



# FORMER NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes

Club Cívico La Seyba, Ceiba, Puerto Rico  
Meeting No. 26 – August 8, 2012

*Note: This meeting summary is based on informal notes taken at the meeting. It is not intended as a verbatim transcript. Portions of some discussions may not have been captured. If comments or additional notes are provided within 30 days of distribution of these minutes, they will be added as an attachment to this summary.*

## I. Welcome and Introductions

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The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. Thuane Fielding welcomed the public and introduced herself as the new Navy Co-Chair replacing Mark Davidson who is now retired. She also introduced Stacin Martin as the Remedial Project Manager who works day-to-day with the environmental cleanup at Roosevelt Roads. She asked Stacin to be prepared to give briefings to help RAB members better understand what's going on environmentally at the base. Pedro Ruiz will continue to provide onsite support.

Susana Struve asked everyone to introduce themselves. (See Attachment 1, Meeting Attendees)

## II. Action Items from Last Meeting

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- Rafael Montes (RAB Member) – Was not able to get the pictures of SWMU 31, but offered to have some of the employees point out the exact location of the Site.
- The Navy will check into status of lift stations in the SWMU 31 area in response to a RAB member's comment that the sanitary sewers overflow and wastewater floods the area.
- Wilmarie Rivera/PREQB – PREQB is not the appropriate government agency to deal with this issue, but will get an answer to a question from the RAB about what is happening to the existing wastewater from ongoing operations at the facility now that the Navy has decommissioned the wastewater treatment plants.

## III. Investigation and Cleanup Status – Mark Kimes (Baker Environmental)

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### SWMU 31

This area is located behind the Public Works Department on the Base. The Operations Yard was used by the transportation shop to service station vehicles. This area includes a small open parking/storage area surrounding a canopy attached to the northern corner of the Building. It was used for the management of waste vehicle oils in limited quantities. The majority of the area around that building is asphalt-paved. The area immediately northwest of the SWMU is not covered.

- **Previous Investigations/Reports**
  - Phase I RFI Field Investigation (1995)
  - Phase II RFI Field Investigation (1997)

*Note: This summary is presented in English and Spanish for the convenience of the reader. Every effort has been made for the translations to be as accurate as reasonably possible. However, readers should be aware that the English version of the text is the official version.*

- Additional Dioxin Sampling (1999)
- CMS Final Report (2000)
- CMI Design Package (2001)
- Work Plan for Asphalt Cover (2012)

An asphalt cap was installed over a 5,400 ft<sup>2</sup> area; the soils were compacted and a 6- to 8-inch base layer of asphalt was installed over the compacted soils.

### **Discussion Points**

Rafael Montes - (RAB Member) - Before we left building 31, there were workers cleaning the area behind the asphalt area. I told them then that this area had waste water because the sewers were always spilling over and the water was going to that area. All that area was contaminated.

Mark Kimes (Baker Environmental) - was that waste water from the sanitary sewer? Is that recently or from a long time ago?

Rafael Montes - It happened all the time. Whenever it rained, the pump was not working.

Thuane Fielding (Navy) - Sewer contamination would have shown on the test results because before the actual asphalt cover was placed, samples were taken from that area. The results were presented on the report and submitted to the environmental regulators. The regulatory agencies will have to approve the report before the Navy can proceed to cover the site as a final remedy for this site.

Luis Velázquez (RAB Member) - I want to know if that was the vehicle maintenance area. Did you cover the contamination with asphalt?

Mark Kimes - the whole area was sampled thoroughly. The samples were analyzed for volatiles, semi-volatiles, fuel. So any of those compounds you are concerned with would have been detected in the soils. We collected surface soils, sub-surface soil samples; we even went to the asphalt areas and drilled holes through the asphalt to get samples from underneath the asphalt to make sure that it was clean. The only contaminant that was a concern was very low level detections of dioxin. The Navy actually went a step further when installing the cap to be extra protective for the people.

