

**Restoration Advisory Board  
Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range  
16 May 2007  
FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

*The 16 May 2007 meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held at the Doubletree Hotel, 13696 East Iliff Place, Aurora, CO 80014. The scheduled start time was 6:00 p.m.*

**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Jerry Hodgson, USACE, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

**ATTENDANCE**

The following RAB members were present:

- Joseph Freund, Citizen
- Mark Harding, Rangeview Metropolitan District
- Bob Hastings, Citizen
- Jerry Hodgson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District (USACE), Co-chair
- Carol MacLennan, Tri-County Health Department (TCHD)
- Pete Pagano, DTH#2
- James Schrack, City of Aurora
- Melissa Yoder, State Land Board (SLB)

Other attendees:

- Randy Hawbaker, Cherry Creek School District
- Larry Liebrecht, Colorado Aviation Historical Society
- Ed LaRock, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- Warren Smith, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- Keith Wegner, Correlation Corp.
- Karan Holmes, United States Navy (Navy)
- Teri Farrell, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Steve Gehring, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Pat McGinnis, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- John Mullen, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Lisa Stahl, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Rick St. Amand, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Chris Sundeen, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Mike Cormier, Sky Research (Sky)
- Rob Mehl, Sky Research (Sky)
- Meggan Pickner, Sky Research (Sky)
- Hector Santiago, United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- John Dalton, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- David Rathke, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

**GENERAL RAB ITEMS**

Mr. Hodgson, USACE, asked if the Board had an opportunity to review the minutes from the March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007 RAB meeting. As there were no comments, the minutes from the March RAB meeting were approved.

**FORMER LOWRY TRAINING ANNEX (FLTA)  
AIR FORCE UPDATE**

*(presentation posted on the web)*

Mr. Hodgson reported on munitions related work completed to date at the Former Lowry Training Annex (FLTA) including previous “Mag-and-Dig” clearance activities within the FLTA EOD Circle, previous post-removal verification activities for the FLTA EOD Circle (Areas A, B, and C), previous “Map-and-Dig” clearance activities in areas adjacent to the FLTA EOD Circle on the north and east, and previous geophysical transects between the FLTA EOD Circle and the Navy DRI sites east of the FLTA. Mr. Hodgson confirmed that the necessary funding is now in place to complete the remainder of the work within the Air Force portion of the FLTA site.

Next Mr. Hodgson reported on ongoing “Map-and-Dig” munitions response activities addressing the remaining area between the FLTA EOD Circle and the Navy/DRI sites. This is a low density area comprised of approximately 460 acres. To date, “Map-and-Dig” response activities are complete in the northern area (145 acres) and geophysical mapping of the southern area is also complete (315 acres). Munitions response activities are ongoing within the southern area.

Since the last RAB meeting, 22 grids have been completed within the southern area and 2 demolition shots have been performed. To date, seven live items have been found in the area between the FLTA EOD Circle and the Navy/DRI sites. Remaining activities for this area include the completion of the “Map-and-Dig” response within the southern area during the summer 2007 field season, post-removal verification for the entire 460 acres by fall 2007, and final reporting by early 2008. Mr. Mark Harding, Rangeview, asked how many teams would be utilized for the clearance effort. Mr. Hodgson responded that one to two “geophysical reacquisition” teams would be used to relocate anomalies and one to two UXO teams would be used to dig and remove items.

Based on RAB discussion, it was agreed that further information on the planned FLTA post-removal verification, and findings from the summer 2007 field effort, should be presented to the RAB during the September 2007 RAB meeting. The usual status brief is also to be presented at the 18 July 2007 RAB meeting.

