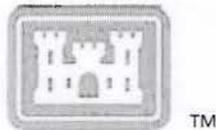


**Final
Community Relations Plan
2012 Update**

**Plum Brook Ordnance Works
Sandusky, Ohio**

***USACE Project No. G05OH001810
Contract Number: W91237-10-C-0001***

Prepared for:



**Department of the Army
Huntington District, Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701**

Prepared by:



**TMG Services, Inc.
240 Oliver Street, Suite 1
St. Albans, West Virginia 25177
Phone: (304) 722-6015
Fax: (304) 722-6017**

March 2013

**Final Community Relations Plan – 2012 Update
Plum Brook Ordnance Works
Sandusky, Ohio**

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**FINAL
COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN – 2012 UPDATE**

**PLUM BROOK ORDNANCE WORKS
SANDUSKY, OHIO**

1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The Community Relations Plan (CRP) outlines procedures to involve the community with the site restoration process at Plum Brook Ordnance Works (PBOW) located in Sandusky, Ohio. Effective communication and information exchange between members of the community, regulatory agencies, and Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) representatives is essential in maintaining the support of the site restoration activities. The CRP requires the involvement of citizens from the communities and representatives from federal, state, and local agencies that are active in policy and decision-making processes. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the lead agency for the environmental restoration at the PBOW site. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) is responsible for overseeing the PBOW remedial activities and to monitor compliance with all applicable federal and state regulations. NASA currently occupies the property and is the host agency. The RAB includes members of the community who interact with other community members who are interested in the restoration project, and to bring the community concerns to USACE.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The former PBOW is located four miles south of Sandusky, Ohio near Lake Erie. In World War II era, the facility manufactured trinitrotoluene (TNT), dinitrotoluene (DNT), and pentolite for ordnance applications. Other products produced or stored at the site included nitric and sulfuric acid, which were components of the manufacturing process. The plant operated for four years from 1941 to 1944 and the manufacturing processes were terminated by the end of 1945.

Possession of the property was transferred to the Ordnance Department in 1946, then to the War Assets Department, and finally to the General Services Administration in 1949. NASA acquired 6,453.5 of the original 9,009 acres. A site map is included in Appendix A (Shaw Environmental, 2005).

Investigations of the areas of concern (AOCs) were conducted to determine the need for further investigations or restoration activities (ICI, 1995). The AOCs are listed below.

- TNT Manufacturing Areas A, B and C
- Red Water Ponds Areas – West Area and Pentolite Road
- Waste Water Treatment Plants 1, 2 and 3
 - Includes underground wastewater flumes
- Burning Grounds – Reservoir No. 2, G-8, Taylor Road, Fox Road, Snake Road and Additional Burn Grounds
- Pentolite Area Waste Lagoons
- Ash Pits 1, 2 and 3
- Lower Toluene Tank Area

- Acid Areas 1, 2 and 3
- Garage Maintenance Area
- Railcar Loading Area
- Sitewide Groundwater

In 2012, USACE conducted investigations to identify potential areas of concern. Several areas were identified and are currently being evaluated as potential projects.

3.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

3.1 Community Profile

Plum Brook Ordnance Works is located in Erie County, Ohio, approximately four miles south of the county seat of Sandusky. In 2008, the U.S. Census Bureau reported an estimated population of 77,062 residing in Erie County. The site is located within the boundaries of three townships: Perkins, Milan, and Oxford Townships. A three-member Board of Trustees governs each township.

Because of the county's location, the community provides multiple economic opportunities. Industries in the community range from manufacturing to tourism. Erie County's diverse industrial base includes production operations, construction, quarry operations, nursery and landscape services. This region of Ohio is prime agriculture land for vegetable and fruit crops.

In addition to a manufacturing base, significant tourist trade supports the Erie County economy. Area marinas, fishing and boating, Cedar Point Amusement Park and Kalahari Resort attract a great number of tourists year round. In the fall, sportsmen travel to the area for upland game and waterfowl hunting. The winter season provides an opportune time for winter sports including ice fishing and snowmobiling.

