1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	FORMER CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE
8	RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
9	May 15, 2014
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	Community Service Center
23	520 East Wabash Avenue Rantoul, Illinois
24	

```
1 MR. WRIGHT: Good afternoon. Thank you
```

- 2 for coming. My name is Paul Wright. This is my first
- 3 time at the advisory board. My function here is to
- 4 focus on the agenda.
- 5 This meeting is primarily to ensure that the
- 6 board members have the information they need to make
- 7 the decisions to facilitate the continuing cleanup at
- 8 the installation.
- 9 So what I am here, I am not here to stifle
- 10 your points or anything like that. I am just here to
- 11 ensure that we stay on focus and that the information
- 12 that these folks need to make the decision is presented
- 13 to them in a timely manner.
- Now I know that we have got community members
- 15 here who are not on the Board and a lot of you may have
- 16 questions or concerns. We absolutely will get to your
- 17 questions. Any question you have will be answered.
- The experts are here. They may not be
- 19 answered here because they may not have the answers
- 20 immediately available but anything you ask will be
- 21 recorded.
- 22 We do have a court reporter here. Everything
- 23 will be captured. It will be recorded and all your
- 24 questions answered either by e-mail, phone or in

- 1 person, whatever means are appropriate that you get the
- 2 response you need.
- Before we get started, I would like to go
- 4 around the room and I will start with the Board and
- 5 then we will go to community attendees and I would ask
- 6 that you state your name and your affiliation.
- 7 If you are affiliated with the cleanup in
- 8 some way, shape or form, state your company. If not
- 9 then just concerned citizen is fine. But let us know
- 10 who you are.
- 11 So we will start with the Board and I will go
- 12 over the agenda and pass out some information and we
- 13 will get started. So we can start with you.
- MR. CARROLL: My name is Paul Carroll. I am
- 15 the Air Force BRAC environmental coordinator for
- 16 Chanute.
- MS. GILL: Diane Gill with CB&I.
- 18 MS. WIRGES: Lorraine Wirges, RAB member.
- MS. BECNEL: Denise Becnel, RAB member.
- MR. WANG: Ian Wang, RAB member.
- 21 MR. FOTHERGILL: Caryl Fothergill, RAB member.
- 22 MS. RAWLINGS: Debra Rawlings, RAB member.
- MR. ANDERSON: Jack Anderson, RAB member.
- MR. ROKKE: Doug Rokke, RAB member.

- 1 MR. WRIGHT: Now if could you go around the
- 2 side of the room.
- 3 MR. HUSBANDS: Jim Husbands with Booz Allen
- 4 Hamilton.
- 5 MR. SPARROW: Howard Sparrow with CB&I.
- DR. BUMB: Amar Bumb, CB&I.
- 7 MS. WITKOVSKY: Geraldine Witkovsky,
- 8 interested citizen.
- 9 MR. PASSARELLI: Pete Passarelli, Public Works
- 10 Director for the Village.
- 11 MR. ALBLINGER: Martin Alblinger, Village of
- 12 Rantoul.
- MR. HINTON: Dave Hinton, Rantoul Press.
- MR. SMITH: Charles Smith, mayor.
- 15 MR. MATZEN: Tom Matzen, North Wind Services.
- 16 MS. GEISSINGER: Linda Geissinger, Air Force.
- 17 MS. THOMPSON: Holly Thompson, citizen and
- 18 also librarian at the public library here.
- 19 MS. BENNETT: Beth Bennett, teacher at the
- 20 junior high.
- 21 MR. SCHNEIDER: Nick Schneider, RAPPS
- 22 Engineering, TAPP contractor.
- MR. WUBKER: Travis Wubker, CB&I.
- MR. SHIELDS: Paul Shields, CB&I.

- 1 MR. FARBER: Paul Farber, Village of Rantoul,
- 2 police.
- 3 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you. Just briefly I will
- 4 go over our agenda and we will get into this. We are
- 5 going to cover a couple of things today.
- 6 First we have some Action Items that Mr. Paul
- 7 Carroll is going to cover. Then we will look at the
- 8 response to open items from the previous meeting which
- 9 Mr. Howard Sparrow will cover.
- 10 Following that we will go into Dr. Schneider,
- 11 the TAPP contractor, will give you an update. The
- 12 environmental update which will be next which again
- 13 will be Mr. Sparrow.
- 14 Following that we will go ahead and do the
- 15 Air Force update and then we will have the RAB Board,
- 16 any kind of comments coming from the Board, we will
- 17 capture that and we will have the opportunity for
- 18 public comments.
- 19 So please understand we are going to capture
- 20 your comments. Following the public comments then we
- 21 will do a Meeting Wrap-Up.
- 22 With respect to your comments, just a couple
- 23 of ground rules, basic things I would like to ask.
- 24 This is not an opportunity to score points or to air

- 1 grievances.
- What we want to do here is get these people
- 3 around the table and the community, we want you to get
- 4 the information you need to understand clearly what is
- 5 going on on the installation.
- 6 We want you to understand the decisions being
- 7 made and why they are being made. We want to be sure
- 8 that the folks here specifically have the information
- 9 to make the decisions and to prioritize where the
- 10 effort is going in terms of accelerating this cleanup
- 11 and getting things back to where you want them to be.
- 12 So with that respect, I ask when you ask
- 13 questions, No. 1, please be specific. The more
- 14 specific you are, the easier it is for these folks to
- 15 understand what you are asking.
- 16 You are going to hear certain discussions as
- 17 we go along. A lot of it is technical, very complex,
- 18 but most of it is historical. It has been proceeding
- 19 over and over again.
- 20 If you don't understand something right away,
- 21 hold your question at the end. Your question will be
- 22 answered or at least captured for a future followup.
- 23 I would ask that you also stay on focus. Any
- 24 kind of personal attack, anything that doesn't belong,

- 1 you know, handle that elsewhere. We really, really
- 2 want to focus on the information today.
- 3 So if I jump into a discussion that you guys
- 4 are having, it is not because I am trying to stifle
- 5 your thought, stifle discussion.
- 6 It is either not appropriate for the focus we
- 7 are having here or it is something we don't have the
- 8 answer to or we can go on.
- 9 If there is any kind of specific issues that
- 10 you really, that I interrupt you and you really think
- 11 need to be captured, we will go ahead and move on but
- 12 we will capture the issues to make sure you understand
- 13 that.
- 14 You will get an answer. It will be captured
- in the minutes from the meeting and you will get a
- 16 response from the Air Force. It was stressed to me
- 17 that no question goes unanswered.
- 18 So that being said, I will turn over and I
- 19 don't see any media here. Is there anybody that I did
- 20 not get from the media?
- 21 (Media audience members raise hand.)
- MR. WRIGHT: If you are going to take
- 23 pictures, from the media I would ask that you stay
- 24 around the perimeter. Please kind of give the speakers