**LOWRY TITAN MISSILE SITES  
COMPLEX 1-B AND 1-C UPDATE**

*(presentation posted on the web)*

Due to an airline flight cancellation, the arrival of Mr. Hector Santiago, USACE, was delayed until the end of the meeting. Therefore, Mr. Ed LaRock, CDPHE, presented the briefing for the Lowry Titan Missile Sites. At the former Titan 1 Missile Site, Complex 1B, the USACE is performing an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) under a Non Time-Critical Removal Action (NTCRA) to identify, evaluate, and recommend treatment technologies for site soils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The purpose of this NTCRA is to evaluate removal alternatives for PCB contaminated soil at the site’s former stabilization pond and a portion of the associated drainage ditch. Specific objectives are to prevent exposure to human and ecological receptors from PCB contaminated soils and to clean up any residual PCBs within the two-cell stabilization lagoon and the portion of the drainage ditch within the complex boundaries.

Mr. LaRock stated that results for soil samples collected from the northern (downstream) portion of the drainage ditch, which is the discharge area of the lagoon, were either non-detect or below EPA Region 9 Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRG) and Colorado Table Value Standards criteria, which seems to indicate that the site’s PCB contamination is confined to the lagoon area and drainage ditch within the site property. Mr. LaRock also stated that previous site investigations that sampled and analyzed site soils for volatile organic compounds/semi-volatile organic compounds and metals, only found arsenic above

Region 9 PRGs or Colorado Table Value Standards criteria. However, the arsenic is considered to be naturally occurring and related to site background conditions.

Mr. LaRock then discussed the planned removal activities for the site. The EE/CA process was used to select a Removal Action Alternative (RAA) that focuses on excavation and off-site disposal of impacted soils. This RAA would remove an estimated 1,600 cubic yards of soil from the impacted areas. The northern cell of the removal area will be excavated to a depth of 3 feet. The southern cell, though the smaller of the two cells, will be excavated to a depth of 10 feet. Mr. LaRock stated that both the USACE and CDPHE believe that this RAA will be effective in permanently removing contaminants from the local environment. The EE/CA is currently open for public comment with copies available at the Aurora Public Library, EPA's Denver office, and the State Land Board's office. The USACE will evaluate and respond to comments received during the public comment period. After public comments and evaluation, the Final EE/CA recommendations justifying the Complex 1B removal action will be incorporated into an Action Memorandum and the Administrative Record file.

In addition to the EE/CA, Mr. LaRock stated that a Remedial Investigation report was completed in the fall of 2006 also addressing the former Titan 1 Missile Site, Complex 1B and that the Feasibility Study is in progress and is scheduled to be finalized in July 2007. Also, the Titan 1 Missile Site, Complex 1A was closed out in 2004 and Complex 2A has also been closed out. The Remedial Investigation Report for the former Lowry Titan I Complex 1C, which is owned by the State Land Board, is in progress. The USACE is in the process of contracting to have the powerhouse water supply well at the complex sealed at the well heads to eliminate these wells as a pathway for contaminant migration.

The question was raised whether or not any of the former Titan 1 Missile sites would be preserved as a historical landmark similar to the Atlas missile site west of Greeley, CO. Ms. Melissa Yoder, State Land Board, responded that there have been discussions about turning the Complex 1-C site into a "cold-war park," but that it is still just in the discussion stage and no decisions on the final use of the complex have been made.

#### ***TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (TAPP)***

##### ***STATUS UPDATE***

*(presentation posted on the web)*

Mr. Keith Wegner, Correlation Corp., reported on his recent activities as they relate to the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range (FLBGR) RAB. After outlining the project task responsibilities for the TAPP, Mr. Wegner presented an update on the TAPP activities being performed in relation to the ongoing RAB community outreach and RAB membership efforts.

##### **RAB Community Outreach and Membership**

Mr. Wegner stated that the invitation/recruitment letter and associated public notice intended to promote additional community participation on the FLBGR RAB have been finalized. Mr. Wegner incorporated input and comments from both Mr. Hodgson and the other RAB members into the final community outreach letter and notice and developed an information sheet (fact sheet) to accompany the letter, which had been previously sent to the RAB members for review. After some discussion, it was agreed that summary information regarding the former Lowry Titan 1 Missile sites should also be included within the fact sheet. Otherwise, the RAB members expressed satisfaction with the fact sheet and required no further revisions.

