

**IOWA ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD  
JULY 13, 2000**

The Restoration Advisory Board meeting was held at 5:00 p.m. on July 13, 2000 at the Starr's Cave Nature Center.

**Minutes Review**

Mike Guely moved to accept the minutes and Richard Johnson seconded the motion. Don Kuechmann had a question about the last paragraph in the minutes. The first "to" was deleted in the second sentence. In the fourth sentence, a semi colon was added after the word "called", and "they" was changed to "the". The minutes were excepted with the changes.

**Agenda**

Larry Orr wanted to add American Ordnance Literature and a report on the tour held July 12, 2000. American Ordnance Literature was added under new business and the tour update was added under informational.

**Public Comment**

Jeff reminded everyone that the RAB focus is on environmental clean up. He asked that public members keep their comments on the RAB's focus. He asked if anyone had any comments to make at this time. Hearing none he moved on.

**DOE Monitoring**

Bob Haines briefed the RAB on Phase 1 of the survey completed by the Department of Energy. Phase 1 included a survey of buildings used by AEC. The Department of Energy found .0034% of permissible exposure, which is barely higher than the background level. All contamination was found at floor level. No contamination was found above waist level. The most likely source is depleted uranium. All the contamination was considered alpha contamination, which only has effects if ingested. Phase 2 of the survey includes soil testing and is planned to start the week of August 7th. The RAB asked if they just planned to sample the surface of the soil. Bob explained that if there was contamination found then there would be samples taken from other depths, however the Army has not received a copy of their sampling plan. The RAB voiced their concern about the current use of depleted uranium at the IAAAP. Bob assured them there was a continuous monitoring program in place. A RAB member asked about AEC operations at the plant. LTC Elliott explained to the RAB that AEC was a tenant at line 1 and the Army can not comment on their activities. The RAB was introduced to Don Flater and Dan McGee who are from the Iowa Department of Public Health

**Project Update**

Kevin Howe explained to the RAB that since the last RAB meeting USACE has received permission from EPA to begin excavation of the site on Monday July 10<sup>th</sup> if they had an XRF X-ray florescence instrument at the site and operational. This device is used to tell the level of Barium in the soil. USACE didn't want to start excavation until the device was operational and calibrated. Things finally came together and excavation began today. Approximately 500 cubic yards of soil were excavated, but only 100 to 200 cubic yards were moved to the Inert Landfill.

At the last meeting Kevin explained to the RAB that they performed a test on 100 cubic yards using a product from RMRS, however that company has ceased to make that product. The

product is available from other companies. USACE prefers to buy the product, but they could make it themselves if they needed to. CET is required to bid out the cost of the product and it is required to come with a guarantee. This could possibly cause a minor delay.

In the last few weeks there were another 40 soil samples taken from the West Burn Pads Landfill. The Barium levels in these samples were elevated compared to the samples taken previously. The samples showed as high as 350,000 ppm Barium contamination. Which means the sample was 35% Barium.

The Spring 2000 Long-term monitoring of wells was finished in May. Around 220 wells were sampled. The new well at Line 1 that had a high level of contamination was re-sampled. There was a filtered sample and an unfiltered sample tested. The filtered sample was considered to be at background levels, however the unfiltered sample was a little higher. It is not considered to be a radiological problem unless someone would drink it and there is no access to this water by workers or the public.

Richard Johnson asked if the results say it's not in the water but that it is in the silt or the sediment. Eric suggested testing the water and the sediment. Kevin explained tests were ran on the water and the silt separately the first time the well was sampled. The water results came back clean, and the sediment results showed fairly low numbers. Which does not explain the elevated level of contamination found in the unfiltered sample. More work needs to be done to find out what's going on there.

The field work for the offsite investigation was complete in May. Currently USACE is waiting on the lab data from the direct push sampling. They should have the data by the next RAB meeting.

Funding has been received for a Supplemental Line 1 and Firing Site Survey. This funding is separate from the Department of Energy money. The contract for the fall round of periodic monitoring has been awarded.

In FY2000 Omaha has received 5.3 million dollars for projects at the IAAAP, which is one million more than we had in our budget.

Jeff Bergman introduced Rick Larkin and Robert Sueppel.

### **Community Relations Plan**

Gale Smith briefed the RAB on the Community Relations Plan Survey. (Exhibit 3) She explained to the RAB that she has taken over for Bob Whistine, because he is on a 6-month training. The Community Relations Plan is the public affairs portion of the environmental effort. The old plan was nine years old. The survey was developed with the IAAAP staff and mailed out to 2520 residences. Out of those, 513 were returned undeliverable and 173 were completed. Eighty-five percent of the respondents were aware of the RAB. Seventy-one percent of them learned about the RAB from the Newspaper. Gale explained that the RAB should consider the newspaper the best way to reach the public. A number of the people who responded asked to be put on to the mailing list to receive direct mailings from the plant. Gale pointed out to the RAB members that not all of the percentages add up to 100 because some people failed to answer all of the questions.