- 1 an opportunity to speak and kind of limit your cross
- 2 conversations.
- 3 And if you do get up and ask questions, this
- 4 applies to community members, please make sure you
- 5 state your name. I know you said it once before but
- 6 just for the purposes of the record so we know for the
- 7 response who we respond to.
- 8 So state your name and information please.
- 9 So we are going to start off going over the Agenda. We
- 10 will turn it over to Mr. Carroll to discuss the Action
- 11 Items.
- MR. CARROLL: Thank you, Paul. One thing I
- 13 don't know if I heard Paul say, we have got
- 14 Dr. Schneider who is doing a briefing right after the
- 15 Air Force Responses to Concerns.
- I may have misheard but at least I want to be
- 17 sure that Dr. Schneider, everybody hears that he is on
- 18 the agenda as well.
- 19 On Action Items, No. 1, approve transcripts
- 20 from the November 21, 2013 meeting. Have you guys had
- 21 a chance to take a look?
- 22 MR. ANDERSON: I move that we would approve.
- MR. CARROLL: Motion made.
- MR. FOTHERGILL: I second.

- 1 MR. CARROLL: All in favor?
- 2 (RAB members in favor voice aye.)
- 3 MR. CARROLL: Anybody opposed?
- 4 (No response.)
- 5 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Thank you. Motion
- 6 carries. Second item was to add a Proposed Plan
- 7 section to the Guide to Environmental Documents.
- 8 Dr. Schneider did add that. We have his
- 9 addition. We have not finalized that but it is in
- 10 progress and it is about to be finalized.
- 11 That is one minor thing that I had asked to
- 12 make sure that that was in there to cover Public
- 13 Participation Requirements that we have under CERCLA.
- 14 So that should be done very soon.
- 15 No. 3 is Community Outreach Opportunities and
- 16 specifically reach out to Rantoul High School, middle
- 17 schools, St. Malachy and determine interest. And
- 18 Denise has done that.
- 19 MS. BECNEL: And I would like to give a short
- 20 report if you don't mind.
- MR. CARROLL: Go ahead.
- 22 MS. BECNEL: Okay. So I contacted all three
- 23 schools. I delivered some information and I have an
- 24 example of what I delivered.

- 1 It is basically our reading list with an
- 2 intro letter and anyone is welcome to take a look at it
- 3 if you are interested.
- 4 RAB members have a copy of this. It simply
- 5 has an intro letter. Basically what I was asking the
- 6 schools is the Air Force and CB&I are interested in
- 7 making presentation and demonstrations on the
- 8 environmental technologies that they have used to
- 9 restore the land.
- 10 And my purpose was to inform them of this
- 11 possibility and to ask if they are interested simply.
- 12 So I contacted all three schools, left information.
- So at this point what I will be doing is
- 14 having conversations, more in-depth conversations with
- 15 school personnel to find out their interests. And I
- 16 will update you.
- 17 MR. CARROLL: Thank you for making that
- 18 outreach. We appreciate it. The next one is this is
- 19 kind of a general one and it is pretty longstanding.
- 20 And we urge everyone to do this but RAB
- 21 members to contact the TAPP contractor with technical
- 22 questions or requests for information.
- We have had Dr. Schneider on board for three
- 24 years and he has been here for your benefit. And as a

- 1 go-between between the Air Force and our technical
- 2 jargon and our acronyms and the extremely complicated
- 3 CERCLA process even to me.
- I couldn't do it by myself. There is no way.
- 5 We have a team of chemists, scientists, engineers,
- 6 toxicologists who work on these projects and
- 7 Dr. Schneider is here to help us be able to distill
- 8 what we are presenting, some of our documents to
- 9 Restoration Advisory Board members.
- 10 And to answer questions in a way that is
- 11 probably more easily understood than what we might be
- 12 able to explain. And also be a third party.
- 13 That is a party that is although we pay the
- 14 TAPP contractor, we are not allowed to tell the
- 15 contractor what he can talk about or what he can
- 16 discuss with you.
- 17 That is for the RAB's benefit. And anyway,
- 18 Dr. Schneider has been here for three years. He has
- 19 helped considerably with things he has worked on.
- 20 But we all feel that you as RAB members can
- 21 benefit from him and I think that is, hopefully that
- 22 has been clearly communicated to you and you all
- 23 understand that.
- 24 And then the last one is a sign in the

- 1 library to advertise the Chanute documents that has
- 2 been done. Denise and Diane had made sure that took
- 3 place.
- 4 MS. BECNEL: Paul, excuse me, I would like to
- 5 recognize two members of the community from the
- 6 schools. Two personnel from the local junior high
- 7 school, Mr. Pickens, the assistant principal and
- 8 Mrs. Bennett, one of the science teachers.
- 9 So I invited actually school personnel to
- 10 come to the meeting and they are here and I am glad to
- 11 see them.
- MR. CARROLL: Welcome. We always welcome
- 13 members, any members of the community especially in the
- 14 educational community.
- 15 And I know you are taking off from your
- 16 school time or maybe your break time at school or
- 17 something and we appreciate you showing up.
- MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Carroll. Mr.
- 19 Sparrow addressed the responses during the last
- 20 meeting. Sir?
- 21 MR. SPARROW: Again, my name is Howard
- 22 Sparrow. I am the project manager for CB&I. We are
- 23 the contractor on site responsible for the
- 24 environmental restoration of most of the sites, the 47

- 1 sites that are being remediated under the Superfund
- 2 program here.
- 3 At the last Restoration Advisory Board
- 4 meeting, there were a number of comments that were made
- 5 at the end. As Mr. Wright had mentioned, the Air Force
- 6 takes those comments, we go back and take a look and
- 7 come up and provide a response to each of those
- 8 comments.
- 9 There was a response to comments that was
- 10 submitted to the RAB members. It was submitted in
- 11 writing. Directly after that I think maybe in December
- 12 or sometime from the last RAB meeting.
- 13 But that information has not been given to
- 14 the general public so the first thing that we wanted to
- 15 do here today was address those comments and to let the
- 16 general public be aware of the Air Force's response to
- 17 those comments. And they have asked me to respond from
- 18 a technical perspective to the comments.
- 19 So the first comment, and I will read the
- 20 comments. They are in here but I want to be accurate
- 21 in the comment the way the comment was presented and
- 22 then I will give a summary of the response to the
- 23 comments but the first comment was regarding the Public
- 24 Drinking Water Supply for the Village of Rantoul.

```
1 And the comment was "In a federal document in
```