Mr. Wegner then summarized the anticipated distribution for the outreach letter as follows: FLBGR adjacent homeowner associations (7), FLBGR adjacent Metro District contacts (21), specific individuals identified by RAB members, landowners on the FLBGR (approximately 110) and immediately adjacent in north Elbert County (approximately 80), lessees on State Land Board lands, and others as may be later

identified. Mr. Wegner stated that he estimated a total of approximately 220-230 mailings. The outreach letter would be accompanied by the fact sheet. The posting of the notice will be targeted to local newspapers, including the Aurora Sentinel, Aurora Daily Sun, and the I-70 Scout; local Post Offices and Libraries; granges, feedstores, and local businesses; community centers and meeting halls; community college public notice boards; and other locations as may be later identified (e.g., CDPHE, City of Aurora, and Arapahoe Co. websites). Mr. Wegner stated that there would be approximately 20 posting locations total.

Mr. Wegner reiterated that the intent of the outreach letter, public notice, and fact sheet is to draw interested community members to the July 2007 RAB meeting, which will include an orientation on the history, purpose, and goals of the FLBGR RAB and the project in general. At this meeting, interested community participants would register with the ad hoc RAB Selection Subcommittee and be given a Community Interest Form to complete. The RAB Selection Subcommittee will interview and evaluate potential candidates, and nominate a slate of potential community candidates to be voted on by the full RAB at the September 2007 meeting. The ad hoc subcommittee, which was formed to at the previous March 21<sup>st</sup> RAB meeting, consists of Mr. Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County; Mr. Jim Schrack, City of Aurora; and Ms. Carol MacLennan, TCHD. Mr. Warren Smith, CDPHE, is to assist the subcommittee in a non-voting role.

Mr. Wegner stated that he has developed a draft set of selection criteria for RAB consideration, based on the criteria used to select the original RAB members. The draft selection criteria have been sent to Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Jeff Swanson, CDPHE, and Ms. Bonnie Rader (outgoing RAB citizen co-chair) for comment and the current version of the criteria is included within the TAPP briefing. The ad hoc subcommittee can either adopt this proposed model as the primary selection criteria tool or develop its own criteria. Both Mr. Wegner and Ms. Lisa Stahl (Shaw) are available to assist the RAB Selection Subcommittee as needed.

#### RAB Charter Review

Discussion then moved on to the need to revise the RAB Charter. Mr. Wegner stated that the current Charter was last updated and revised in January 1999. A suggestion was made that one or two RAB members could volunteer to evaluate and make recommendations for revisions to the Charter. The recommendations would then be brought before the full RAB for vote. Another suggestion was made to form an ad hoc RAB Charter subcommittee to review and compile potential modifications to present to the RAB for consideration. Ultimately, it was agreed that Mr. Wegner, assisted by Shaw, would prepare a list of recommended Charter revisions to be presented to the full RAB for consideration. However, the public outreach and recruitment efforts should take priority over the Charter review effort.

The issue of the size and current membership of the RAB was also discussed. As part of his TAPP briefing, Mr. Wegner provided a list of the current RAB members and stated that the Charter allows for up to 24 community members. Ms. Yoder, State Land Board, inquired about the optimal number of community members required for a RAB. Ms. Stahl, Shaw, responded that there really is no set number for a typical RAB, but that the RAB itself should determine what the optimal number is based on the public and community interest in the project. Ms. Stahl also pointed out that the RAB needs to be careful to ensure that the number isn't too large as to cause difficulties in achieving a quorum.