3.2 Chronology of Community Involvement

Historically, numerous investigations and studies have been conducted at PBOW. The documents generated from the investigations and other archived information are maintained electronically (DVD or portable hard drive) in the PBOW Public Repository in the Bowling Green State University (BGSU) Firelands Library and on the USACE Huntington District website. Community involvement began in February of 1996 with the publication of newspaper articles in the Sandusky Register. As required under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), and with the heightened community awareness of the site's history and potential for contamination, the process to form RAB was initiated. A Public Meeting was conducted at the Perkins Township offices between concerned citizens and representatives of the USACE Huntington District. To meet the requirements of CERCLA, the USACE initiated the solicitation for RAB members in June 1996. The first meeting of the RAB was conducted in January 1997. Since inception, the RAB has been the basis for community involvement and continues to provide a means of communication between the community and the USACE.

3.3 Key Community Concerns

Poster Sessions and other public awareness activities provide an opportunity for community members to voice their concerns. The community members and interested citizens indicate their primary concerns are the effects of historic activities on the surface water, groundwater, plant life, wildlife, and the human population. Other concerns include the remediation schedule (i.e., how long will it take), and the possibility that contamination migrated off site and contaminated properties adjacent to PBOW.

Over the past several years, there have been numerous opportunities to interact with the community at the Erie County Fair (August) and Harvest Happenings Festival (October). Year after year community members visit the display booth to inquire about the progress of the project. Although, the concerns about contamination still exist, the tone of conversations with community members is one of encouragement to continue to clean up the site. The public is genuinely interested in the use of local contractors and utilizing "green" technologies such as composting.

Members of the RAB can provide a link between the USACE and the community by communicating the concerns of the community to the USACE. As an effective partner in the USACE's cleanup program, the RAB members have an opportunity to review, evaluate, and comment on technical issues related to environmental restoration. However, the expertise to do so is not always available within the RAB, therefore, they may seek outside technical assistance. While the USACE and their contractors can be a primary source of technical assistance to the RAB, the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Program also provides for the procurement of independent technical support. The PBOW RAB participated in the TAPP Program from 2005 through July 2009. The TAPP has a funding limit of \$100,000. The RAB utilized all of the available funding for the TAPP during the 4-year period.

4.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM

The objective of a community relations program is to provide an effective mechanism for communication and exchange of information among Army agencies; various federal, state, county, and other local agencies; employees and contractors at the PBOW facility; and residents of the communities adjacent to the site.

4.1 Requirements

Community relations activities are required under the 1990 National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan and Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. The objective of the Community Relations Program is to provide a mechanism for communication and the exchange of information among government agencies, local residences and communities adjacent to PBOW. The program requires the use of numerous means of communication to transfer information on the progress of the remediation activities. The program also requires the maintenance of records for public review, which provides documentation as to how and why decisions specific to the remediation of the site are made.

The Administrative Record (AR) contains all documents prepared from data collection activities and investigations that form the basis for the decisions affecting the remediation process. The

Public Repository (PubR) contains documents that are available to the public. The Public Repository is a mirror image of the AR and is updated as new documents become available, as is the AR. The PubR is available for public review at BGSU Firelands Library in Huron, Ohio. The AR is maintained in the USACE Huntington District Office.

4.2 Communication Techniques

Restoration Advisory Board

The Restoration Advisory Board consists of approximately 15 members from the local community. The RAB is co-chaired by one representative of the community (RAB Community Co-Chair) and one representative (Federal Co-Chair) from the USACE Huntington District. The purpose of the RAB is to involve the local community in the investigation and remediation process at the site. The RAB provides a mechanism for information transfer between the concerned public, regulatory agencies, and USACE.

RAB Meetings are conducted regularly (usually quarterly), unless a greater frequency is required to discuss specific findings such as laboratory results, changes to the remediation strategy, etc. The RAB meetings are open to the public and are usually conducted at BGSU Firelands Library (Appendix B). Meeting announcements are published in the Sandusky Register approximately two weeks prior to the meetings. Inquiries regarding participation on the RAB should be directed to USACE Project Manager (Appendix C).

Quarterly Fact Sheets and Policy Letters

The USACE Huntington District publishes Quarterly Fact Sheets (QFS), which report on the progress and status of site investigations and remediation activities. The QFS highlights:

- Project deliverables
- Project status
- Remediation updates
- Documents published during the quarter
- Documents released to the public.

