



CHANUTE AFB ILLINOIS

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 3364

AGENDA

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

10 December 1998

7:00 P.M.

1. **Introductions**
 - RAB members
 - Introduction of guests
2. **Old Business**
 - Minutes from last meeting
 - Other
3. **Quality Assurance**
4. **Landfill OU-2**
 - Status of project
5. **OU-2 RI/FS**
 - Status of project
 - Field work on-going
6. **Fiscal Year 1999 Program**
 - FTA-2, 932 EE/CA
 - Free product removal
 - Monitoring well close-out
 - Tank removal (Martin Street)
7. **Areas of Concern OU-1**
 - Status of findings
 - Project document will be scoped in January
8. **Sampling of Off-Base Residential Wells**
9. **Reuse Progress**
10. **Community Involvement**
11. **Next Meeting**
12. **Adjourn**

D.H. 25A

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE BASE CONVERSION AGENCY



7 January 1999

AFBCA/DB Chanute
501 E. Condit Drive, Suite A
Rantoul IL 61866

SUBJECT: Chanute Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
Summarized Meeting Minutes, December 10, 1998

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1. Virlon Suits opened the December 11, 1998 meeting at 7:00 p.m. Tim Mitchell from the Champaign-Urbana News Gazette and Debbie Webster from the Rantoul Press were introduced. All other attendees introduced themselves to the group. The August meeting minutes were approved by the RAB as presented. The October meeting minutes were distributed to the RAB members for review and approval at the February 11, 1999 meeting.
2. Charles Rice introduced himself as the new AFCEE (Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence) Team Chief for Chanute. He is replacing Sylvia Crowell. Mr. Rice emphasized that it is the Air Force's goal to have quality data. Data that is useable to analyze the environmental risks and defensible for the conclusions drawn therefrom.
3. Brian Rundell, Jacobs Engineering, said the landfills workplan has been approved. He indicated there are two additional documents under review by EPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) and IEPA (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency). One of the documents is the Field Sampling Plan (the actual procedures used to collect data) and the other is the Quality Assurance Project Plan (prescribes the quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) procedures the laboratories must employ to ensure their data is acceptable for use in designing remedial action plans and assessing risk). Mr. Rundell also stated that they will begin collecting pilot soil borings in January 1999. These borings will be used to determine placement of monitoring wells that will be installed to help characterize the geology and hydrogeology of the site. Ms. Barbara Rauch asked for a definition of DPT. DPT stands for "Direct Push Technology," a sampling method that pushes a tube into the soil to obtain samples of up to 60 feet. DPT is less expensive than drilling. Deeper samples, i.e., those from the Illinoian aquifer, will require drilling.
4. Mr. Suits used a map of Chanute AFB to distinguish between Operable Unit 2 (OU-2), 427 acres in the southeast corner of the former base, and Operable Unit 1 (OU-1), the remaining 1700 acres. OU-2 contains the four (4) landfills, which comprise approximately 80 acres. As part of the landfill investigation, Jacobs Engineering will also be investigating contamination of Salt Fork Creek and Heritage Lake, also in OU-2.
5. Jeff Villnow, The Environmental Company (TEC), presented an overview of the work TEC has been doing. OU-2 has been referred to as the "Seven Sites," though there are now ten (10) sites being investigated. The objective of the Remedial Investigation (RI) at these sites is to determine the nature and extent of contamination, perform a risk assessment, then using that information, determine the appropriate cleanup remedy. Because there was not sufficient background information available, we designed a field screening work plan (briefed at the October 98 RAB meeting) to gather the needed data to design the RI. The field screening encompasses five major efforts: source identification, geologic investigation, hydrologic investigation, investigation of the unsaturated surface soils (top 8 feet typically), and an investigation of the Wisconsinan aquifer