Regarding the current membership, Mr. Wegner proposed that Ms. Karan Holmes, United States Navy, replace the two currently listed Navy representatives, Mr. Fred Espisito and Mr. Fred Lohr. The proposal was unanimously approved. Mr. Hodgson also suggested that the RAB find a replacement for Mr. Paul Reining, Denver Research Institute (DRI), who has apparently retired. Mr. Wegner recommended that the RAB table this issue until Mr. Jeff Swanson, CDPHE, has had a chance to contact the DRI and inquire about a replacement for Mr. Reining. Mr. Warren Smith, CDPHE, also suggested that Mr. Wes Cobb of

the DRI might be interested in joining the RAB. Mr. Hodgson suggested that the RAB include the DRI in its outreach mailing and follow up with the DRI later if no one attends the July RAB meeting. Lastly, Ms. Carol MacLennan (TCHD) pointed out while Ms. Lynn Robbio Wagner is listed as a RAB member, she is technically Ms. MacLennan's alternate and that there really shouldn't be two members from the TCHD on the RAB. Mr. Wegner concurred and stated that he would revise the current RAB membership list appropriately.

Mr. Wegner ended his presentation by announcing that, under the current contract, TAPP work was 96.5 percent complete and that a new contract with the USACE was already in place.

#### Lowry Range Op-ed Article

The floor was then given to Mr. Warren Smith, CDPHE, who proposed submitting an op-ed piece to a few local newspapers, including the Aurora Sentinel and the Denver Post, discussing the history of the Lowry range and the steps being taken to restore the area. The article would run in the Memorial Day editions of the newspapers. Mr. Smith envisioned that the article would be from the FLBGR RAB and would bear the signature of all the RAB members. At this point, Mr. Smith handed out a copy of the proposed article to the RAB members in attendance for their review.

After reading his proposed op-ed article aloud to all attendees, Mr. Smith asked the RAB members for comments. Several RAB members complimented Mr. Smith on the quality of the piece but wondered if it was an appropriate article to publish at this time. Mr. Mark Harding asked what the real purpose of the article was, to which Mr. Smith responded that it was intended to raise awareness of the project in general and of the RAB specifically, and to encourage public participation. Mr. Smith stated that he chose the Memorial Day editions because he felt it made the article more timely and open. Mr. Harding expressed some concern that certain elements of the article implied that the RAB could be used as a forum to express contrary opinions on future land use within the range. Mr. Hodgson commented that the RAB's purpose is to provide direction on the clean-up of the range, but worried that people may be looking for a forum to express anti-war sentiments and that the article might encourage people to politicize the clean-up. Ms. Yoder added that the piece might garner the wrong type of attention and expressed a nervousness that so public of a discussion could lead to unwanted trespass on the property. That is, the article might encourage people to physically visit the range resulting in potentially severe unintended consequences (e.g. someone getting hurt or pillaging historically sensitive areas), and that it might add to the project's already existing security issues.

Mr. Hodgson also pointed out that clean-up at the FLBGR was at a critical stage and that he felt that this was not the correct venue for finding and soliciting new RAB members. Mr. Hodgson also added that there was little chance of the piece being published by Memorial Day since most of the RAB members would have to go through their proper public affairs approval channels before they would be allowed to sign their names to the article or any other such public statements. Mr. Randy Hawbaker, Cherry Creek School District, expressed a certainty that the School District would not want its name included in such an article.

Mr. Pete Pagano, DTH#2, wondered if this op-ed piece would really increase the human traffic on the site, as suggested by several of the RAB members. Mr. Pagano expressed his strong recommendation for publishing the article, feeling that since the point of the RAB was to distribute information, the more exposure to the general public the better. Mr. Hodgson disagreed, questioning the need for this particular venue for disseminating information. Mr. Harding concurred with Mr. Hodgson's earlier statement, expressing displeasure with the overall tone of the piece, which he felt would make it too easily politicized. His suggestion was that the tone should be more factual and less emotional.

Ms. MacLennan suggested that while Mr. Smith's op-ed piece might be inappropriate at this time, it might be more appropriate after the clean-up is completed. Ms. Yoder agreed, thinking that it could be included as part of the long range management plan, which would allow the RAB to publish the piece in a more targeted fashion. At this point, the RAB reached a consensus that the article should not be run at this time, but should be considered for publication in association with the long range management plan process.