- 2 2008, the federal government warned the City of Rantoul
- 3 and Chanute Air Force Base that they should notify all
- 4 children, elderly, and infants with health problems or
- 5 anyone with a health problem that the water had
- 6 contaminants and that they should not drink the public
- 7 water supply."
- 8 And the Air Force's response to this is that
- 9 is not a true statement. First, the Village of Rantoul
- 10 drinking water, public water supply is perfectly safe
- 11 for the public to drink.
- 12 And Dr. Schneider will give you a little bit
- 13 more information about that public water supply but the
- 14 Village of Rantoul gets their water supply from the
- 15 Mahomet Aquifer which is an ancient and pure drinking
- 16 water supply for the village.
- 17 The report that this comment came from was
- 18 referred to as the Department of Public Health and
- 19 Human Services Agency Report and that report is
- 20 publically available on the administrative record.
- 21 So if you want to get that report, you can
- 22 go, anybody from the general public can get that
- 23 report. The conclusions of that report actually said
- 24 in the report and this is quoted from the report

- 1 directly that the "ATSDR found no contaminants detected
- 2 at levels of concern."
- 3 And they reviewed all available information
- 4 for the City's drinking water supply for a number of
- 5 years as well.
- There were no contaminants. The drinking
- 7 water from the Village of Rantoul's public water supply
- 8 contains sodium, which we all know sodium is an
- 9 ingredient in table salt.
- 10 We all drink and consume table salt. And
- 11 there are no other contaminants at a level present at a
- 12 level of concern.
- 13 The only concern that was in the report was
- 14 sodium. And it was just for people that may have heart
- 15 conditions that may be susceptible to high levels of
- 16 sodium.
- 17 There was no other mention of contaminants.
- 18 The sodium is naturally present. It is not a
- 19 contaminant coming from the Air Force Base.
- 20 So I want to be very, very clear. The public
- 21 drinking water supply in Rantoul is perfectly safe to
- 22 drink. It is a very pristine source of drinking water
- 23 and no one in the community should be concerned about
- 24 drinking it or using it or watering their plants or

- 1 anything with that.
- 2 And we want the RAB to get that message out
- 3 because a lot of people in the area do have a concern
- 4 and everybody has a concern about their public drinking
- 5 water supply but please be sure and spread that word.
- 6 There is plenty of documentation to supply
- 7 and document the factual conclusions that it is a safe
- 8 drinking water supply.
- 9 The second comment again was "The Mahomet
- 10 Aquifer is contaminated by three wells on the Chanute
- 11 Air Force Base with dioxins, TCE and additional
- 12 contaminant of arsenic as determined in the 2008
- 13 federal report from the toxins registry."
- 14 That statement comes from the same report
- 15 that I referenced earlier. The fact is that that is
- 16 not a true statement.
- 17 Again, the Mahomet Aquifer is an ancient and
- 18 pristine aquifer that is protected by multilayers of
- 19 clays that prevent any migration of surface waters to
- 20 the lower levels of that aquifer.
- 21 "This report did not identify any detections
- 22 of dioxins or TCE..." Did not even mention that in
- 23 that report so that was not even a concern.
- 24 Arsenic, again a naturally occurring element

- 1 is present in ground water throughout the entire state
- 2 of Illinois. Actually it is in all ground water.
- 3 And again, there was information to make sure
- 4 that everybody is aware that if there is a person
- 5 susceptible to arsenic levels, they are below drinking
- 6 water standards, well below that. But if you are
- 7 susceptible to that, you should just be aware of that
- 8 naturally occurring element that is there.
- 9 This is a slide that is very detailed. It is
- 10 in here (the presentation) for your information.
- 11 Dr. Schneider will give you more information about it
- 12 later in our presentation.
- 13 The point being is that the areas of this
- 14 (pointing to the slide) that shows the little dotted
- 15 areas around here. You can see a few of these.
- Those are inner sand layers protected by clay
- 17 layers throughout the entire ground water going down
- 18 into the public drinking water supply.
- 19 There is really no connection from the upper
- 20 to the lower aquifer. So there are no contaminants
- 21 that can by physics or geophysics migrate down to that
- 22 level. Again, this is an ancient aquifer and
- 23 Dr. Schneider will give you more information.
- 24 The Mahomet Aquifer is not contaminated and

- 1 is a pure aquifer. It is a great drinking water
- 2 supply. You should be proud of that drinking supply.
- 3 Most communities would really love to have a drinking
- 4 water supply like that.
- 5 Third comment was on private drinking water
- 6 wells. "The Air Force has not tested any of the wells
- 7 since 1998 to 2000 where they found the dioxins. They
- 8 offered those residents bottled water for a number of
- 9 years and then they cut them off and let them drink out
- 10 of the contaminated wells."
- 11 That is not a true statement at all.
- 12 Particularly the wells that are talked about are the
- wells that are on the south side of the Air Force Base.
- 14 Those wells are not contaminated. The Air
- 15 Force has tested those wells and determined them to be
- 16 okay. There were eight drinking water wells that are
- 17 on the south side.
- 18 In 1998 there was some concerns that those
- 19 wells may have some contamination so the Air Force went
- 20 and started testing those wells.
- 21 As a precautionary measure, the Air Force did
- 22 supply the residents with bottled water while they were
- 23 testing those wells. At one set of samples, they did
- 24 detect some dioxins in all of the wells.

- 1 And as a matter of fact we always send a pure
- 2 water sample when we send our analysis to the
- 3 analytical to make sure there is no contamination of
- 4 the samples.
- 5 When the lab analyzed that pure water sample,
- 6 they also found dioxins in there. That is a sealed
- 7 container. So the concern in that report really was
- 8 information that was associated with the lab itself and
- 9 the analytical equipment.
- 10 It is not a detection of dioxins in those
- 11 drinking water wells. The detections that were
- 12 reported were very, very low. They are well below any
- 13 public drinking water standards for dioxins.
- 14 The Air Force continued to sample those
- 15 wells. They did not stop. They continued to sample
- 16 those wells until 2004. As a matter of fact they
- 17 sampled them 11 times by 2004.
- 18 After 2004 with no other detections,
- 19 concerns, the ATSDR also came in and did an independent
- 20 review of the information regarding those wells and
- 21 they concluded only sodium concentrations in these
- 22 private wells were at levels of concern and only for
- 23 people with high blood pressure. Again, sodium is a
- 24 naturally occurring element and would be present in any