The QFSs are distributed to RAB members and other concerned citizens as requested, and also posted on the PBOW website. The website address is

[http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/CurrentProjects/DERPFUDS\(WVOW,PBOW,WVMA\).aspx](http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/CurrentProjects/DERPFUDS(WVOW,PBOW,WVMA).aspx).

Bulletin Boards and Posters

Fact sheets, news releases, meeting notices, project accomplishments, and other related information are provided to the RAB, as requested, for posting on bulletin boards within the community. The USACE Huntington District may also provide project-specific exhibits for community functions. During public outreach activities such as the fairs and festivals, USACE representatives direct individuals to sources of information on the site activities via the website

or through the AR, or the RAB Co-Chairperson. Also, the general public is encouraged to attend the RAB meetings, all of which are open to the public. At least one of the RAB meetings during the year includes a site visit to PBOW and provides an opportunity for RAB members and interested community members to observe the remediation activities.

Direct Communication

USACE Huntington District will contact the RAB members with information regarding study findings. The USACE and RAB will coordinate the manner in which information is provided to the public.

News Releases

News Releases regarding environmental studies, actions and other activities at PBOW may be released by USACE through the Public Information Office, to the local media. Appendix D contains the media list.

Newsletter

The USACE Huntington District prepares an Annual Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Newsletter, which includes updates on the activities that have taken place at PBOW (and other FUDS Projects in the Huntington District) in the past year. The newsletter includes charts, graphs, photos, or other graphic material that complements the information being presented. The newsletter also highlights current projects or activities, and reports on the major success stories at the site from the past year. The newsletter is distributed at the RAB meetings and Poster Sessions. The newsletter is also posted on the USACE PBOW Website and is available from USACE upon request.

PBOW Studies and Remediation Project Exhibit

The goal of the Community Relations Plan is to provide the general public with an awareness of the remediation activities conducted in their communities. Public Meetings, RAB Meetings and notifications are used to keep the local community and interested citizens informed about site activities. Another mechanism to keep the public informed is to display project information and photographs at highly visible public activities such as county fairs, local festivals, science fairs and mall displays.

In 2012, USACE Huntington District continued to host Poster Sessions at the Huron County Fair (sponsored by Erie County Agricultural Society) and the Harvest Happenings Festival which is sponsored by the Erie County Metroparks. At each Poster Session activity, USACE representatives have the opportunity to introduce the district's mission in the community and discuss the remediation projects with community members. In addition to the face-to-face discussions, interested individuals are invited to sign-up on the mailing list to receive information specific to PBOW RAB activities.

The Poster Sessions are increasing awareness in the community. Year after year visitors return to the display booth at the fair or festival for an update on the environmental restoration project. The presence of the USACE/PBOW RAB booth at the fairs and festivals is helping to build the relationship between USACE and the community.

Annually, the RAB conducts a site visit at the PBOW facility. Two site visits were conducted, the first in May and again in September. The site visitors included local government officials, local farmers, residents and community members. The group visited the active project area in TNT Areas A and C, and other areas under active investigations. The USACE discussed the activities in each of the areas visited and provided a brief history on the process which had taken place at each location. The site visitors were particularly interested in the history of the specific site, historical waste handling practices, types of contaminants present, how the contamination was being managed and how long it would take to remediate the site.

USACE Huntington District as PBOW POC

USACE Huntington District Public Affairs Office is the point-of-contact (POC) available to respond to questions regarding environmental actions at PBOW. The POC list for the Community Relations Plan is provided in Appendix C. The current Huntington District Public Affairs Office may be contacted by telephone at (304) 399-5551 and the mailing address is below:

Public Affairs Office
US Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth St.
Huntington, WV 25701-2070

4.3 Administrative Record

The Administrative Record (AR) is a compilation of memorandums, work plans, technical reports, etc. that document USACE's project-related decision-making process regarding the selection of the response actions taken at the PBOW site. An AR must be developed and maintained for each National Priority List (NPL) or non-NPL site where a response action is implemented under the authority of the CERCLA.

In 2012, efforts continued to make the AR available to the public by posting the Public Repository (Pub-R) on the USACE Huntington District's FUDS website. Project-related documents are submitted to USACE in hardcopy and electronic format on CD or DVD. USACE has progressed in correcting errors and updating the AR and the complete Public Repository is accessible via the district's website. Activities to maintain electronic copies of all project related documents are on-going in the district office. Technical documents as well as other project-related correspondence and reports are added to the database regularly and as delivered, and made available to the public via the website or in the PubR at BGSU Firelands Library.