groundwater. The rapid screening techniques used in the field screening data collection do not employ the QA/QC quality that will be used in the RI data collection. Source identification primarily consists of record searches and geophysical, electromagnetic conductivity (EM) studies. These are complemented with magnetometer surveys that help find subsurface anomalies (i.e., buried pipes, tanks, pieces of metal). Additional magnetometer surveys will be conducted the week of December 14, 1998. The geologic investigation will help determine where to drill wells and put the well screens when we do the RI. 65 holes were drilled to help confirm the CPT data. Samples (237) from this drilling are being analyzed, 49 have been submitted for grain size determination which will help in well design. The sample results will also serve as a check on the field screening methodology. In January, 1999, we will be doing records review and reconnaissance of buildings 923 and 937. Weather permitting, hydrologic, shallow soil, and Wisconsin groundwater work will begin toward the middle of January 1999.

6. Mr. Suits pointed out that physical field work is also ongoing at the Fire Training Area along with building 932. This work is being done under an Engineering Evaluation Cost Analysis (EE/CA). Tim Mason, Jacobs Engineering, briefed on Fire Training Area 2 (FTA-2). The first project is a time-critical removal action. Installation of a temporary dewatering system has been completed and slug tests have been conducted to determine hydraulic conductivity (the way water flows through a site) at various locations using piezometers installed last year. That information is being used to conduct free-product recovery tests at 12 locations. Free-product recovery involves bringing in an excavator to dig a pit to determine product thickness and concentration. To protect them from potential organic vapors, equipment operators will wear personal protective equipment (including mask and respirator). Mr. Boudeaux, Village of Rantoul, added that most of the free product is jet fuel, JP-4. Mr. Mason continued that free product means visible fuel product as opposed to just a water layer. The free-product recovery test information will be used to design a free-product removal system for installation in the summer of 1999. Regarding building 932; field screening and step-outs have been conducted. Test kits were used in the step-outs. Following a grid, sampling (stepping out) continued until a nondetect was encountered. This information is used in delineating the lateral extent of contamination at the site. Additionally, soil gas samples were collected and a geotechnical investigation was conducted. The data is being combined into an EE/CA report. Step outs at FTA-2 extended to just beyond the perimeter fence. All the collected information will be analyzed and used in determining the appropriate cleanup strategy. Mr. Suits responded to questions that the actual remediation of soil or groundwater at the site has not begun. The first step is the free-product removal.

7. Mr. Suits explained that several monitoring wells used in the past have outlived their usefulness and need to be closed. This work will be ongoing throughout 1999. Additionally, a previously undiscovered underground storage tank (UST) was located between the Caddy Shack and building 747. The tank, believed to have been a heating oil tank, will be removed. At the last meeting, five sites in OU-1 were briefed and narratives and documentation were developed. Additional work performed over the past two months has identified additional sites to be included in an OU-1 RI/FS: A pistol range, a skeet range, and a rifle range. The location of the support buildings from the WWI era base (located along the North central portion of the current base) and within areas still bounded by current city streets will be investigated for potential contamination. The coal yards will be investigated to determine whether there is contamination from chlorinated solvents that were historically used as methods of dust control. Groundwater tests southwest of building 747 show contamination from chlorinated solvents. An area used for fire demonstration during Air Force Open Houses will also be investigated for potential contamination. A site local residents claim was used for carbon tetrachloride disposal will also be investigated. Lead has been identified in a playground (discussed at prior meetings) will be included. And, areas around water towers on base, which were at some point in the past painted with lead-based paint, will be investigated for lead contamination. So in total, there will be ten sites within the OU-1 RI. Mr. Suits explained further that the ten sites within the OU-1 RI will be "scoped" at a meeting with EPA and IEPA in January 1999. The purpose of a scoping meeting is to determine the type of investigation (i.e., tests) necessary to accomplish the RI.