- 1 drinking water supply.
- MS. BECNEL: Question. Where would the
- 3 dioxins, the low level of dioxins have come from? Is
- 4 that naturally occurring?
- 5 MR. SPARROW: The detections of dioxin we
- 6 think were that the analytical equipment were detecting
- 7 extremely low levels and that analytical equipment is
- 8 sensitive.
- 9 So it picked up even in a pure water sample,
- 10 it picked up something that, a report of something. We
- 11 feel that that was a false reading, that it is not
- 12 accurate because it (dioxin) was in the trip blank that
- 13 goes along with that.
- 14 MR. BUMB: Just for clarification, the trip
- 15 blank, when we sample anything, the lab sends a sealed
- 16 container so it comes from the lab. It comes to our
- 17 office here, field office.
- When we collect samples, that sample
- 19 container (the trip blank) is never opened. We collect
- 20 all samples, send them to the lab and that sealed
- 21 container goes back with them.
- 22 So it (the trip blank water) is never exposed
- 23 at Chanute. It goes back (to the lab). And if you are
- 24 finding something in that, that means it is an issue

- 1 with the lab equipment because there are other samples
- 2 through the same equipment.
- 3 MR. SPARROW: I will take one question and we
- 4 will move on.
- 5 MS. WITKOVSKY: If you consider it a false
- 6 reading, was it retested or another lab used?
- 7 MR. SPARROW: The Air Force came back, they
- 8 did it (sampled) 11 times. They came back and did 11
- 9 tests there.
- There is only one time that it was detected
- 11 like that. So it was more than adequate results. And
- 12 the Public Health Agency came in and looked at the data
- 13 and everybody concluded there was no contamination of
- 14 those wells and the bottled water supply was stopped to
- 15 the residents upon that conclusion.
- 16 Next comment Agent Orange Used at Chanute Air
- 17 Force Base. And the comment was "There has been
- 18 considerable discussion about the use of Agent Orange
- 19 on Chanute, and one of the things that I have is a U.S.
- 20 Air Force document signed by a U.S. Air Force Colonel
- 21 stating that seven tons per year were used on Chanute
- 22 Air Force Base, specifically for the entire time that
- 23 it was available for use in the Air Force, and it was
- 24 used in the area where the wells are that supply the

- 1 city water."
- 2 The response from the Air Force is that is
- 3 not true. There is no historical information, data or
- 4 analytical results that indicate that Agent Orange was
- 5 ever present or used at Chanute Air Force Base.
- 6 And I will go into a little bit more detail.
- 7 We did provide the letter that that reference came from
- 8 to you. The letter did state that there were
- 9 herbicides that were used here.
- 10 There were two herbicides stated in that
- 11 particular letter. They go by chemical names. One is
- 12 2,4-D. 2,4-D is a common herbicide that is in use even
- 13 today. You probably use it at home. If you go to Home
- 14 Depot or Wal-Mart, it is in Weed-B-Gone.
- 15 So it is the same chemical that is in
- 16 commercial use for the public and it has been deemed an
- 17 acceptable product to be used.
- 18 And just a little bit of information about
- 19 these herbicides, these herbicides actually
- 20 disintegrate in a couple of weeks. So both by natural
- 21 degradation as well as the sunlight, these herbicides
- 22 actually will disintegrate.
- The other component was 2,4,5-T. That was
- 24 used. That is a brush killer and it was used for in

- 1 that report particularly for killing poison ivy that
- 2 was up in what was called the Paxton Recreational Annex
- 3 here. And that is what the letter had indicated
- 4 specifically.
- 5 The Air Force has done extensive research of
- 6 their records on Agent Orange. And I will go into
- 7 Agent Orange in a little bit more detail here but there
- 8 has been no records that Agent Orange was ever used
- 9 here at Chanute, present (at Chanute), shipped, or
- 10 otherwise.
- 11 And again, extensive record research and
- 12 there has been quite a bit of information on Agent
- 13 Orange and its distribution and uses throughout
- 14 wherever it may have been used. Obviously in Vietnam
- 15 but any places that it may have ever been present in
- 16 the U.S.
- Just a couple of facts about Agent Orange
- 18 itself. Agent Orange was a tactical herbicide used
- 19 during the Vietnam War produced by the U.S. Government
- 20 to defoliate Vietnam (forests) where fighting was
- 21 ongoing.
- 22 It is a manufactured herbicide. It is a
- 23 combination of both 2,4-D, the Weed-B-Gone product, as
- 24 well as 2,4,5-T.

1 When they were manufacturing the herbicides,

- 2 particularly the 2,4,5-T during the Vietnam War for
- 3 Agent Orange, they pushed the manufacturing process and
- 4 they created a byproduct of dioxins.
- 5 So some of that material was contaminated
- 6 with dioxins. And that has been the primary concern
- 7 with Agent Orange and its use throughout Asia and
- 8 wherever it may have been present in the U.S.
- 9 The Postwar Vietnam period 2,4,5-T was used.
- 10 They improved the process. 2,4,5-T I think was used up
- 11 until 1985.
- 12 It was a product generally used or called
- 13 bush killer. People used it along farm banks and stuff
- 14 to kill brush is what it was for. 2,4-D is still in
- 15 Weed-B-Gone.
- 16 MS. BECNEL: Does Weed-B-Gone contain dioxins?
- MR. SPARROW: It does not, no.
- 18 MS. BECNEL: So none of the current herbicides
- 19 that are used today contain dioxins?
- MR. SPARROW: None of the current herbicides
- 21 have -- and they run analysis for dioxins in there. So
- 22 Dr. Schneider?
- DR. SCHNEIDER: First of all, we commonly
- 24 spray our bean fields with 2,4-D. That is what goes

- 1 on. They may be a little stronger than what you buy
- 2 Weed-B-Gone but it is the same stuff.
- 3 There is almost an ubiquitous use of that
- 4 particular compound agriculturally still today. And
- 5 no, it does not contain any dioxins.
- And in fact if we don't, if we spray it at
- 7 the wrong time, we have to spray it again because as
- 8 Howard just pointed out, it doesn't last very long.
- 9 So if we get it sprayed and we get rain on
- 10 it, we have a problem where it is broken down, it is
- 11 not being ingested by the systems of plants we are
- 12 trying to kill. We have to go out and spray it again.
- 13 So there is no dioxins that we know that are attached
- 14 to that.
- 15 MR. SPARROW: The Air Force does say that they
- 16 did use herbicides here. Herbicides were used
- 17 everywhere but Agent Orange specifically was never
- 18 used.
- 19 And we do analytical testing. There have
- 20 been literally thousands of tests for herbicides and
- 21 dioxins here at the Air Force Base and there have been
- 22 no test results that would indicate that Agent Orange
- 23 and all of these components are present.
- 24 So even the analytical results, there is no