A question on survey asked whom they would go to if they had a question about the IAAAP. The top seventy-percent said they would go to the RAB or the IAAAP directly. The majority of people have not contacted anyone, however of those who have contacted some one the majority of them have been satisfied with the response that they were given. Over fifty percent of the respondents do not feel they have received the necessary information about the plant to understand the environmental work at the plant. Gale feels that is another reason to publish what the IAAAP is doing in the newspaper.

Thirty-seven comments were received from people each RAB member was given a copy of those comments. (Exhibit 4) She would not suggest taking action on any of these comments. These comments do not show any strong trends.

The next step is to get input from all of the stakeholders. She plans to come back to the next meeting with the final plan. A RAB member asked if there was a place on the survey for people to add someone to the list or to change their address. Gale explained Question #9 left space to add someone to the mailing list.

Jeff Bergman introduced Tom Larkin and Alison Hart from senator Harkin's Office.

#### **Tour Update**

July 12<sup>th</sup> the IAAAP hosted a tour for the area legislators and the new RAB members. They took a windshield tour. Kevin explained to the RAB he really hoped to have dirt moving at the West Burn Pads Landfill, but there was not a whole lot of activity happening. As a new member serving on the RAB Joel Behne explained that the Army had the foresight to leave a buffer area around the plant. Everything was centrally located and well planned.

#### **Resignation of Michael Boyle**

Michael Boyle sent Larry Orr a letter of resignation. He explained he could not attend the meetings due to a work conflict. Larry Orr made the motion to except his resignation and Don Kuechmann seconded the motion. There was no discussion held. All the members were in favor of the motion.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Marketing**

Jeff Bergman asked Eric Orth if he had a chance to work on anything new since the last meeting. Eric explained he had dropped the ball and asked if anyone who wanted to help him would stay after the meeting to meet with him. His main area of focus will be the newspaper. He wants to keep what ever he does at a fairly low technical level. He will try to draft something up and send it around. Jeff asked Eric to work with the annual report and budget committees when they are formed.

Mike Guely asked Kevin Howe about what was happening with the web page. Once again it has not received the priority it deserves. Rodger has recently sent him information on how he would like the site to look. He hopes to find a member of the permanent USACE staff to work on it. It will be a menu driven system so that Melenie or Rodger can update it with the current agendas or minutes. Kevin also reported that USACE has not completed anything for the display boards.

### **Training**

Don Kuechmann and Marjorie Fitzsimmons have not been able to work together on this. Don explained that when the RAB was formed they were given a series of pamphlets. He suggested giving the new members the same type of thing. He asked the new members to stay after the meeting to talk to him about a possible time they could meet. He also suggested having a quick tour of the hot sites for the new RAB members.

### **Recruiting**

Larry Orr and Mark Hagerla have had a chance to meet regarding recruitment. They have hashed out general ideas, but would be open to other ideas. They are striving to maintain a balance between male and female, ethnic background, and age. They are focusing on a personal letter inviting them to consider coming to a meeting or joining the RAB. They would also like to add an insert into any brochure that will be published. They are hoping to involve IAAAP employees, local government groups, high schools, State and Federal agencies and churches. Larry and Mark talked about having a larger ad space in the newspaper that could include what is happening at the IAAAP. Mark suggested sending a letter to the Hawkeye thanking them for all of the coverage they have been giving the RAB. Jeff Bergman asked Larry Orr to reference item 24 in the Operating Policy regarding a Membership Committee for guidance on committee duties.

### **Project Priorities**

Rodger Allison asked if everyone had the two handouts regarding project priorities. (Exhibit 4 & 5) He explained to the new members that the army has to prioritize how their money is spent similar to the way each of them would do at home. The army asks all of the stakeholders to prioritize the list. Then the lists are combined or reconciled then used for the Obligation Plan. Congress decides how much money they are going to allocate for restoration and then each service (Army, Navy, Air Force, etc) receives their share and decides which commands and installations get what. Since the RAB is a board and not a committee Rodger takes the individual RAB rankings and averages them together to come up with one RAB ranking. The RAB ranking was as follows:

- 1) Focused Groundwater RI/FS
- 1) Remedial Investigation Groundwater Data Gaps (On & Off Post)
- 3) Periodic Well Monitoring and Maintenance
- 4) Focused Soils Removal (Phases 4 & 5)
- 5) Inert Landfill closure/Operations and Maintenance
- 6) Removal Actions at Line 1 Impoundment and Line 800 Lagoon
- 7) Accelerated Line 1 and Firing Site Assessment
- 8) Ecological Risk Assessment
- 9) RI/FS/RA at the Fueling station

Rodger briefly explained what each of these projects included. A member of the RAB asked how the Army chooses what order to clean up the production lines. Rodger explained the production lines were chosen for cleanup based on accessibility. The Army decided to tackle the ones where production would not be impacted first. All of the lines carry the same weight in regard to clean up priority. They all have relatively the same risk. Line 1 was originally left near the end of the list because it is an active line. Restoration work interrupts the manufacturing process.

