

***Final Minutes
Restoration Advisory Board
Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range
January 21, 2004***

The January 21st, 2004, meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held at the Aurora Public Library at 14949 E. Alameda Drive., Aurora, Colorado 80014. The meeting started at 6:30 p.m.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Ms. Bonnie Rader, Community co-chair for the RAB opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Rader asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Attendance

The following RAB members were present:

Jerry Hodgson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District (USACE), Co-chair
Bonnie Rader, Community Co-Chair
Mark Harding, Rangeview Metropolitan District
James Ives, City of Aurora
Dave Denton, Laing Village, LLC
Carol Maclennan, Tri-County Health Department
Jeff Swanson, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
Danna Ortiz, State Land Board
Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County
Lynn Robbio Wagner, Tri-County Health Department

Other attendees:

Keith Wegner, Correlation Corp.
John Mullen, Shaw Environmental Inc.
Tracie White, Shaw Environmental Inc.
Teri Farrell, Shaw Environmental Inc.
Morey Engle, Shaw Environmental Inc.
Richard Rader, Citizen
David Rathke, US EPA Region 8
Darrell Frey, US EPA Region 8
Brenda Gallagher, Arapahoe County Planning Commission
Randy Hawbaker, Cherry Creek School District
Spencer Luft, Cunningham Fire District
Robyn Lydick, I70 Scout
Sharon Moore, AETC
Ken Vogler, CDPHE
Sue Errett, Army BRAC
Tom O'Hara, USACE

GENERAL RAB ITEMS

Ms. Bonnie Rader (Community Co-chair) asked if the board had an opportunity to review the minutes of the prior meeting. The minutes for the November 19, 2003 RAB meeting were approved without comment.

Ms. Rader stated that she received a letter from Susan Beckman, Chair, Board of Commissioners for Arapahoe County, authorizing Julio Iturreria, Long Range Planner, to act as the alternate Arapahoe County representative to the FLBGR RAB in the event of absence of Commissioner Marie Mackenzie. This allows him to vote on the County's behalf if such a vote is called.

TITAN MISSILE SILOS

TITAN 1 COMPLEX 2A

(presentation posted on the web)

Ms. Sue Errett, BRAC coordinator, gave a project update for the Titan Missile Silo 2A (Bennett Site). Ms. Errett mentioned that a supplemental environmental assessment for the Bennett Site should be complete by June 2004. A memorandum of agreement will be issued enabling time for public comment.

Ms. Errett mentioned that in October of 2003, a closure team made up of the Environmental Protection Agency, State of Colorado, Ms. Errett, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, decided to continue environmental investigations at the Bennett Site. An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Assessment (EE/CA) will be performed and submitted for public comment around the 20th of April. The EE/CA will evaluate all sampling and analysis to determine what actions may need to occur to close this site. Ms. Errett would like to present a briefing either at the March or May RAB regarding the results of the EE/CA.

Remedial actions are scheduled to occur during the Summer 2004. The site will be listed for public sale in winter 2004-early winter 2005. The property will be transferred through GSA in an ebay type auction; the public may bid on the property as long as a reserve bid is met.

FORMER LOWRY TRAINING ANNEX

FIELD WORK UPDATE

(presentation posted on the web)

Ms. Sharon Moore, AETC, presented an update regarding the Former Lowry Training Annex (FLTA) project status. There are a total of 670 grids, with 444 complete and 2 awaiting QA/QC. Since June 2003, 202 of the total completed 444 grids have been cleared. To date, 54 live items have been located, only one since September 2003.

Mr. Swanson asked when the clearance activities in the FLTA will be complete. Ms. Moore replied she anticipates clearance activities to be complete by the end of FY04.

Mr. Hodgson stated that clearance teams are now starting to address areas with the potential for a significant amount of anomalies per grid. For example, the southwest portion of the FLTA contains a significant amount of aircraft wreckage. The center of the site was used for explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) operations, and is therefore dense with metallic debris, as well. Mr. Hodgson stated he estimates the FLTA will be complete by the end of FY04.

