

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Summary from the Fort Detrick Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting,  
August 16, 2007

**1. Summary Contents**

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## **2. Attendees**

### Members Present:

Colonel Donald Archibald, Director, SEIPO (Installation Co-Chair)  
Lieutenant Colonel Carl Hover, Director, SEIPO (Installation Co-Chair)  
Mr. Joe Gortva, Environmental Restoration Program Manager, SEIPO  
Mr. James Eaton, Community Member  
Dr. Henry Erbes, Community Member  
Ms. Helen Miller-Scott, Community Member  
Dr. Gary T. Pauly, Community Member  
Ms. Sarah Maxwell, Fort Detrick Public Affairs  
Mr. Robert Craig, Chief, Environmental Management Office  
Mr. Douglas Scarborough, Restoration Oversight Mgr., U.S. Army Environmental Center  
Mr. Curtis DeTore, Maryland Department of Environment

### Others Present:

Mr. Keith Hoddinott, U.S. Army Environmental Center  
Ms. Alicia Evangelista, Frederick County Health Department  
Mr. Jeff Parks, Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc.  
Ms. Karol Hazard, Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc.

### Members Absent:

Colonel Mary Deutsch, Garrison Commander  
Ms. Linda Robinson, Community Member and Co-Chair  
Mr. Charles Billups, Community Member  
Mr. Daniel J. Patton, Community Member  
Mr. Gerald Toomey Community Member  
Mr. Craig Toussaint, Community Member  
Mr. Thomas Wade, Community Member  
Mr. Thomas Meyer, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District  
Mr. Paul Offutt, Program Manager, Frederick County Health Department

## **3. Meeting Opening / Remarks**

Colonel (COL) Donald Archibald convened the meeting at approximately 7:45 p.m., on Thursday, June 16, 2007, in Conference Room 3 at 810 Schreider Street, Fort Detrick, Maryland. COL Archibald thanked everyone for coming and introduced Lieutenant Colonel Carl Hover as the newest member of the RAB, who is replacing COL Archibald. COL Archibald is leaving his position at Fort Detrick for a new position at Aberdeen Proving Ground – Director of Environmental Health Engineering.

COL Archibald reported that COL Mary Deutsch had asked him to provide an update on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposal to place Fort Detrick on the

National Priority List (NPL). He stated that EPA, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Army are having an open dialogue on the issue and that the decision is being made at levels above himself and COL Deutsch. He mentioned that the lawyers involved in the discussion are in general agreement, but that it is still unresolved at this point. He added that there will be no change in Fort Detrick's commitment to the environment and the community.

#### **4. Area A Long-Term Monitoring**

Mr. Jeff Parks of Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. presented information on the long-term monitoring of Area A groundwater, which generally flows to the southwest at the site. Groundwater at Building 568, a TCE spill site (FTD 66) is monitored on a semi-annual basis. A pumping well is controlling the TCE contaminant plume by drawing groundwater from the plume, creating a cone of depression to reduce contaminant migration. TCE concentrations over the majority of the site continue to decline. However, an issue of concern is a border well, Well 568-15A, which has shown slight increases in concentration of TCE from 3.8 micrograms/liter in March 2006 to 5.8 micrograms/liter in September 2006 to 7.1 micrograms/liter in March 2007. This falls above the Maximum Concentration Level (MCL) of 5 micrograms/liter and is significant because of this reason. The border wells are used to monitor groundwater to ensure there is no contaminant migration above Federal MCLs. The border well of concern will be watched closely during future sampling efforts to see if there are further contaminant concentration changes.

Mr. Parks expressed that Shaw makes suggestions as to the potential source of the contamination and the path forward for a particular site, and that Shaw and the Army might have to consider that the border well of concern is a separate event with a separate contaminant source from the main Building 568 site. Mr. Curtis DeTore of MDE verified that if in fact there is a new/separate source for the contamination associated with border well 568-15A, then it would create a "new" site altogether and a new Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study would need to be conducted, with a new Proposed Plan. However, he stated, if it is confirmed to be connected to the main source plume, then an Explanation of Significant Differences might need to be completed. A Five-Year Review is currently under development to evaluate the selected remedy to ensure that it continues to be effective and protective at Building 568.

#### **5. Area B Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study**

Mr. Parks then presented a status update on the Fort Detrick Area B Remedial Investigation /Feasibility Study (RI/FS) including information about the former disposal sites, Area B-2, the five former close-out/no further action sites, and groundwater. The status of these sites is found below in sections 6 - 8.

## 6. Area B Former Disposal Sites

The remedial strategy for all of the Area B Former Disposal Sites is to cap them, which is the EPA presumptive remedy and complies with current Code of Maryland Regulation (COMAR) 26.04.07.21 for Sanitary Landfill Closure as a relevant and appropriate requirement.

Area B-2 (FTD 50): The RI/FS was finalized in October 2006. The Proposed Plan for a landfill cap remedy was reviewed and commented on by MDE, with the draft final Proposed Plan being approved by MDE. The Proposed Plan is scheduled to be finalized in August/September 2007. A public meeting and comment period is scheduled for late August 2007. The Record of Decision is expected in September 2007. The landfill cap is scheduled to be designed in fall/winter 2007 and installed in spring/summer 2008.

Area B-3 Inactive (FTD 51): The RI/FS was submitted to MDE and the RAB for review. Shaw just received MDE's comments. Shaw expects to finalize the RI/FS in fall 2007. The Proposed Plan for a landfill cap remedy and public comment period are expected in fall 2007. The Record of Decision is scheduled to be released in fall/winter 2007. The landfill cap design is planned for completion in fall/winter 2007, with the cap scheduled for installation in spring/summer 2008.