The next chart showed the comparison between the RAB, EPA, and Army rankings. The Army's ranking is not finalized yet but it is pretty solid. The biggest differences were in the rankings of the Inert Landfill Closure/Operations and Maintenance, Accelerated Line 1 and Firing Site Assessment, and the RI/FS/RA at the Fueling Station. Rodger explained he did not provide the RAB with the information about the Fuel Station that he should have. The RBCA Tier II reports goes through and lists all the conditions of the site. The Army then submitted the report to the state. TAAAP has one pathway that throws everything into a high-risk category so the Army has to take corrective action to avoid penalties.

Kevin Howe explained that the Army listed the Inert Landfill as number one because maintaining the landfill is a continuous process. Everything that is dug up eventually ends up at the landfill so it is important that we maintain the site. If it is not maintained it could possibly migrate from the site. The Army listed the Accelerated Line 1 and Firing Site Assessment as a high priority due to high public visibility and interest. However the RAB felt that the Army should not be funding this project. They felt the Department of Energy should be funding the project. That is why they ranked it so low. Richard Johnson disagreed with the rest of the RAB. He saw Line 1 as a priority because there has been so much activity there. Several members indicated that the Army was taking an overall management approach to the listings and the RAB members very often had their own interests at heart which may skew the RAB's rankings somewhat. Mike Guely felt that the RAB rankings showed the Army what the RAB had not been informed about.

Eric Orth asked Rodger if it was possible that not all of the #1 priority was funded but some of the #6 priority could be funded. Rodger explained that all the priorities do is set a threshold on what will be funded. It is possible to receive partial funding for a project. The Army does have the latitude to say we can live without doing all of project A but we need the money to begin project B. Headquarters will expect the projects to be performed in the order we have listed; however if there is money left over then it could be used on a different project. The Installation merely has to ask for and obtain approval to do that.

Rodger explained the RAB rankings did influence the Army's rankings. For instance, some groundwater projects were ranked a notch or two higher than they would have been without RAB input.

After discussion was over, Rodger asked if anyone saw any problem with the Army rankings. No objections were made. The Army's ranking was accepted.

### **Operating Policy**

Jeff explained that at the last RAB meeting a motion was made to change to the operating policy. The change affected the meeting schedule. Instead of meeting monthly the policy was changed to hold meetings quarterly or as needed. The terms used in the operating policy were also changed to reflect the changes made at the last RAB meeting. Richard made the motion to except the changes Don seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Rodger suggested changing article 18 in the operating policy on attendance. Currently the article says a member missing more than 25% of the meeting may be considered for dismissal. However, if someone would miss one meeting than that would be 25%. The RAB however felt since the article said **may** be considered it could be left the way it was.

Jeff announced that the meeting had run way over the allotted time. He explained we could table the remaining items until the next meeting or we can continue. Joel Behne made a motion to table the rest of the items on the agenda. Eric Orth seconded the motion. Eric felt that committee assignments could be made through E-mail. Richard asked if it was legal for the RAB to establish committees without being in a public forum. Rodger explained the RAB is ran from DOD guidelines so it was possible. The RAB is not like an elected governmental meeting. Mike Guely hated to see things tabled because he didn't want it to become a precedent. Rodger asked if they were just tabling the committee assignments or if they were tabling both the committee assignments and AO Reports. Mr. Behne and Mr. Bergman said the motion included both. Larry Orr wanted to voice his concern on AO reports before the next meeting. The vote was called for. Seven RAB members were in favor of tabling the issues and three opposed the motion. The motion carried.

**Public Comment**

Rick Larkin, an area legislator felt the tour was good. He follows the IAAAP in the newspaper, but it was good to see what was going on.


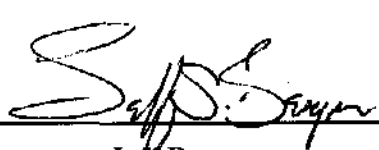

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held September 21 at 5:00 p.m. at a site to be determined.

**Agenda Items**

- Finalize the Community Relations Plan
- Committee Assignments
- AO Reports
- All Committee Reports

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

		
Melenie Mutchler Secretary	Jeff Bergman Community Co-Chair	Rodger Allison Army Co-Chair

- Exhibits:
- 1 Attendees
  - 2 Agenda
  - 3 Community Relations Plan Brief
  - 4 RAB Rankings
  - 5 Rankings Comparison

## **EXHIBIT 1**

### **RAB MEMEBRS PRESENT**

Joel Behne  
Jeff Bergman  
Marjorie Fitzsimmons  
Eric Japsen  
Richard Johnson  
Don Kuechmann  
Dan Nelson  
Larry Orr  
Eric Orth  
Dean Vickstrom

### **RAB MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Michael Boyle  
Glen Fullhart  
Mark Hagerla

### **GOVERNMENT MEMBERS**

Rodger Allison  
LTC Bruce Elliott  
Mike Guely  
Don Flater

### **PUBLIC**

Tom Larkin  
Alison Hart  
Greg Smith  
Larry Johnson  
Howard Reif  
Dorothy Reif  
Benjamin Puesta  
John Carroll  
Rick Larkin  
Kevin Howe  
Robert Sucppel  
Gale Smith  
Melenie Mutchler