The PBOW AR is available for the public to view in the USACE Huntington District Office, Huntington, West Virginia. The Public Repository is available for the public to view at the BGSU Firelands Library, Huron, Ohio. The locations where the AR and PubR are maintained

are provided in Appendix E. The documents may be viewed on the USACE Huntington District's FUDS website at:

[http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/CurrentProjects/DERPFUDS\(WVOW,PBOW,WVMA\).aspx](http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/CurrentProjects/DERPFUDS(WVOW,PBOW,WVMA).aspx).

5.0 OTHER CONTACTS

A list of community leaders and elected officials is provided in Appendix F.

6.0 REFERENCES

Erie County Elected Officials. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from <http://www.erie-county-ohio.net/>.

ICI (International Consultants, Inc.). 1995. Site Management Plan – Plum Brook Ordnance Works Sandusky, Ohio, (Part A, Part B, and Part C). September, 1995.

Milan Township Trustees. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from <http://www.electionsonthe.net/oh/erie/electoff/offtwp.pdf> 1/3/2013.

Ohio Elected Officials. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from <http://ohio.gov/government>.

Oxford Township Trustees. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from <https://sites.google.com/site/oxfordtownshipcrimealerts/elected-officials>.

Perkins Township Trustees. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from www.perkinstownshipohio.com.

Shaw Environmental. 2005. Former Plum Brook Ordnance Works Map, NASA Plum Brook Station, Sandusky, OH. 6/22/2005.

U.S. House of Representatives. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from <http://www.house.gov/>.

U.S. Senate. Retrieved February 18, 2013 from <http://www.senate.gov>.

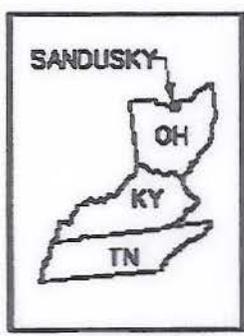
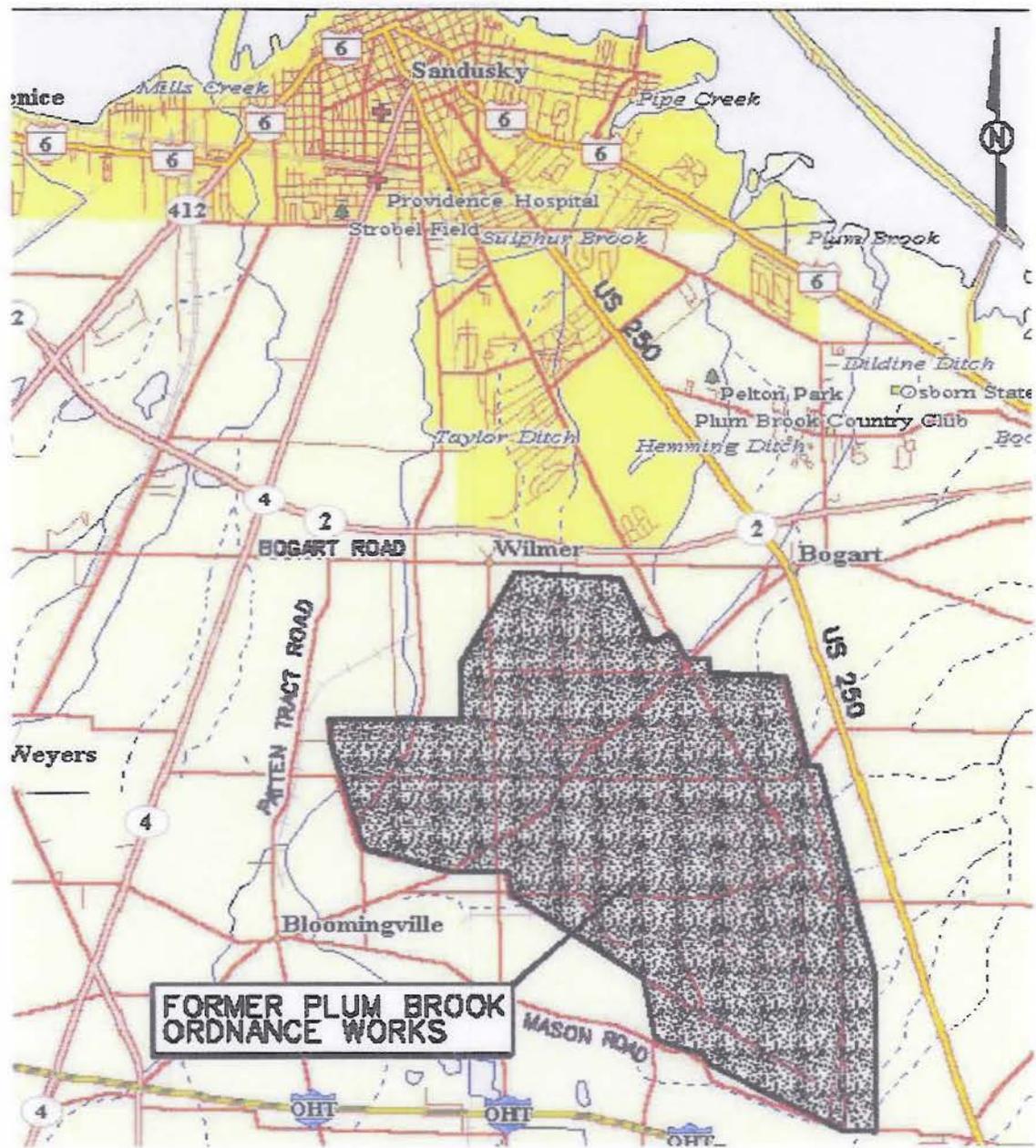
APPENDIX A