Luis Velázquez - I am worried about this. Right now, a line is being installed from Ceiba to the dock area. The plans for the casino are still in place. That's the most contaminated area of the Base; no one is worrying about the workers' health.

Thuane Fielding - That property has been conveyed to the airport through the local redevelopment authority (LRA). Based on the Commonwealth of PR regulations, the LRA follows the regulatory guidance for redevelopment following their plans for the property the Navy conveyed to them. The Navy is not installing any line. This activity apparently is being done by the Airport Authority and the Municipality. After we transferred the property, unless there's a residual responsibility, the Navy cannot do anything concerning properties already conveyed.

## Waste Water Treatment Plants Cleanup

- On all three plants, water was drained and all sediments removed from the tanks, the tanks were washed, and dry chlorine was added to keep the water fresh. Certified septic tanks were used to haul the sewer water to the Municipal Waste Water Plant in Fajardo, PR. No sewer water or sediment was disposed at NAPR.

### **Discussion Points**

Rafael Montes - In a previous meeting, I talked about a spill found in front of the power plant. I found out that it was oil that came out of a pipe that was cut. That oil was used for the boilers.

Mark Kimes - The area you are talking about near the power plant is the former incinerator, SWMU 30. Since the last meeting, the Navy awarded Baker a contract to do an investigation around that pipeline. We are going to grab some samples next week just to verify if there is any contamination there. If there is contamination, the Navy will notify the regulators of the release and a process to identify a new site will start (a new SWMU).

Ramón Figueroa (RAB Co-Chair) - Are the waste water treatment plants currently operational?

Thuane Fielding - The wastewater treatment plants were closed on January 25, 2012. We also sent a letter to EPA and EQB to cancel the permit that we had for operating the three wastewater treatment plants. They were closed because we asked the LRA if they wanted to have the waste water treatment plants to be operational and they said no. So, when we transferred the property in January 2012, we terminated our permit that we had to draw water.

Ramón Figueroa - A comment about this: I did an investigation with the corresponding agencies and we got to the conclusion that the filtration plant does not have the required permits from the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (DNER) to extract water. On May 11, 2012, I sent a letter to the DNER Secretary requesting a copy of the public record and as of today, I have not received an answer.

Thuane Fielding - The Navy cancelled our permit to draw water. We do not know, and we have not been informed, if the LRA actually has a permit to draw water.

Naida Dávila - permits and franchises are the same?

Ramón Figueroa - No, it is not the same. Franchise is the authorization that the Environmental Health office requires to operate the plant; a permit is the authorization from the government to extract water from any body of water in PR.

Luis Velázquez - I have not seen any truck cleaning the plants, and the Army Reserve is throwing waste water there. Where is that water going to if it is not going to the waste water plant? I assigned the responsibility of finding this information to the EPA and DNER.

Thuane Fielding - The LRA is to have the water hauled from the site. We do not know where the water is going. We are receiving utility bills for water and sewer and for electricity. At this time, there are some questions about the water utility that we are discussing with the LRA to resolve our payment.

Wilmarie Rivera (PREQB) - I don't work with that area but I will try to get an answer for the next meeting.

### **AOC F Site 1738 MtBE Characterization Investigation**

It was an industrial gasoline station that used four Underground Storage Tanks (USTs). The gas station was closed and the USTs were removed in 1996. During that removal elevated Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) were detected in the soils during the UST removal.

#### **Previous Investigations/Reports**

- Site Characterization (1998)
- Monitored Natural Attenuation Program initiated (2000)
- MtBE Investigation Work Plan (April 2010)
- EQB and EPA approval of Work Plan (May 2010)
- MtBE Characterization Field Work (Sept. 2010)
- Draft MtBE Investigation Report (Jan. 2011)
- Regulator comments on Report (Feb. 2011)
- Navy addresses regulator comments and proposal for additional characterization of MtBE (April 2011)
- Regulatory approval of for additional investigation (June 2011)
- Additional characterization initiated (July 2012)