Area B-6 (FTD69): The RI/FS was finalized in February 2007. The Proposed Plan for a landfill cap remedy and public comment period should occur in fall 2007. The Record of Decision, officially recording the selected remedy is expected in fall/winter 2007. The landfill cap design is expected in fall/winter 2007, with the cap scheduled for installation in spring/summer 2008.

Western Disposal Areas: The combined draft RI/FS for the Area B Western Disposal Areas including Area B-8, the trenches north of B-8, Area B-10, Area B-10 grove and Area B-11 was submitted to MDE and the RAB for review. The Proposed Plan, detailing a proposed landfill impermeable cover, and associated public comment period, and the Record of Decision should all be completed in fall 2007. The landfill cap design is scheduled for fall/winter 2007, and the installation of the cap is expected in spring/summer 2008.

Area B-18 (FTD 70/Former Sinkhole): A Site Inspection Work Plan has been approved by MDE and the Army. Field work expected to begin in fall 2007 when the weather is appropriate for Level B Personal Protective Equipment. Surface metal debris will be removed and a geophysical investigation will be performed to verify that there is no waste or debris buried beneath the ground surface.

## **7. Proposed Plan and Public Comment Period for Area B-2 and Area B Five Sites (No Further Action / Former Close-Out Sites)**

The Draft Final Proposed Plan for Area B-2 was approved by MDE, and Shaw expects to finalize it in August/September 2007. The Plan selects a Presumptive Remedy of a low-permeability cap in accordance with COMAR 26.04.07.21 for a Sanitary Landfill Closure. The Area B Five Sites Final RI Report of June 2007 incorporated all five of the no further action/former close-out sites – B-Ammo, B-Grid, B-Skeet, B-20 North, and B-20 South. The investigation indicated that the sites pose no unacceptable risks to human health and the environment. The draft Proposed Plan selects No Further Action as the final remedy. The 30-day public comment period on the Area B-2 and Area B Five Sites Proposed Plans is scheduled to begin in late August 2007. A public meeting related to the Proposed Plans is scheduled for August 28, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Thomas Johnson High School Auditorium in Frederick, Maryland. A formal presentation on the proposed remedies and path forward will be given during the meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. Following the consideration of all comments received at the meeting and during the 30-day public comment period, Decision Documents for Area B-2 and Area B Five Sites is expected in fall/winter 2007.

## **8. Area B Groundwater**

There has historically been little change in groundwater flow patterns within Area B. Semi-annual monitoring of Area B groundwater wells is conducted, with the most recent sampling event occurring in July 2007. Overall chlorinated solvent contaminant concentrations seem to be decreasing, and there have been no significant detections in homeowner wells. The July sampling episode showed reductions in concentrations of tetrachloroethylene (PCE) at well BMW53D and BMW24D and the highest observed off-post detection of 0.96 micrograms per liter of PCE at Robinson Spring. The July sampling data also reveals that trichloroethylene (TCE) concentrations were similar to the previous quarter's sampling event, but also revealed the highest observed off-post detection of 0.9 micrograms per liter of TCE (above the 5 micrograms per liter Federal MCL) at Robinson Spring. Note that the above July 2007 sampling results reported here are considered preliminary unvalidated data/results.

An Army – MDE meeting was held on 7 June, 2007 to discuss the path forward for Area B groundwater. MDE is concerned that the nature and extent of contamination has not been sufficiently defined given the difficult hydrogeologic (karst) environment within Area B. The Army is currently developing an Area B Groundwater Technical Memorandum to present to MDE, which will provide 10-15 years of existing data and interpretations of that data. The Army and MDE will meet to discuss the plan for the next step of the path forward based on the Area B Groundwater Technical Memorandum.

## **9. Upcoming Actions / Schedule**

The following activities are expected:

### Summer/Fall 2007

- Area B-2 and Area B-2 Five Sites Proposed Plans 30-day Public Comment Period and Public Meeting
- Finalize Proposed Plan for Area B-2 and Prepare Decision Document
- Finalize Proposed Plan for Area B Five (No Further Action) Sites
- Finalize Area B-3 Inactive RI/FS
- Finalize Area B-6 RI/FS and Prepare Area B-6 Proposed Plan and Hold Public Comment Period
- Finalize Western Disposal Area (B-8/B-10/B-11) RI/FS and Prepare Proposed Plan and Hold Public Comment Period
- Site Inspection/Geophysical Investigation at Area B-18
- Submit Area B Groundwater Technical Memorandum to MDE
- Area B Groundwater Semi-annual Sampling Round
- Area A Groundwater Semi-annual Sampling Round
- CERCLA Five-Year Review for Area A Long-Term Monitoring Sites

## **10. Open Comments**

Dr. Gary Pauly reminded the group that he attends the RAB meetings and provides advice as a private citizen, as does Dr. Henry Erbes, and not as a representative or on behalf of the National Institute of Health.

## **11. RAB Member Actions**

The RAB members present were provided a CD containing the Area B Proposed Plan for the Five No Further Action Sites to review and comment.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

RAB meetings are generally held bimonthly on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Fort Detrick Building 810, Conference Room 3. The next RAB meeting was scheduled for 11 October 2007.

## **13. Meeting Closing**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:29 p.m.

Reviewed by:

Donald F. Archibald  
Colonel, US Army  
Co-Chairman

Approved/Disapproved

Mary R. Deutsch  
Colonel, US Army  
Deputy Installation Commander

Enclosure:

Fort Detrick Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Status Update Slide Presentation

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Each RAB Member (w/o enclosure)

Each Meeting Attendee (w/o enclosure)