***Site Map of the
Plum Brook Ordnance Works***

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DRAWN BY: D. BONMAR	DRAWN BY:	ENGR. CHCK. BY: T. SIARD	PROJ. NO.: 907111	

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2/10/2009

FBOW_standard.tbi
cbentley
907111_011.dgn



NOT TO SCALE

**FIGURE 2-1
VICINITY MAP**

**FORMER PLUM BROOK ORDNANCE WORKS
NASA PLUM BROOK STATION
SANDUSKY, OHIO**



APPENDIX B

Location of Public Meetings

LOCATION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordnance Works

BGSU Firelands	One University Drive Huron, Ohio 44839 (419) 433-5560	The location of the meeting places on the BGSU Firelands Campus may vary from time to time. The specific meeting room is included in the meeting announcement.
<i>Meeting notices are published in the Sandusky Register two weeks prior to the meeting date. The meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis unless circumstances such as site investigation findings, results of sample analyses, etc., require more frequent meetings to maintain the information transfer. The meetings are usually scheduled in the evening beginning at 7:00 P.M. and adjourn at approximately 9:00 P.M.</i>		

APPENDIX C

Program Points of Contact

POINTS OF CONTACT (POC)

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordnance Works

<i>US Army Corps of Engineers</i>	
Public Affairs Office CELRH-PA USACE Huntington District 502 Eighth Street Huntington, WV 25701	(304) 399-5551
Project Management Office CELRH-PM-PP-P USACE Huntington District 502 Eighth Street Huntington, WV 25701	(304) 399-5388
<i>Restoration Advisory Board</i>	
Interim RAB Community Co-Chair	Coordinate through USACE PM Office
<i>Ohio EPA</i>	
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Northwest District Office 347 North Dunbridge Bowling Green, OH 43402	(419) 373-3035 or (419) 373-3038

APPENDIX D

Media List

MEDIA LIST

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordnance Works

<i>NEWSPAPER</i>		
Sandusky Register	314 West Market Street Sandusky, OH 44870	(419) 625-5500 www.sanduskyregister.com
<i>RADIO STATION</i>		
ClearChannel (WMTX 102.7, WCPZ 100.9, and WLEC 1450)	1640 Cleveland Road Sandusky, Ohio 44870 ATTN: News Director	(419) 625-1010
<i>TELEVISION STATIONS</i>		
<u>ABC Affiliate – Toledo</u> WTVG – News Director	4247 Dorr Street Toledo, OH 43607	(419) 531-1313
<u>CBS Affiliate – Toledo</u> WTOL – News Director	P.O. Box 1111 Toledo, OH 43699-1111	(419) 248-1100