***FORMER LOWRY BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE (FLBGR)  
PROJECT STATUS AND FIELD WORK UPDATE***

*(presentation posted on the web)*

Lastly, Mr. Hodgson presented a briefing on the current project status of FLBGR activities. His presentation included a summary of activities completed to date, ongoing activities, and future efforts. Currently, the focus of field work is the Bombing Target 2, Bombing Target 7, and Rocket Range sites. Three munitions response teams are working in the Rocket Range, one munitions response team is working in Bombing Target 2, and one munitions response team and one geophysical reacquisition team are working in Bombing Target 7.

Rocket Range

Geophysical mapping and anomaly reacquisition have been completed and removal activities are ongoing. Since the last RAB meeting, 26 grids have been completed including 7 "Map-and-Dig" grids and 19 "Mag-and-Dig" grids. To date, there have been 99 live items found and removed from the Rocket Range site. Since the last RAB meeting, four demolition shots have been performed. Currently, there are approximately 48 "Map-and-Dig" grids and 31 "Mag-and-Dig" grids remaining. Additionally, ten grids within the center target area have been reserved for a summer 2007 ERDC demonstration project.

Bombing Target 2 (BT2)

Fifteen "Mag-and-Dig" grids have been completed and one demolition shot was performed at BT2 since the last RAB meeting. A total of 479 live items have been found to date in this target. Currently, work is being focused to the Western Extension Area of BT2; primarily on the portion owned by the City of Aurora. This includes removal operations within 24 "Mag-and-Dig" grids within the western extent of BT2, 38 surface sweep grids, and 2 test grids. Mr. Hodgson stated that removal activities are ongoing and that work within the western portion of BT2 should be completed by the end of June 2007.

Bombing Target 7 (BT7)

Geophysical mapping activities at BT7 are complete. Anomaly reacquisition and removal activities are ongoing with approximately 80 low density "Map-and-Dig" grids remaining. Since the last RAB meeting, no additional grids were completed and no demolition shots were performed. To date, two live items have been found. Mr. Hodgson stated that removal activities are ongoing and that work within BT7 should be completed by the end of the 2007 summer field season.

Other

Mr. Hodgson then presented the current completion percentage for the FLBGR, stating that the project is projected to be a little over 50% complete. He also observed that once the project teams finish with the priority high density areas, progress will then begin to proceed at a much quicker pace. He also announced that the project was fully funded for the fiscal year.

Randy Hawbaker, Cherry Creek School District, asked Mr. Hodgson if there were plans for resuming clearance efforts at the Jeep/Demo Range (JDR) anytime in the near future. Mr. Hodgson responded that currently, the plan is to focus clearance efforts to the other priority AOCs so as to clear those areas as swiftly as possible. Mr. Hodgson stated the remaining areas within the JDR, primarily within the triangular berm area, are so highly impacted that returning to the JDR would tie up response teams for the

long term and sacrifice progress at the other AOCs. As such, no field work is currently planned for the JDR in the near future. However, Mr. Hodgson stated that the USACE is currently exploring alternate clearance methodologies, such as large scale excavation/earth moving operations, to address the remaining JDR areas and that a recommended alternate approach will be presented to the RAB and CDPHE sometime over the next few months. But he qualified this statement by saying the remaining JDR clearance effort might create a funding allocation problem, and that he was exploring alternate sources of funding specific to this area. Mr. Hodgson then mentioned the hand grenade found back in March 2007 within the Cherry Creek School District property just north of the JDR, was in fact not a live item as was previously thought. An inspection of the remnants of the item determined that it was merely a practice grenade.

Mr. Hodgson concluded his briefing by announcing that the next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2007 at the Doubletree Hotel and then opened the floor to any other topics or discussions. Mr. Hector Santiago (USACE) apologized for the lateness of his arrival due to airline issues and announced that he had four copies of the Lowry Titan Missile Site EE/CA if anyone wanted to look at the report. The meeting was then adjourned at 7:38 pm.