- 1 soil or ground water results that would indicate Agent
- 2 Orange is being used here.
- 3 The other one was a point that "The thing
- 4 that concerns me is it (the Dantzler letter)also talks
- 5 about Agent Blue. As we all know, Agent Blue is a mix
- 6 of Agent Orange plus arsenic."
- 7 The Dantzler letter did not mention Agent
- 8 Blue as a matter of fact. The same holds for Agent
- 9 Blue as it does for Agent Orange.
- 10 There are no records or indication that Agent
- 11 Blue would have ever been historically present or used
- 12 at Chanute Air Force Base.
- MS. RAWLINGS: There isn't a relationship
- 14 between Agent Blue and Agent Orange, is there?
- 15 MR. SPARROW: These are tactical herbicides.
- 16 There are a number of different tactical herbicides.
- 17 Agent Orange, Agent Blue, there were several other ones
- 18 that were used during the Vietnam War.
- 19 I think Agent Blue is, I think the statement
- 20 that Agent Blue is a mixture of Agent Orange plus
- 21 arsenic, I think that is a true statement. That is not
- 22 inaccurate.
- 23 But again, the Air Force used different
- 24 products at different places and different mixtures for

- 1 different purposes after the Vietnam War.
- MS. RAWLINGS: I thought they were unrelated
- 3 so.
- 4 MR. SPARROW: I would have to -- and I am
- 5 speaking a little bit. I have done my research but I
- 6 can't remember all of the different coloring. They are
- 7 called the rainbow tactical herbicides.
- 8 There are a number of those. I think about a
- 9 half a dozen of the tactical herbicides all given a
- 10 code name. Generally called rainbow herbicides.
- MR. CARROLL: We can double check that.
- MS. RAWLINGS: It is in a letter that you sent
- 13 to me that they are different and I don't know if I
- 14 brought a copy.
- MR. SPARROW: That may be true.
- MR. ROKKE: I want to go back on the Agent
- 17 Orange. That whole thing raised up when Mr. Michael
- 18 Glasser contacted us with the fact that he had been the
- 19 individual that had sprayed the stuff on Chanute at one
- 20 time. And that is how that whole question raised up.
- 21 MR. SPARROW: I will clarify that because
- 22 again, Illinois EPA did contact Mr. Glasser. And he
- 23 did indicate, he indicated that he had used 2,4-D and
- 24 2,4,5-T.

- 1 He didn't say that he used Agent Orange. He
- 2 said he had used those. He said he mixed -- if I take
- 3 those two chemicals and mix them here, that doesn't
- 4 make Agent Orange.
- 5 So, you know, he said he mixed them and that
- 6 was the same as Agent Orange. That was the report from
- 7 Illinois EPA.
- 8 So again, the Air Force did keep very concise
- 9 records of the use and distribution of those tactical
- 10 herbicides. And there were none that indicated that
- 11 Agent Orange itself.
- 12 So Mr. Glasser may have used 2,4,5-T. He may
- 13 have used 2,4-D. He may have mixed the two but he
- 14 didn't and he never stated that he actually used or
- 15 disposed of Agent Orange.
- 16 He said he wasn't sure. He said he just
- 17 mixed them here. So that is the report. Again, I am
- 18 not the person who made that report but that is the
- 19 fact that it was reported.
- 20 Comment 6, TCE Contamination at former
- 21 Chanute Air Force Base. "As we all know, TCE was used
- 22 on Chanute Air Force Base, and when Chanute was
- 23 determined to be a Superfund site it was determined
- 24 that it was twice the severity of Camp Lejeune. That's

- in federal documents."
- 2 This is not an accurate statement. I am not
- 3 saying it is not a false or not a true statement but
- 4 first the Chanute Air Force Base is not a Superfund
- 5 site.
- 6 Make sure that is clear. It was proposed by
- 7 the EPA to be a Superfund site and the Air Force is
- 8 following the Superfund process for cleanup but it is
- 9 not a listed Superfund site.
- 10 TCE has been detected in shallow groundwater.
- 11 That has been the part of all of the conversations that
- 12 have been ongoing here with this RAB for the past 10
- 13 years.
- 14 There has been extensive documentation issued
- 15 by the Air Force on TCE and its locations and as well
- 16 as that is the subject of our remediation on base here.
- 17 It is located in small pockets. Very small.
- 18 Generally within about 300 square foot areas. It is
- 19 being monitored and it is being treated.
- 20 It is being monitored upgradient and
- 21 downgradient to make sure it is not spreading and is
- 22 being treated. Those are the sites we are currently
- 23 working on. And we report when we get those sites
- 24 cleaned up and we are getting those sites ground-water

- 1 cleaned up.
- 2 MR. FOTHERGILL: For those guests who don't
- 3 know what TCE stands for?
- 4 MR. SPARROW: It is a trade name,
- 5 Trichloroethylene. It is a common degreasing solvent
- 6 that used to be used in gas stations and filling
- 7 stations or any mechanical shop would use that as a
- 8 parts degreaser.
- 9 And it was used here on the Air Force Base.
- 10 TCE was certainly here, used to help clean (airplane)
- 11 parts and things throughout the base. So TCE is
- 12 present.
- The Comment 7, "I live 2 miles south of
- 14 Chandler Road on a farm in the county. I think that
- 15 out there we're concerned about there's talk about
- 16 the groundwater being treated on Chanute, maybe even
- 17 into Rantoul. But what are we supposed to do? Check
- 18 our own wells? I just had one question about when
- 19 there is going to be testing of these wells, not only
- 20 just on Chanute Air Force Base but out into Rantoul,
- 21 south of Chanute Air Force Base, say, for five miles
- 22 where they say that the groundwater is quite likely to
- 23 be contaminated."
- 24 The response that is in your comment here

- 1 says not true. That is not an accurate response. That
- 2 is just a personal statement that somebody made. So
- 3 the not true should be stricken from the record there.
- 4 The response from the Air Force is that the
- 5 Air Force has continued to monitor downgradient of the
- 6 Air Force base. They did monitor the drinking water
- 7 wells for about eight years just south of the base.
- 8 The Air Force actually monitors along the
- 9 perimeter of the base around the landfills and the
- 10 individual site. So groundwater monitoring is
- 11 continued on site.
- 12 The results of the samples of the prior wells
- 13 indicated no migration of contaminants. The results of
- 14 the wells close to the base also showed no migration of
- 15 contaminants.
- 16 The wells that I think that were referred to
- 17 here are further away. So if two rows of wells show
- 18 that there is no contamination, it is a logical
- 19 conclusion that the contamination is not jumping over
- 20 two wells and moving on out further. So the private
- 21 wells would therefore not be contaminated by Air Force
- 22 activities.
- 23 And then I think we are to Dr. Schneider's
- 24 (presentation). Dr. Schneider is going to give you

