Community Co-Chair

John Barton - RAB Member

Ralph Lamorte - RAB Member

Ron Homison - DCMDW

Elaine Warren - Allegany County Health

Nancy Hausrath - Allegany County Health

Jim Haversack - RAB Member

Matt Haversack - RAB Member

Dr. Betsy Kagey - RAB Member

Ron Hawk - RAB Member

Bill Timmermeyer - WVDEP

Tom Bass - WVDEP

Bruce Beach - USEPA

Lou Williams/NAVSEA

John Aubert/NAVSEA

Dawn Hayes/NAVFAC/LANTDIV

John Peters/ NAVFAC/LANTDIV

Dave McBride/Alliant Techsystems

John Waugaman/Alliant Techsystems

Steve Icardi/Alliant Techsystems

Brett Doerr/CH2M HILL

Brian Gomolski/CH2M HILL

#### **Previous Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting were read by Dr. Wanye Spiggle and approved without objection.

#### **Web Site Under Development:**

The new ABL web site is based on a similar Navy site in North Carolina, Cherry Point also developed by CH2M HILL. The ABL site address is [www.is.ch2m.com/abl](http://www.is.ch2m.com/abl). The public will be able to monitor progress of the IR program status at each site, see a calendar of events, RAB member profiles, news pages, a forum to ask questions, and links to other related web sites. Please feel free to provide suggestions for improvements.

A RAB member biographical information form was handed out for RAB members to fill out which will be used on the web site.

Reviewed current state of development. Site will not replace current forms of communications but instead will supplement and broaden it.

Q: How many RAB members do not have Internet access?

A: Several members did not.

The Washington Naval Yard site was also viewed to give RAB members further ideas about what to expect.

RAB committee members noted they would like to add: 1) Discussion of public relations work that RAB is working on, and 2) Mission statement of RAB.

#### **Site 1 Groundwater Treatment Plant Status**

- Operating at 96 gallons per minute.
- Automated alerts to offsite operator if problems develop.
- Site 10 will tie in and construction is now getting underway.
- The treatment plant is now capturing contamination plume.
- Data consistently collected, CH2M HILL can monitor and change system performance, if needed.
- During power outages the plant will shut down and water flow will stop. Restart the plant is a manual operation.

Q: Would concentration of contaminants change with change of water flow?

A: Yes, however, not significantly. The plant is monitored daily at seven points by the Navy for performance assurance. In the first month weekly performance data and then monthly thereafter, is submitted to regulators to confirm that treatment cleanup levels are being achieved.

Water level monitoring is performed for gradient reversal and chemical monitoring. Test aquifer quarterly at each well and compare to baseline results. Samples for NPDES are 24-hour composite.

Q: How do we know what is going in to the treatment plant?

A: Influent samples are also monitored.

Q: Are air emissions monitored?

A: Yes, a mass-balance calculation is performed, the results have been well under the permit limit.

Q: Are the wells ever shut down? Will Soils cleanup occur before then?

A: Yes, the wells will be shut down when it has been determined that the aquifer contaminants have been removed. The soils will be cleaned up before groundwater treatment system permanent shutdown.

Q: How do we know what is coming from each well?

A: Samples can be taken at each well and also at combined plant entry.

Q: After future shutdown, will wells be monitored?

A: Yes.

Q: How much did the work cost in total?

A: Roughly, for all studies and construction: \$5M construction, \$0.5 studies, \$0.25 design, long term monitoring \$300,000 per year.

The pictures viewed in tonight's meeting are available for public information.

### **Site 5 Landfill Cap**

There was a discussion of the failed slope repair. At no time was the landfill cap compromised.

### **Site 10**

Layout for piping, will treat contamination hot spot with this interim action.

### **Site 11**

F-Well - during demolition of a building ABL found well that was installed in 1961. It would have been used for production but the water contained too much sand, so they covered it and built a building on it. During demolition ABL found contaminant product in the well. CH2M HILL advance site inspection found L & DNAPL and RI/FS was started. Investigated geology to find likely fractures and also installed alluvial wells to determine flow. The installed alluvial wells are dry. Recently tried to drill new bedrock well near F-Well but getting 200 to 300 gpm water and a lot of sand. The proposed solution is to treat IDW at treatment plant.

Q: Any contamination yet?

A: Very little so far. Sand issue very difficult to treat at Site 1 as the plant equipment needs to be protected.

### **Community Presentations**

Dr. Betsy Kagey is working on a presentation for the Cumberland Rotary Club.

Request made to please bring forward any other groups who may want presentation.

### **Other Public Concerns**

Q: Sediment from new road, why is the road there?

A: 80 acres of developable land owned by ABL since 1962. Proposition for future development. (Lou Williams)

ABL removed a lot of rocks from the river but some are unsafe to remove. Maryland is satisfied with work done. Hillside below road was seeded and stabilized. (John Wuagaman)

Q: Community member does not like aesthetic effect of cut.

A: Limestone cut above road will always be visible. (Bill Timmermeyer /WVDEP)

Dr. Spiggle noted that there is an official inquiry by the Cumberland Times; the community wants to know what happened, ABL has a problem and needs to address it.

Q: Community member stated ABL shouldn't be able to put anything in the river.

A: Rock was blasted following proper procedures and every effort was made not to impact river. (John Wuagaman)

Another community member noted that Cumberland has to remove sediment from their diversion channel, why can ABL leave large rocks in the Potomac?

RAB recommended that WVDEP provide more information. Bill Timmermeyer/WVDEP can be contacted by newspaper.

#### **RAB Member Biography Forms**

John Aubert/NAVSEA will mail form to RAB members with a return envelope.

#### **Adjournment**

The next RAB meeting will be held on February 10, 1999.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.