#### **MtBE Site Characterization**

- Installation of 13 soil boring and monitoring wells
- Installation of 6 soil borings
- Groundwater sampling from 30 monitoring wells

#### **Discussion Points**

Ismael Velázquez - which one is the SWMU back to the fire station? I remember that there were 6 storage tanks. I think you were doing a sampling but I don't see anything related to that here

Mark Kimes - The area you are talking about is SWMU 9, we have known about that area since the very beginning. A few RAB meetings ago I did a presentation on SWMU 9, of the work we did on that SWMU. That area that you mentioned has 6 tanks. There's been a lot of work done at that SWMU starting with the RFI investigation back in the mid 1990s to around 2000 and then we did a

Corrective Measure (CMS) study. Actually, during that CMS Study and the Ecological Risk Assessment that was done at that site, the Navy started an Interim Corrective Measure for contamination of the surface soil. There were three areas where surface soil was excavated from that site, and in one of those areas, they saw some contamination. At that point, a work plan was written and a lot of work has been done at that site. That site is currently under investigation and there's going to be some additional sampling in the near future. There's contamination of the groundwater, the soils and some in the wetland area.

#### **IV. Upcoming Field Activities – Stacin Martin NAVFAC Atlantic**

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Stacin presented some of the work they are proposing to do in the next six months:

- AOC E “Piñeros Island” – Expanded terrestrial Phase I RFI field investigation, also at Cabeza
- AOC F “MNA Petroleum Sites” – Quarterly MNA sampling
- UXO 1 (SWMU 77) “Small Arms Range” – Full RFI investigation beginning of Sept
- UXO 2 (SWMU 1) “Former Army Cremator Site” – Munitions and debris delineation
- Site 7 (SWMU 3) “Base Landfill” – Landfill cap site surveys
- Site 13 (SWMU 9) “Sludge Burial Pits” – Site prep for tank removals (demolition) and additional field sampling for CMS
- SWMU 54 “NEX Repair and Maintenance Bldg. 1914” – Conduct remedial action: soil removal and bioreactor installation
- SWMU 55 “TCE Plume” – Conduct remedial action: biosparge for benzene and in-situ bioremediation for TCE
- SWMU 59 “Vehicle Maintenance/Refueling” – Additional CMS field investigation
- SWMU 60 “Landfill at the Marina” – Full RFI field investigation
- SWMU 61 “Bundy Area Maintenance” – Additional CMS field investigation
- SWMU 70 “Disposal Area Northwest of Landfill” – RFI re-sampling
- SWMU 71 “Quarry Disposal Site” – Additional RFI field investigation
- SWMU 74 “Fuel Pipelines – Airfield” – Additional CMS field investigation
- SWMU 75 “Bldg 803” – RFI field investigation
- SWMU 80 “Bldg 207 Drainage Ditch” – Additional RFI field investigation

#### **V. What's New – Thuane Fielding (Navy)**

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##### **Indian Rock (Petroglyph) Transfer Update**

The Navy is working to transfer the Indian Rock and 67 acres to DNER. The Navy first assigns the property to the Dept. of Interior (DOI)-National Park Service, then DOI transfers the deed to

DNER. DOI will add the Indian Rock to this Public Benefit Conveyance. DNER needs to contact DOI and work out the transfer arrangements

### **Sale Parcel I and II Update**

The Navy has been unsuccessful in trying to sell (auction off) Sale Parcels I & II. The Navy is working with the LRA to take ownership via an economic development conveyance addendum to the existing application that's already being executed between the Navy and the LRA. The Reuse Plan for Sale Parcels I & II remains the same. No additional NEPA work is required. The transfer is expected to be completed by FY13.

### **Discussion Points**

Naida Dávila – I have two questions: first one, can you give us a reason why the auctions were not successful? And the second one: on April 11, 2012, Mayor of Ceiba, Pedro Colon Osorio, sent a letter to Mr. Anderson, what happened with that letter?