- 1 more information about the Mahomet Aquifer and the
- 2 Village of Rantoul drinking water.
- 3 DR. SCHNEIDER: Let me interject one note
- 4 about this dioxin business. First of all, dioxins are
- 5 ubiquitous in our environment. And interestingly
- 6 enough they used to be more so.
- 7 And we all create them. As a matter of fact
- 8 unless if I am not mistaken, the major source of
- 9 dioxins today are what we call backyard barrel burning.
- 10 Dioxins occur by insufficient oxidation or
- 11 burning of certain kinds of materials. So if someone
- 12 who has got a barrel, a 55 gallon barrel in their
- 13 backyard goes in there and says we will save on trash,
- 14 we will reduce our trash cost.
- 15 So they go back in there and burn it but they
- 16 throw in there maybe some plastic milk bottles. If
- 17 they don't get that temperature up to about 600 degrees
- 18 for sure as that stuff is coming out, guess what comes
- 19 out, dioxins.
- 20 In fact the remedy for industrial dioxin
- 21 generation is to simply put basically burners up the
- 22 stacks. So when you heat these things to a particular
- 23 temperature, they are gone. And dioxins and
- 24 dioxin-like compounds.

- 1 Here is another one. We all worry about
- 2 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. How many people here
- 3 like to go out and grill their steak and get it a
- 4 little charred?
- 5 As soon as you char that steak, that protein,
- 6 that meat, you create PAHs (polycyclic aromatic
- 7 hydrocarbons) that you then ingest. They are very low
- 8 levels.
- 9 No one is saying stop grilling your steaks
- 10 but just be aware of where some of these products come
- 11 from. They may come from us, not just the industrial
- 12 military complex.
- 13 So anyway, in the last period of time I did
- 14 my usual stuff, review of documents and minutes and
- 15 stuff. There wasn't too much being generated over the
- 16 last six months so there wasn't a lot to do.
- 17 The user guide I submitted to Paul. My
- 18 conclusion in there about public participation and we
- 19 will await the Air Force's decision on that.
- 20 And then because of some comments that were
- 21 made especially about the Mahomet Aquifer and because
- 22 as you know the Mahomet Aquifer is in the news these
- 23 days.
- It is big news because the landfill over in

- 1 Clinton, DeWitt County wants to place some, dispose of
- 2 PCBs, polychlorinated biphenyls, in the landfill and
- 3 there is some concern and there probably should be.
- 4 Next slide please. So I am going to talk a
- 5 little bit about this environment and some of these
- 6 diagrams, there is a lot of fine stuff on them. Don't
- 7 try to read them, even on that.
- 8 I borrowed much of this. Much of the
- 9 diagrams you are going to see here I borrowed from
- 10 colleagues and former colleagues of mine at the
- 11 Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS).
- So I didn't use any Air Force documents or
- 13 any CB&I documents. These are all mine, if you will.
- 14 So what is the Mahomet Bedrock Valley. I think a lot
- 15 of people don't get it.
- 16 This is a map that was generated some years
- 17 ago. It is part of a Geological Society of America
- 18 Special Paper which was edited by Wilton Melhorn and
- 19 John Kempton who I used to work with at ISGS.
- 20 What this is, is about three states or four
- 21 states, this is West Virginia here. These tones here
- 22 are like a topographic map. The various colors
- 23 represent intervals of elevation above sea level.
- 24 So you can see here the lowest elevation is

- 1 in dark red and you can see the old trace of what
- 2 actually is the Cache River Basin down in Southern
- 3 Illinois right now.
- 4 As you can see as it goes up, it gets higher.
- 5 So this area here of Illinois, and this system is
- 6 called the Teays-Mahomet.
- 7 This is a system that existed prior to
- 8 glaciation in North America. Prior to glaciation. You
- 9 can think of this kind of like, not quite to the same
- 10 extent, but as the Grand Canyon. Just not quite that
- 11 deep.
- 12 But that is an extensive bedrock. Sure there
- 13 were other soils and other sediments on top of it but
- 14 you can see how it existed.
- 15 And here is that trace right now that we
- 16 talked about (pointing to the slide presentation). And
- 17 this is called the Mackinaw Valley. This is the old
- 18 trace of the Mississippi River prior to glaciation.
- 19 Glaciers came down here from this direction.
- 20 The Mississippi got pushed over here, the Ohio got
- 21 pushed down there and the valleys got really filled up.
- 22 Next slide. I have been struggling with this
- 23 kind of notion for years. Ever since I became a
- 24 geologist. And it usually happens in the press.

- 1 Excuse me, press guys. The press likes to
- 2 use short quick words and the easiest way when you talk
- 3 about an aquifer is to talk about it as an underground
- 4 lake or river.
- 5 It is just not true. It is not a fact. Now
- 6 you can find underground, well, lakes and rivers but
- 7 you got to go down to Kentucky or Tennessee, maybe
- 8 Missouri in what we call the Karst Terrain where the
- 9 changing in elevations and water, dissolution of
- 10 limestone so you go down there and find pools and so
- 11 forth.
- 12 But that is not what the Mahomet is. I use
- 13 this as kind of, I put this together because I used to
- 14 do this with students. Try to make them understand
- 15 actual porosity and permeability.
- 16 Let's pretend these white 5 gallon buckets,
- 17 that is the valley wall. Consider that structure. I
- 18 had them fill it with water and had them measure it by
- 19 the way because turns out they are going to do
- 20 something over here.
- 21 5 gallons isn't the top. It is actually a
- 22 little lower. So measure this, fill it with water.
- Now we don't use graduated cylinders. Just a good
- 24 old-fashioned gallon jug or maybe a quart jug.

```
1 So they do that and say, okay, we have got 5
```