8. Kurt Warmbier, AFBCA Chanute, presented the results of the off-base residential well sampling conducted in October 1998. The off-base residential well sampling was performed as part of the delineation of groundwater around the base. After consultations with EPA, IEPA, and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the contaminants of concern are: Manganese (Mn), not a health-based standard, but may affect the water's color or taste; Lead (Pb), above Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for drinking water in one of two duplicate samples; and low levels of dioxins and furans. Steve Nussbaum, IEPA, stated that Illinois Class I groundwater quality standards, Illinois Administrative Code 620, are health-based standards. The Manganese concentration referenced in those standards is health based. [ERRATUM: IEPA letter dated December 16, 1998 states: "These concentrations are above the groundwater standard of 150 parts per billion (ppb), however, the ground standard is based upon aesthetic, not health-based criteria. Using 35 Illinois Administrative Code Part 620, Subpart F, the Agency has calculated a health-based groundwater objective of 1600 ppb for manganese."]
- 8.1. Mrs. Clifton, residential well owner, requested the names of the laboratories that analyzed the samples. Mr. Warmbier responded that the dioxin/furan samples were analyzed by Triangle in Durham, NC. A representative of Jacobs Engineering stated that the remaining water was analyzed by RECRA in University Park, a suburb of Chicago. Mrs. Clifton was concerned with the number of estimated results and wanted to know what the Air Force was going to do to make sure the proper methods or protocols are used. She asked if the Air Force doubted the lab's capability. Mr. Warmbier responded that we do not doubt their capability. That the lab may not be able to meet the high quality control standards set by the Air Force. Mrs. Clifton then asked if we search out the labs before we send them samples. That she has a scientific background, used to be a quality control manager, and with the push for QS9000 (sic) it would seem we would do so. If the Air Force does re-sample, what level of confidence should the public have that the results will be better? Mr. Warmbier responded that: Number 1, the Air Force is re-addressing the QA/QC issues and firming them up prior to re-sampling; and number 2, a certain amount of trust goes into sending samples to any lab. When the results are received is when you find out whether the lab is performing. Mrs. Clifton agreed, but questioned not using labs they have used in the past, versus a new facility. Unidentified Air Force response that RECRA is a certified lab that the Air Force has used previously, however, not for work at Chanute. The lab has been audited and inspected by personnel from Jacobs Engineering and the Air Force. There is concern over this data set and that will be addressed with the lab. There have not been problems across the board with this lab, if so, they would no longer be participating in the Air Force's program.
- 8.2. Mr. Van Ness, citizen from Urbana, asked about the dioxins and furans source. Mr. Warmbier responded that they are unexpected in drinking water samples and without additional testing, it is impossible to pinpoint their source. Mr. Boudreaux added that there are too many questions for an initial round of sampling to answer and another round of samples is needed. Mr. Warmbier responded that resampling is planned and letters were sent to the well owners requesting permission to do so. Mrs. Clifton suggested that the well owners be allowed to pull their own duplicate samples and that the general public be allowed to pick their own testing laboratory. Mr. Warmbier indicated that sample splits would be made with EPA and IEPA. Mrs. Clifton wanted a third-party pull the samples. Kimberlee Hollis, IEPA, stated she should get what she wants. Mrs. Clifton continued that she had spoken with several individuals present at the meeting (unnamed) that there is considerable concern, shared by her, with the length of time the Air Force had results without informing the well owners. That several people in the room had to call to get results, only to find they had a contaminated drinking water source; and the fact that they had to call and find out they should be on bottled water. How long had the Air Force had the results without sharing them with those involved? Mr. Warmbier responded that providing bottled water was a conservative approach to take until additional tests could be conducted to determine whether there is a problem. Mrs. Clifton responded that she had

