

## MEETING MINUTES

### RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD For PLUM BROOK ORDNANCE WORKS March 8, 2007

#### ATTENDEES

Rick Meadows, RAB USACE Co-Chairperson	Lannae Long, USACE Nashville
Mark Bohne, RAB Community Co-Chairperson	Mike Saffron, USACE Louisville
Lisa Humphreys, USACE Huntington	Archie Lunsey, OEPA NWDO
John Blakeman, RAB Member	Al Hardesty, Jacobs Engineering
Mike Parker, RAB Member	Jon Russ, Jacobs Engineering
Jan Bohne, RAB Member	Mike Gunderson, Shaw Environmental
Bob Hermes, RAB Member	Steve Downey, Shaw Environmental
Gil Steinen, RAB Member	Eric Dodrill, Erie Soil and Water District
Starr Truscott, RAB Member	Julie Weatherington-Rice, Bennett & Williams
Scott Waisner, USACE Vicksburg	Helen Owens, Streamborn Env. Services, Inc.
Doug Mullendore, USACE Nashville	

#### **Agenda**

The agenda for the meeting included the following topics:

- TNT Area B Closeout – Update – McTech Corporation
- Native Prairie Grass Seeding at TNT Area B – PBOSG Contractor
- Pentolite Road Lime Treatment Study – McTech Corporation
- Acid Areas Update – Jacobs Engineering
- Groundwater Feasibility Study – Shaw Environmental
- Transformation Plan/Liability Shifting Clause Issue – USACE Louisville District

#### **Introduction**

Mark Bohne, RAB Community Co-Chairperson introduced the visitors in attendance at the meeting.

#### **TNT Area B Closeout – McTech Corporation**

Kim Chambers, McTech Corporation provided an overview of the TNT Area B Closeout project. This project was the final step of the Interim Soil Removal Action (ISRA) initiated in 2005. The completion of this project represents another success story in the USACE Huntington District FUDS Program. The contaminated soil has been excavated and disposed off-site, the excavated areas have been backfilled with clean material. The next step is to seed the barren soil. This is scheduled for mid-spring 2007. A copy of the TNT B Closeout presentation is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

#### **Native Prairie Grass Seeding at TNT Area B – John Blakeman, PBOSG Contractor**

John Blakeman, PBOW RAB Member, PBOSG Contractor and native prairie grass expert provided a presentation on the prairie grass seeding of the remediated TNT Area B. In December 2006, the PBOW RAB embarked on a site visit to TNT Area B to observe the final

product of the Interim Soil Removal Action. Mr. Blakeman noticed the former TNT B stockpile area would be ideal for the reintroduction of native prairie grass species to the area.

The seeding area will be divided into 5 sections, each section planted with a particular species. The five species include Switchgrass, Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indiangrass and Tallgrass Mix. The seeding will provide effective low-maintenance groundcover, demonstrate the planting and growth habits of native warm season grasses at the former Plum Brook Ordnance Works, and provide prairie habitat for Plum Brook Station rare plants nursery. Mr. Blakeman is coordinating the project with NASA and the seeding is expected to be completed in spring 2007.

The opportunity to return the native grass to the area would not have been realized without the completion of the ISRA in TNT Area B. The reintroduction of prairie grass to this area is considered another success story resulting from the environmental restoration projects undertaken at PBOW.

#### **Pentolite Road Lime Treatment Study – McTech Corporation and USACE Huntsville**

Kim Chambers and Scott Waisner presented the findings of the Pentolite Road Lime Treatment Study. A copy of the presentation is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

#### **Acid Areas Update – Jacobs Engineering**

Acid Area 1 – Al Hardesty, Jacobs Engineering, provided an overview of the Remedial Investigation (RI) in Acid Area 1. The RI is scheduled to get underway in April 2007 and the last of the field work will be completed in late 2007. A copy of the presentation is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

Acid Areas 2 and 3 - Jon Russ, Jacobs Engineering, provided an overview of the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment to be conducted on AA 2 and 3. A copy of his presentation is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

#### **Groundwater Feasibility Study – Shaw Environmental**

Mike Gunderson, Shaw Environmental, provided an overview of the Groundwater Feasibility Study. A copy of the presentation is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

#### **Transformation Plan/Liability Shifting Clause Issue – USACE Louisville District**

Mike Saffron, USACE Louisville provided an overview of the Transformation Plan for PBOW.

- USACE is being required to reduce the management costs for FUDS projects.
- To reduce management costs, USACE Division is allowing only 2 Project Management (PM) Districts within the Division.
- USACE Buffalo and USACE Louisville are the designated PM Districts within the Lakes and Rivers Division.
- “There will be no change in the team doing the work at PBOW”, stated Mike Saffron

Mr. Saffron also provided an overview of the Liability Shifting Clause Issue.

- The Liability Shifting Clause is being researched by USACE Office of Council to determine who is responsible for the costs associated with environmental restoration projects at PBOW as well as other FUDS project sites nationwide.

- In the case of PBOW, a former government-owned contractor operated (GOCO) facility, the operating contractor could be responsible for environmental liabilities and / or the property owner (NASA) could be responsible for the clean up, in addition to DoD.
- USACE LRL Office of Council is preparing a position paper directed to USACE Division supporting the Interim Soils Removal Action at Pentolite Road Red Water Ponds.
- In closing, Mr. Saffron reiterated, “The core team will not change”, “No work will be taken away (from USACE LRH and LRN)”, and “(The group) may see shift in Office of Council viewpoint.”
- Mark Bohne, RAB Community Co-Chairperson and other RAB members had several comments regarding Mr. Saffron’s topics:
  - “The momentum on the project should not stop.”
  - “Stopping this project is unacceptable to the community.”
  - “Is PBOW the only FUDS project being scrutinized?” (M. Saffron – “There are other sites nationwide under the same scrutiny.”)
  - “Inform your Colonel there is remarkable public support for this project.”

### **RAB Meeting Schedule**

The next RAB Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 31, 2007. A formal meeting announcement will be distributed to the RAB Members, PBOW Project Team and others on the mailing list.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

# **McTech Corporation**

TNT Area B Closeout  
Pentolite Road Lime Treatment Study

## **Jacobs Engineering**

Acid Area 1 – Remedial Investigation  
Acid Areas 2 and 3 – Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment

# **Shaw Environmental**

## Groundwater Feasibility Study