- 2 gallons. I say okay, now fill this other bucket up
- 3 with -- in this case I am using pea gravel as an
- 4 example. I have done it with clay, done it with
- 5 assorted gravels.
- 6 So I do that and say all right, pour in some
- 7 water. How much water do you think you can get in
- 8 there? Well, in pea gravel you get about 1.7 gallons.
- 9 If you do that math, that is predictable from a
- 10 geologist's point of view because that is about 34, 35
- 11 percent porosity. That means that is how much void
- 12 space is in this 5 gallon bucket of pea gravel.
- 13 Then if you do that, you need to drill a hole
- 14 in it now or as we did, we would predrill a hole with a
- 15 cork and then have them drain it out.
- 16 And with the different kinds of materials we
- 17 would see how long it took to come out and how much did
- 18 come out. And even with pea gravel, you don't get it
- 19 all back out. Some of it is still hanging in there.
- 20 If you do this with clay, takes about two
- 21 days to fill it. You can actually get more water in a
- 22 bucket of clay sometimes than you can in the pea
- 23 gravel.
- 24 Because there is more porosity in clay . A

- 1 lot of space. Trouble is you can't get it back out.
- 2 And it takes you twice as long to drain it as it did to
- 3 put it in usually.
- 4 Which is what clay does when you try to put
- 5 water through it. It just doesn't like to let it go.
- 6 It hangs onto it.
- 7 Next slide please. So back to this
- 8 topography of the bedrock surface. This is specific to
- 9 the Mahomet Bedrock Valley.
- 10 This is some recent work by Andy Stumpf and
- 11 Bill Dey from the State Geological Survey, now part of
- 12 what they call the Prairie Research Institute.
- 13 And the tones here, the dark tones, the
- 14 bluish tones are elevations, low elevations. The
- 15 lighter browner shades are higher elevation in the
- 16 bedrock. Here is Rantoul. Here is Champaign.
- 17 I actually monitor two old landfills. One in
- 18 here and one in here. Both on kind of the edge of the
- 19 main valley. Just as Rantoul is on the edge of the
- 20 main valley.
- 21 Next slide. This is Sam Panno from several
- 22 years ago. The reason I am using this is this a
- 23 longitudinal cross section.
- Now don't get the idea this is the valley.

- 1 This is just a longitudinal cross section. And it is
- 2 generalized. It is not as specific for example as the
- 3 lithostratigraphy diagram that Howard held up but you
- 4 get the idea.
- 5 Here is Rantoul. This light colored stuff is
- 6 generally clay matrix dominated. Clay matrix
- 7 dominated. And then there is this Glasford Formation
- 8 slice that comes through here.
- 9 And notice that even in here around the
- 10 Mahomet area which is an area we thought was a
- 11 potential surface recharge for the Mahomet, it turns
- 12 out additional drilling and investigation shows what?
- 13 It is separated as well.
- So you can get the picture here. Down here,
- 15 this is of course the pre-Illinoisan. We don't know
- 16 exactly how old that is but it is certainly in the
- 17 hundreds of thousands and millions of years old.
- 18 And it is the basal sand gravel that makes up
- 19 this great holding of water. The recharge from that
- 20 comes from the bedrock around it.
- 21 So limestone, so Pennsylvania sandstone,
- 22 these are coal seams that are shown here. So you can
- 23 see there is a discontinuity between what we call the
- 24 Glasford or the Illinoisan age deposits.

- 1 And that is not the most recent. The most
- 2 recent is Wisconsinan, most of the things on top.
- 3 About 70,000 years ago the soil was built on top of the
- 4 Illinoisan so you know how old Illinoisan is, post
- 5 70,000 years of age.
- 6 Next slide. So here again, this is some of
- 7 the more recent work that has been done. This is again
- 8 the outline. And this is a cross section between
- 9 Champaign-Urbana that actually over kind of on the east
- 10 side of Urbana up to, up here in the corner of
- 11 northwest corner of Champaign County.
- 12 And this is a really recent study. This does
- 13 not go through where Rantoul is but Rantoul is right
- 14 about there. And if you look at it on this diagram, it
- 15 is in this neck of the woods. Again, I am doing work
- 16 that is about in that neck of the woods and in about
- 17 this neck of the woods.
- 18 Let's go to a little close-up. So just so
- 19 you know, WI means Wisconsinan and IL means Illinoisan
- 20 and PIL means pre-Illinoisan. So here we are up in
- 21 here.
- 22 And the big question is for me and it has
- 23 been for others as well. We are interested in
- 24 recharge. That is really a good aquifer.

```
1 So if we are going to be pumping out millions
```

- 2 of gallons a day, how is it getting recharged. So a
- 3 lot of us have done all kinds of tests. In fact that
- 4 is where the arsenic really comes up.
- 5 As you go further west in this valley, the
- 6 arsenic level increases because the rocks that are
- 7 bounding this aquifer are higher in arsenic than the
- 8 ones on the east side.
- 9 And the water on the west side where the
- 10 Mackinaw Valley comes in are older, really much older
- 11 than the waters here. So the question is how long does
- 12 it take to get down here. How can we get recharge.
- 13 Well, next slide please. In my case, this is
- 14 my data from several years ago. Haven't done it really
- 15 recently. No reason to. Other people have and come up
- 16 with the same numbers.
- 17 This is the top uppermost of the Glasford.
- 18 So you get down through that Wisconsinan and this is
- 19 the first potential water source of any quality.
- 20 And I have to monitor. That is my target
- 21 zone. I am not interested so much in the Mahomet
- 22 Aquifer which is the Mahomet Sands, Banner Formation
- 23 way down deep.
- I want to know right up here. I have got a

- 1 landfill sitting above us. I don't but the cities do.
- 2 So we are monitoring that like eagles for the first
- 3 sign of any problems.
- 4 So I tested this. 3,000 radiocarbon years.
- 5 Now you can debate this. Radiocarbon dating of
- 6 groundwater is not straightforward. Got a lot of
- 7 calculations.
- 8 Radiocarbon or Carbon 14, when it changes to
- 9 Carbon 12, it is about a 5,720-year half life. But it
- 10 is not, you can't just measure that way. There is a
- 11 whole set of deals, a bunch of assumptions you have to
- 12 make.
- 13 For example, water moves through it. It
- 14 might contact bones. Changes the age of it. It may
- 15 mix with other water. Changes the age of it.
- 16 Even if this is wrong by 1,000 years, 2,000
- 17 years and then we do another little test, a more modern
- 18 test called a Tritium test.
- 19 Tritium has an interesting half life, 12.3
- 20 years. So if you got "X" amount of tritium, 12.3 years
- 21 later you only have half of that amount.
- 22 And another interesting point is during the
- late 40's, 50's and 60's we had a lot of what, booms.
- 24 Atomic H test, which blossomed tritium into the