her well tested eight years ago and it had no contamination. Another person at the meeting called and told her that the level of dioxins and furans was at the threshold level for her children. [ERRATA: A letter to the well owners from the IDPH dated December 4, 1998 stated: The laboratory results of the organic analyses detected dioxin and furan compounds below current established guidelines. At these levels, we would not expect any adverse health effects from exposure to these chemicals in your water." The IEPA stated, in their December 16, 1998 letter that the risk is less than 1.0 E-06] Mrs. Clifton stated that she didn't find out until she got a letter in the mail and was not given the option of deciding when, if at all, she would put her family on bottled water. She believed that several health service agencies had recommended provided bottled water over a week and half earlier. She first received bottled water today [Dec. 10] and received a registered letter on Tuesday [Dec. 8]. Mr. Suits responded that initial test results were received by AFBCA Chanutte the first week of November. Mrs. Clifton stated that a delay of one month is why she's concerned about having a third-party resample; so they can get results in a timely manner. She didn't feel the Air Force handled disseminating the results to the well users in a very satisfactory manner.


- 8.3. Mr. Warmbier continued that the problems with sample quality underscores the need to re-test. There were too many invalidated non-detects - essentially all the VOC, SVOC, pesticides, and PCB data. There far too many to be acceptable. In addition, several constituent results were flagged as estimates due to interference from other chemicals or were below the laboratory reporting levels - level the lab has confidence in quantification. Mr. Boudreaux asked where the samples were taken. Unidentified respondent stated that two samples were from the well and one from a spigot at the rear of the home. Unidentified questioner asked what percentage of invalidated non-detects is too many? AFCEE respondent stated you don't want to see any in a drinking water sample. When the number gets over 5 - 10 percent of a specific measurement, that raises a flag about the lab. Labs run standards at the beginning and end of a sample run. If the standards don't match, plus or minus a given standard percent, then the analysis is out of control - the data is questionable. Standards differ between groups. Data outside our standards is marked as invalidated. Mr. Schafer asked how many VOC compounds are included in a sweep? AFCEE respondent stated approximately 32. [ERRATA: The actual number is closer to 60] Mr. Schafer recalled that there were 11 VOC non-detects. AFCEE responded that they were basically all non-detects. Mr. Schafer stated that for these 11 non-detects it is impossible to say the non-detect is valid; the result has to be rejected. AFCEE respondent stated that the numbers varied by constituent. For drinking water it is a small number, with soil samples or water with dirt you would expect more trouble. Mr. Warmbier continued that due to the uncertainties in this data set, the lack of confidence in the data quality, gives reason to re-sample to determine what is actually in the water. At this point it is unclear what is actually in the water. Alternative water was provided for drinking and cooking to be safe.
- 8.4. Mrs. Rauch, RAB member, found it disturbing that the Air Force may have had results for six weeks without releasing the information to the well owners. Q and A: The wells are surrounded by farmland except for two of the properties that are bordered on the North by the base. Mr. Boudreaux asked how quickly the re-testing would be done. Mr. Warmbier responded that as soon as the QA/QC problems are corrected and guarantee not to have a repeat of this episode. Plus coordinating with EPA and IEPA, as well as any private owner that wants a sample. Mrs. Clifton stated that she believed that samples for private well owners should be paid for by the Air Force. That there needs to be a truly segregated source; maybe the results will be received in a timely manner. Al Lofton, AFBCA, stated the TAPP program is set up for this. [ERRATA: TAPP does have funds for RAB members to use for technical review. However, this DOD program does not allow funding for gathering data (i.e., well sampling)] Mr. Warmbier stated that the Air Force will send its sample to its lab and EPA and IEPA will send their splits to their labs.

Results from the Air Force and the Regulators could come from three different labs. Splits were not taken the first time. Ms. Hollis stated that IEPA was not given the opportunity to take a split. They were not given the two weeks notice necessary to arrange for laboratory work; they were notified the day before the samples were taken. Mr. Nussbaum stated that the TAPP program requires an application. A request needs to be made. There is paperwork that must be done. The residents need to get with the Air Force to get the process going. Mrs. Clifton asked why that was her responsibility since she didn't do anything. She knows that there are other people around the state that will willingly test her water. Mr. Warmbier stated that, at present, we are uncertain where the well contaminants came from. Mrs. Clifton disagreed. She has had her well tested several times; always clean. Mr. Warmbier responded that the typical well test does not test for dioxins and furans.