FORMER LOWRY BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE

Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)

(presentation posted on the web)

Mr. Keith Wegner presented a progress report concerning the Technical Advisory Services for the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range (FLBGR). The report included a progress summary, current tasks, and a cost summary. Mr. Wegner's progress report is provided in the handout.

Mr. Wegner mentioned he solicited comments on the preliminary areas of concern (AOC) scoring. He is currently composing the draft report with the preliminary scoring results. Thus far, Mr. Wegner did not receive any comments on his preliminary scoring. He wanted to make sure the RAB had adequate time to review the scoring and make any further comments. Mr. Wegner asked the RAB if he should extend the comment period. Mr. Hodgson replied that the RAB could make any comments regarding the report during the meeting. No comments were made.

Mr. Wegner stated that he would send an electronic copy of the draft AOC prioritization report to the RAB members when complete.

Mr. Mark Harding, Rangeview Metropolitan District, voiced some concerns regarding the scoring process. Mr. Harding wanted assurance that if a future issue has the possibility of changing the prioritization, that the scoring will

be revisited, if necessary. Mr. Hodgson reiterated that the intent is to revisit the AOC scoring annually, or as needed to address changing site conditions.

FIELD WORK UPDATE

(presentation posted on the web)

Mr. Jerry Hodgson presented an update regarding the FLBGR project status. The presentation included a summary of activities completed to date, ongoing activities, and future efforts. There are currently four teams performing clearance work; three teams are in the Jeep/Demolition Range and one in Bombing Target 6 which will be moved to the Jeep/Demolition Range. In the Jeep/Demolition Range, two teams are performing conventional clearance activities and the other team is performing Recovered Chemical Warfare Materiel (RCWM) work. Mr. Hodgson stated that he is actively trying to hire three more conventional clearance teams. As soon as RCWM clearance activities are complete, the budget will allow for the addition of these three extra teams for conventional clearance activities.

Jeep/Demolition Range Discussion

Mr. Hodgson mentioned that he would like to complete the transition from RCWM activities back to conventional clearances by March 2004, with the current funding. The plan forward is to finish the remaining single anomaly digs utilizing RCWM operations. The triangular berm area will be cleared utilizing “modified conventional” operations. RCWM sampling operations will be performed on the soil piles resulting from the trenches outside the triangular berm area. Subsequent to RCWM sampling, assuming no RCWM-related items are recovered, the soil piles will be cleared utilizing “modified conventional” operations. All RCWM-cleared grids will undergo conventional clearance activities, as well.

Based on efforts to date, the possibility of uncovering live agent at the Jeep/Demolition Range is extremely unlikely. Therefore, Mr. Hodgson indicated that addressing the area using conventional clearance teams is preferred. Mr. Hodgson also stated that he expects to find more simulant-filled training aids during the continued clearance operations. Due to the fact that it is often difficult to positively identify in-situ items as simulant-filled, Mr. Hodgson stated that he would pursue the possibility of maintaining Technical Escort Unit (TEU) personnel on site. Having TEU onsite to make real-time assessments of training aids recovered would help avoid unnecessary evacuations. Mr. Hodgson also indicated that, as part of the “modified conventional” approach, in addition to TEU being on site, air monitoring will also be performed. Mr. Hodgson stressed that the purpose of the “modified conventional” approach is to address concerns regarding public perception, and in no way is due to concerns with encountering RCWM.

Mr. Hodgson went on to discuss the RCWM sampling operations to take place on the trench soil piles. Mr. Hodgson mentioned that representative samples will be extracted along the perimeter of the soil piles. The sampling interval will be approximately 20 feet, whereby 1 cubic yard of material will be removed and cleared using RCWM operations. In the case that no RCWM items are found, the soil piles will be cleared using modified conventional clearance protocol. If RCWM items are found in the sample(s), RCWM operations will be used to clear the soil pile(s).

Mr. Hodgson stated that there were 212 potential RCWM excavation targets identified during the geophysical discrimination effort. All of the targets have been excavated, and 29 targets are currently awaiting geophysical QC. To date, no RCWM items have been found. Any evidence of RCWM items is limited to previously-identified potential RCWM areas.