Thuane Fielding – First question, we can't really say; all we can do is put the property out there for sale. The first sale we had two non conforming bids, meaning that they did not meet the specifications for the bidding process as defined in the invitation for bids. For the second auction that we had, we did not have any registered bidders. We had an open house for three days, and people could have called in and reserved some time to visit the property. We did have about 12 or 14 interested visitors view the property, but we did not have anybody register to bid. As a result, since we did not have any bids, we closed the auction and are working with the LRA to receive the property. Fortunately, the LRA is interested in acquiring property.

Question # 2 about the letter sent to Mr. Anderson: At that time, Mr. Anderson sent a letter back to the Mayor, thanking the Mayor for extending the opportunity for discussion. He explained that because of the BRAC guidelines and the law, we have to work with the local redevelopment authority. However, we did copy Mr. Mario Gonzalez (LRA) on that response; at the last RAB meeting Mario was present. The response was sent back – I think on April 30<sup>th</sup> – stating to please contact the LRA if interested in this property. We did respond to the Mayor, and best I can do is to share that response with you.

Naida Davila – please express to Mark Davidson our gratitude for his presence and help during all the time he was here with us.

Thuane Fielding – On August 1, Ramon Figueroa presented Mark with a certificate with all your names on it; it was framed and Mark was very pleased.

Thuane Fielding - Before you leave, I want you to know that we will continue with the work. However, the faces of some of our contractors might change. For example, tonight might be the last time you see Mark Kimes from Baker Environmental, Inc. We thank Mark Kimes for his years of work, and we wish the best for his future endeavors.

The Navy is not transferring our responsibility for the environmental cleanup, we will follow what the consent order stipulates, so we have no plans at all for moving away from our commitments that we made.

## VII. CLOSURE

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Susana Struve (facilitator) – Thanked participants for attending and announced the next RAB meeting to be held on November 13, 2012, at the Club Cívico La Seyba, if available.

- Please remember to call ahead, or send an alternate, if you cannot attend
- Agenda suggestions for next time, call Ramón Figueroa, RAB Community Co-Chair (787-235-1473)

## ATTACHMENT 1 - Meeting Attendees - August 8, 2012

<b>RAB Community Members Present</b>	<b>RAB Community Members Absent</b>
Ramón D. Figueroa, Community Co-Chair	Lirio Marquez D'Acunti
Luís A. Velázquez Rivera	Debra McWhirter
Ismael Velázquez	Ramón M. Ríos
Naida Dávila	Michael Dalton
Rafael Montes	William Lourido
Agustín Velázquez	Jorge Fernández Porto
Samuel Caraballo	José Julio Díaz
<b>Community Members Visiting</b>	
Silverio Rosario	Marilyn del Manzano
Valentín Montañéz	Pedro Tejada
Saul Ternori	Nancy González
José Betancourt	
Manuel Martínez	
<b>RAB Agency Representatives</b>	
<b>Thuane Fielding, Navy Co-Chair,</b> BRAC Environmental Coordinator	Navy - BRAC Program Management Office Southeast
Doug Pocze (absent)	EPA, Region 2
Wilmarie Rivera	EQB, Federal Facilities Coordinator
Gloria M. Toro Agrait (absent)	EQB, Hazardous Waste Permit Division
Santiago Oliver (representative)	Puerto Rico Conservation Trust
Neida Pumarejo Cintrón (absent)	
<b>Other Agency Representatives</b>	
Jaime López (absent)	Director, Local Reuse Authority (LRA)
Freddy de Jesús (absent)	LRA
Stacin Martin	Navy Remedial Project Manager
Daniel Kalal	Naval Activity Puerto Rico
<b>Support Staff</b>	
Susana Struve	CH2M HILL, Inc. (Navy contractor – meeting facilitator)
Pedro Ruiz	Naval Facility Engineering Command (NAVFAC)
Mark Kimes	Michael Baker, Jr., Inc., Inc. (Navy contractor – Installation Restoration Program)
Brett Doerr	CH2M HILL (Navy contractor)