- 8.5. Mrs. Clifton inquired into other contaminants of concern that have been found in the environmental area of concern adjacent to her property. In response to Mr. Warmbier's statement that its not definite whether there are contaminants in the residential well water or where they came from if there are, Mrs. Clifton replied that she thinks she has a pretty good idea. Local residents know what happened. Every day, gallons and gallons of JP-4 were used to burn airplanes. Mr. Boudreaux asked the cost of the lab tests. Unidentified response was \$5,000. [ERRATA: The actual cost is closer to \$10,000] Mr. Warmbier continued, IDPH mailed a letter to all the well owners. Their evaluation determined that only the well with the Lead was of concern for using the water. Ms. Panzer asked why a sheet on Lead wasn't included with the IDPH letter. She got sheets on dioxins and furans. Mr. Warmbier indicated that photocopies of the dioxin and furan handouts from the IDPH were available and that citizens could contact the regulatory agencies or IDPH or Air Force for additional information. Mrs. Rauch asked about samples from Heritage Lake. Several respondents: The city drilled a deep well in 1991 or 92 to supply water to the lake. Mrs. Rauch then requested a list of contaminants that have been found in OU-2. Unidentified Q and A: Sampling from Heritage Lake probably won't happen until early spring 1999. There was mention of putting in a stilling well which is used to measure surface water elevation. Mr. Schafer continued that this is to try and determine how the lake water level reacts with groundwater. Mr. Suits stated that a list will be provided.
9. Mr. Boudreaux presented the reuse progress report. Starting with the negative, Summit Windows, a plastic window manufacturing plant, is closing. They will be consolidating their work in Ohio. All the employees are going to working at Caradco and have been offered jobs here and will probably be gone soon. There are two companies interested in leasing Summit Windows building. The building has a full sprinkler system and docks; making it quite marketable. Greyhound will be in Rantoul every year for the next five years, January through May, to do driver training. Their new offices will be at the North end of the museum. The steam plant will be shutting down after this winter. Design has started on independent boilers and the facilities to house them because many buildings will need an addition to house the boilers. The T-hanger project is proceeding nicely. Next year we hope to have the 1836 runway reconstructed. We have received approval and federal, state, and local funding for widening, new pavement and new lights.
10. Mr. Suits announced that the Users' Group Meeting will be the second Wednesday in January in the Aviation and Development Office Conference Room. Concerns regarding facilities and conditions can be brought up at that meeting. Mr. Boudreaux invited everyone to attend and added that normally they have rolls and coffee in the room by 9:00 am. Mrs. Rauch asked about White Hall. Mr. Suits stated that White Hall has been taken back by the Air Force. The contract for purchase and the lease that was in effect have been canceled. The Air Force also has the People Center back. To improve public safety, windows and holes in the People Center have been boarded up. The Air Force will let a contract to clean up the landscape around the entire facility (White Hall and People Center). The Air Force has not looked into alternative uses for the building. The Air Force is working with the Village of Rantoul to see if they can find interest in

the facility before pursuing other options. Mr. Boudreaux added that the facility doesn't show very well. A purchaser would have to bring the building up to code prior to use. Mrs. Rauch stated that the Air Force should take care of that. Mr. Boudreaux stated that the Mayor is working with Congressman Tom Ewing to get money. It is against Air Force policy to demolish buildings on a closed installation. The mayor is working through Congress to get funds appropriated to tear the building down if necessary.

11. Mr. Suits announced that the next RAB meeting would be on February 11, 1999, at 7:00 pm.
Meeting adjourned.


for
VIRLON J. SUITS
BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Attachment:
Distribution List

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