

*Final Minutes
Restoration Advisory Board
Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range
Arapahoe County, Colorado
March 22, 2000*

The March 22, 2000 meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held at the Aurora Public Library, 14949 East Alameda Drive, Aurora, Colorado 80012. The meeting started at 6:15 p.m. (A copy of the agenda is attached.)

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mrs. Bonnie Rader, Community co-chair for the RAB opened the meeting at approximately 6:15 p.m. Mrs. Rader asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Attendance

The following RAB members were present:

- Jerry Hodgson, Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, Co-chair
- Jeff Swanson, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
- Bonnie Rader, Community Co-chair
- Tom Butts, Tri-County Health Dept.
- David Denton, John Laing Homes
- Fred Esposito, Office of Naval Research
- Joe Freund, Citizen
- Dennis Guadarrama, Air Force
- James Ives, City of Aurora
- Ed Lohr, Department of Navy
- Marie MacKenzie, Arapaho County Commissioner
- Paul Reining, DRI, University of Denver

Other attendees:

- Jim Anelle, USACE, Huntsville District
- Tim Blume, Army Environmental Center, Western Regional Office
- Jim Emery, CH2M Hill
- Scott Graves, ICF Consulting
- Erin Iverson, Stone & Webster
- Bill Kelso, Parsons Engineering
- Summer Montgomery, Stone & Webster
- John Mullen, Stone & Webster
- Tom O'Hara, USACE, Omaha District
- Richard Rader, Citizen
- David Rathke, EPA
- Donata Renfrow, AEPI
- Monica Sheets, CO AGO
- Keith Wegner, Correlations Corp., Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) for RAB

GENERAL RAB ITEMS:

An application to join the RAB was submitted by Paul Reining. The application was approved.

Mrs. Rader (Community Co-chair) asked if everyone on the board had had an opportunity to review the minutes. Mrs. Rader suggested that Fred Esposito and Ed Lohr be recognized as RAB members in the minutes. The October 20, 1999, and January 19, 2000, minutes were approved.

Mrs. Donata Renfrow from the Army Environmental Policy Institute (AEPI) presented a proposal to perform a case study on the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range. The purpose of the study would be to study the interactions of those involved in the project, and to present the information to Huntsville for possible changes in project policy. Interviews of personnel would be conducted by phone and in person.

Mr. Jerry Hodgson suggested that a sign-up sheet be placed in the back of the room. Anyone who would like to be interviewed for the case study should put his or her name and contact information on it.

Questions/Answers

How can the AEPI guarantee that Huntsville will later give an adequate representation of the report after it has been submitted to them and that others will see the information as the AEPI presented it?

A copy of the same report that is given to Huntsville can be given to the RAB for their review.

Who will be interviewed for this case study?

Those who have been involved in this project who agree to be a part of the case study will be interviewed.

For what duration is the AEPI funded to perform this case study?

The AEPI is funded for as long as it takes to adequately represent what is happening at Lowry.

LOWRY TRAINING ANNEX

Navy Report

(presentation attached)

The meeting proceeded with the Navy and Air Force updates.

Mr. Fred Esposito narrated a presentation of the DRI Site and Ammo Storage Areas. This presentation included information concerning the geophysical target search, radiation removal effort at the depleted uranium site, the environmental investigation, and the future outlook schedule.

Questions/Answers

What is the difference between the phase 1 and 2 surveys?

The phase 1 survey concentrated on 50 mm and larger items at greater depths. The phase 2 survey focused on smaller items at shallow depths and included a search for non-ferrous items.

Air Force Report

Mr. Dennis Guadarrama continued the update with a brief commentary describing the activities related to the Air Force EOD Range. Mr. Guadarrama stated that the Air force was considering possible expanding the current area of investigation.

Questions/Answers

What exactly does “going outside the area” mean?

It means the Air Force is looking at the greater area around the current area of activity and considering possibly expanding the project and scope. Additional funding may be needed.

DRI/TA Activity Update

(presentation attached)

Mr. Keith Wegner gave a progress report on the Technical Advisory Services (TAS) which included the current tasks, the area included, summary information about uranium, and the current budget usage. Mr. Wegner stated that the TAS contract was awarded on March 1, 2000, and that work began immediately afterward. The RAB will get complete copies of all the work performed for their review.

Questions/Answers

Does this analysis mean that the radiation should be left where plowing was performed?

The DRI site was not plowed. The soils of the hot spots were sampled, excavated, and removed from the site for treatment and disposal.

Is there a significant lead presence at the DRI site?

Since uranium decays to lead in four and a half billion years, any uranium at the site has not had time to decay to lead. The lead levels at the site do not constitute an environmental hazard.

Are the demolished buildings gone from the DRI site?

The test cell was dismantled and sold for scrap metal.

Did the building material go to the Lowry Landfill?

The materials did not go to the landfill. They were tested and sent to appropriate disposal facilities.

FORMER LOWRY BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE

Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) (presentation attached)

Mr. Keith Wegner presented a brief progress report concerning the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP). At the request of Mrs. Rader, Mr. Wegner looked into any applicable regulations regarding residential construction in the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range. Mr. Wegner stated that military munitions and their recovery and destruction are not specifically subject to hazardous waste permits or regulations. Mr. Wegner also stated that Colorado requires prospective and current property owners receive notification of any hazards or adverse material facts relating to their property.

Settlement Agreement and Field Work Update (presentation attached)

Mr. Jerry Hodgson rendered a summary presentation concerning the contract transition, the settlement agreement, fieldwork update, and the current SAR/HSI status. The transition from Huntsville to Omaha is complete and Stone & Webster is performing the removal operations at the site. In regard to the Settlement Agreement, there have been no changes since the last RAB meeting.

Mr. Hodgson gave a summary of the ongoing field work activities. There are currently 4 crews on site and are all working in Bombing Target #2. Field work details are presented in the attached slide presentation.

The SAR/HSI data collection is complete and the SAR/HSI data processing and field verification efforts have begun. Plans for field verification efforts have been finalized.

Questions/Answers

Has a date been set for clearance activities in the jeep/demo range?

May is being considered for possible work in that area, however, grid surveys must be conducted first. Currently it is considered a minimum-hazard area because of the fences surrounding the high anomaly areas preventing public access. Discussion of the jeep/demo range can be held at the next RAB meeting.

How big is the jeep/demo range?

The area is approximately 220 acres, and 40 acres are fenced off.

What is the status of the missile silos?

The missile silos will be discussed at the next RAB meeting.

There was no additional public comment.

Adjournment

Arrangements were made for the next meeting to be held May 24, 2000, 6:00 p.m., at the Aurora Public Library. Meeting notification should be received on or around May 15, 2000.