Mr. Harding asked when RCWM activities will be complete. Mr. Hodgson stated RCWM activities should be complete by March 2004, but conventional clearance may last another year. Mr. Hodgson mentioned that an estimated schedule for the Jeep/Demolition Range clearance will be presented at the March 2004 RAB meeting.

Mr. Hodgson went on to discuss funding for the FLBGR. He mentioned that the current funding is \$7M for conventional clearances and \$1M for continued RCWM efforts. The current funding is projected to be adequate to complete RCWM efforts, under the assumption that there are “no surprises” during the remaining activities. He mentioned that there are on-going efforts to secure an additional funding of \$4M for FY04. This additional funding would provide a total of \$12M for the FY04.

Guaranteed Fixed Price Remediation (GFPR) Mechanism Discussion

Mr. Hodgson stated that there are two new project principals, Brigadier General Grisoli, Corps Northwest Division Commander and Mr. Gary Baughman, CDPHE Director Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division. Regarding the GFPR, General Flowers sent a letter to Senator Wayne Allard stating that the USACE Omaha District will lead the evaluation of the FLBGR, with regard to the possible change in contract mechanism. The purpose of the evaluation is to demonstrate whether or not the GFPR tool will reduce cost and expedite schedules while maintaining current quality, safety, and public acceptance standards.

Mr. Hodgson indicated that it is important to understand how the contract mechanism applies to the FLBGR, with regard to roles and responsibilities (i.e. USACE, CDPHE, contractors, insurance companies and RAB). According to Mr. Hodgson, several factors will be analyzed when evaluating the potential use of GFPR contracts at the FLBGR. Some of these factors are provided in the briefing presented to the RAB, which is posted on the www.flbgr.org website in the *January 21, 2004* (1.9MB) link. Mr. Hodgson stated that there is pressure to unilaterally incorporate a GFPR contracting mechanism at the FLBGR; however, it will not be incorporated without the USACE Omaha District, together with the CDPHE and local stakeholders, evaluating all relevant factors regarding the change.

At the principals meeting, Mr. Swanson discussed the goals and principles that the CDPHE expect before a change to a GFPR mechanism is made. He stated that the CDPHE has produced a fairly comprehensive draft document (not policy), written as a starting point for discussions regarding GFPR. Mr. Swanson provided copies of the draft CDPHE Goals and Principles for Evaluating GFPR document to the RAB members and indicated that he is open to receiving comments.

Mr. Denton asked what final boundary will be used under the GFPR mechanism and whether or not private clearance areas will be affected. Mr. Swanson answered that, from his perspective, the entire FLBGR, not only the currently existing 12 AOCs, would have to be addressed under the potential contract mechanism. The entire site, "fence to fence", should be evaluated as one unit.

Mr. Hodgson stated that a significant amount of money is currently being saved by using the same infrastructure for the FLBGR and FLTA clearances. Under a GFPR, the cost to clear both properties would likely increase, because they would be on two different contracts and infrastructure/overhead could not be shared.

Ms. MacLennan, Tri-County Health Department, asked how long the evaluation process may last. Mr. Hodgson replied that, due to time constraints, he has not yet been able to devote a large amount of time for evaluation of the potential FLBGR contract mechanism change. He stated that thus far, no projects have been selected for use of this contract mechanism. Additionally, insurance companies have not yet committed to supporting the concept. Mr. Hodgson mentioned that he would like Mr. Keith Wegner, Correlation Corp., to be a part of the evaluation process.

Mr. Swanson clarified that this is still in the conceptual phase which makes the evaluation process difficult.

Ms. Bonnie Rader mentioned she emailed a letter under the RAB signature to Senator Allard's office regarding the RAB's desire to be involved in the GFPR evaluation. She has not received any response.

Adjournment

Arrangements were made for the next meeting to be held March 17, 2004, 6:00 p.m., at the Aurora Library. Since the RAB meeting was held, the March RAB meeting has been changed to March 24, 2004, 6:00 p.m. at the Double Tree Hotel.

Meeting notification for the next RAB meeting should be sent on or around March 17, 2004.