APPENDIX E

***Location of Administrative Record
and Public Repository***

LOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD AND PUBLIC REPOSITORY

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordinance Works

The Administrative Record and Public Repository for the Plum Brook Ordinance Works are available at the following locations:		
<u>Administrative Record</u> US Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District 502 Eighth Street Huntington, WV 25701	<u>Contact</u> Public Affairs Office (304) 399-5551	<u>Hours for public review</u> Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
<u>Public Repository</u> BGSU Firelands One University Drive Huron, OH 44839	<u>Contact</u> Librarian (419) 433-5560	<u>Library hours</u> Monday-Thursday – 8:00 am to 8:30 pm Friday – 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturday – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Note: In addition to the Public Repository at BGSU Firelands College, documents are available electronically on the USACE Huntington District website: http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/CurrentProjects/DERPFUDS(WVOW,PBOW,WVMA).aspx		

APPENDIX F

Community Leaders and Elected Officials

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICIALS

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordinance Works

<i>UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT</i>	
<i>U.S. Senate</i>	
Senator Sherrod Brown	713 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-2315 brown.senate.gov/contact.cfm
Senator Rob Portman	B40D Dirksen Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-3353 portman.senate.gov/contact
<i>U.S. House of Representatives</i>	
Representative Marcy Kaptur, 9 th District	1 Maritime Plaza Toledo, OH 43604-1853 800-964-4699 <i>OR</i> 2186 Rayburn Bldg. Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4146
<i>STATE OF OHIO</i>	
<i>Governor</i>	
Governor John Kasich	Riffe Center, 30 th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 466-3555 http://governor.ohio.gov
<i>Senate</i>	
Mark Wagoner, Jr.	Senate Bldg. Room 129 Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 466-8060 mark@markwagoner.com
<i>House of Representatives</i>	
Dennis Murray	77 S. High Street, 13 th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-6111 (614) 644-6011 district80@ohr.state.oh.us
<i>NOTE: The 9th District includes Ottawa, Erie and a portion of Lorain Counties.</i>	

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

COUNTY OFFICIALS

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordnance Works

<i>ERIE COUNTY</i>	
<i>County Commissioners</i>	
William J. Monaghan	Erie County Services Center 2900 Columbus Ave. Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 627-7672
Patrick Shenigo	
Thomas M. Ferrell, Jr.	
<i>County Engineer</i>	
John D. Farschman	2700 Columbus Avenue Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 627-7710
<i>County Sheriff</i>	
Paul A. Sigsworth	2800 Columbus Avenue Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 625-7951
<i>County Administrator (Appointed)</i>	
Michael Bixler	2900 Columbus Ave. Sandusky, OH 44870 (419) 627-7672

COMMUNITY LEADERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Community Relations Plan Plum Brook Ordnance Works

<i>MILAN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES</i> 1518 State Rt. 113 East, Milan, Ohio 44846	
Daniel Frederick	Township Office - (419) 499-2354 Fax: (419) 499-3240
Sparky Weilnau	
Frank Lytle (appt.)	
<i>OXFORD TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES</i> 11102 Ransom Road, Monroeville, Ohio 44847	
Michael Parker	Township Office - (419) 359-1447 Clerk Office: (419) 359-1735 Fax: (419) 359-1544
Scott Leber	
James W. Stewart	
<i>PERKINS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES</i> 5420 Milan Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870	
Jeff Ferrell	Township Office - (419) 609-1431 Fax: (419) 621-2175 http://www.perkinstownshipohio.com/
Timothy Coleman	
Michael Printy	

APPENDIX G

Quality Control Documentation

Review Comments
Draft Community Relations Plan - 2012 Update, dated March 2013

SENIOR REVIEWER

1. Title page. Insert USACE Plum Brook project number on the title page.
Concur: Inserted "USACE Project No. G05OH001810" above the contract number.

2. In 2012, Shaw did some investigations of potential areas of concern, this update should reflect that activity. I do not know the status of any specific project so a general statement to say it was done is okay.
Concur: Inserted "In 2012, USACE conducted investigations to identify potential areas of concern. Several areas were identified and are currently being evaluated as potential projects." Under the SITE DESCRIPTION heading.

PEER REVIEWER

1. Page i, Table of Contents page. Recommend correcting page numbering so title page is page number "1," Table of Contents is page 2, etc.
Concur: Page numbering corrected, starting with number 2 on Table of Contents page.