- 1 atmosphere and came down with the precipitation that
- 2 went through it.
- 3 So there is actually peaks. We get an idea
- 4 about that. But here is the thing. And this number
- 5 has to go back to when I did this which is about 10, 15
- 6 years ago.
- 7 My sample and other samples are all getting
- 8 this kind of number, less than 0.3 T.U.'s. And 1 T.U.,
- 9 by the way, is 1 H3. Tritium is an isotope of
- 10 Hydrogen. It is listed as 3H. Regular hydrogen is 2H.
- 11 So it is the ratio of one of those to one of
- 12 those to I think 10 to the 18th of the others. So you
- 13 can measure that. You can count those.
- 14 And this is less than 0.31 T.U., plus or
- 15 minus these little numbers here which means at least it
- is pre-1952. Now I don't know how much pre-1952. I
- 17 guess I can say, well, it is 1952 but it doesn't match
- 18 with the 3,000 radiocarbon years at all.
- 19 And it doesn't match, by the way, with the
- 20 geology. It doesn't match with the geology. So it is
- 21 not just 1952. It is something much, much older.
- 22 Slide please. So how does that apply out
- 23 here? Why should Nick be talking about this or
- 24 anybody. Well, looks like they established this place

- 1 about 1917. A number of things going on here. Some of
- 2 them turned, placed stuff on the surface.
- 3 TCE, we just talked about TCE. Other
- 4 materials got dumped, buried, who knows. But you know
- 5 what? Whenever it happened, if they did it all in
- 6 1917, it has only been 97 years.
- 7 Not even 1,000 years. So even if my 3,000
- 8 year number is 1,000, we still got quite a few years to
- 9 go. And that is the case in all of this.
- The geology is such that we are not getting
- 11 any recharge to the Mahomet or even to the Glasford
- 12 which is too bad in one sense because at some point we
- 13 are going to run out of that water.
- Not while I am alive. I am too old now, so
- 15 are most of you here. But down the road if they keep
- 16 pumping it out, they are going to run out of it.
- Now does that mean because of this that you
- 18 can put anything above it that you want? My answer is
- 19 no. But my point is what you have put above hasn't
- 20 gotten there yet. And if you take it out of
- 21 circulation as what has been going on here at Chanute,
- 22 it is not going to get there, ever.
- 23 Slide. Last thing I want to leave you with
- 24 is this. I am an old Carl Sagan fan and I have known

- 1 about this for a long time.
- I introduced, I put it in the Top Ten. He
- 3 didn't call it Top Ten. He just called it the baloney
- 4 kit. And not everything applies to what is going on
- 5 here but there are some things that really do and you
- 6 can read this again, but independent confirmation --.
- 7 When someone says this, whether it is me or
- 8 anybody else, check it out. Debate with knowledgeable
- 9 proponents. Knowledgeable proponents. People who know
- 10 what they are talking about. That is what you need.
- 11 Try different explanations -- which fits into
- 12 this hypothesis business. Try different explanations
- 13 for why you find or don't find something.
- Don't get attached to one hypothesis because
- 15 it is yours. I know I looked back at some stuff I
- 16 wrote 25 years ago and I said gees, did I write that,
- 17 you know. So don't get attached to anything just
- 18 because you think it is yours.
- 19 Quantify. Occam's razor: choose the
- 20 simplest explanation that explains the data. No TCDD
- 21 which is the dioxins associated with Agent Orange.
- 22 Can't find it.
- 23 At least can't find it in association with
- 24 2,4-D or 2,4,5-T. Its simplest explanation, it didn't

- 1 (Agent Orange) exist there. That is what I am getting
- 2 at.
- 3 Ask if the hypothesis can be falsified. If
- 4 not, it's not worth much. You have got to have two
- 5 sides of the coin.
- 6 You can have a hypothesis, you can have a
- 7 false hypothesis and prove one or the other. This
- 8 place is contaminated. All right. The Mahomet Aquifer
- 9 is contaminated.
- 10 It is a statement. You go look, has somebody
- 11 tested the Mahomet Aquifer, they don't find anything.
- 12 What is the answer. Well, at any rate that is what I
- 13 got to say and I am sticking to it.
- 14 If you have questions of me, I do have an
- 15 e-mail. I prefer an e-mail contact and I will answer
- 16 your question as well as I can. Thank you.
- 17 MR. ROKKE: On the aquifers and everything, I
- 18 live straight west of the base. Just straight over
- 19 there.
- Our water well right now and I just opened it
- 21 up and went down there. We are pulling water out,
- 22 water table, water level where we are pulling water out
- 23 is 85 feet below.
- 24 And I am on a high point in an area when you

- 1 look at the topography. So I sit on a high point in
- 2 the area in Champaign County. And our water table
- 3 where we are pulling the water out of the well right
- 4 now is at 85 feet.
- 5 DR. SCHNEIDER: How deep is your well?
- 6 MR. ROKKE: 130.
- 7 DR. SCHNEIDER: Where is the screen in your
- 8 well?
- 9 MR. ROKKE: Pardon me?
- 10 DR. SCHNEIDER: What interval is it screened
- 11 at?
- MR. ROKKE: We are pulling out about -- the
- 13 water level is at 85 and we were pulling it out at 95.
- DR. SCHNEIDER: That is where the screen is?
- MR. ROKKE: Yes.
- DR. SCHNEIDER: You have a 130 foot well that
- 17 is screened at the bottom --
- 18 MR. ROKKE: At the bottom of everything, we
- 19 were pulling out right at 95 feet, 97 feet.
- DR. SCHNEIDER: What is the question?
- 21 MR. ROKKE: I don't know. It is coming up.
- 22 We have to have the pumps on it. There is some but not
- 23 a whole lot. So there is not as far as, you know,
- 24 water being forced out and so all the other wells

- 1 around us which is most of my family in some of those
- 2 areas from the topography and the terrain, you look at
- 3 the maps, they are lower and so the wells are pulling
- 4 out, the water is being pulled out at probably 70 to 75
- 5 feet down, maybe 65 feet down.
- 6 That is where most of these concrete wells
- 7 all in this area are being pulled out of. So that is
- 8 where the water level for our drinking water and
- 9 everything is being removed from right now.
- 10 And so then that comes into the question
- 11 again, how much is the recharge. Because we do know
- 12 from going in previously that we have substantial
- 13 recharge in those wells.
- 14 So the water level has been going up and
- 15 down. You know, not every one or two years but 5, 10,
- 16 15 years. So the water table has definitely gone up
- 17 and then it will go down and then come back up. We are
- 18 pulling the wells out at 65 to 90.
- DR. SCHNEIDER: Let me make one quick
- 20 statement. First of all, it is not called the water
- 21 table. That is a hydraulic head because that water is
- 22 not in concert with the atmosphere . So that is the
- 23 first thing.
- 24 Secondly, you can build a well in clay. Just

- 1 dig a big enough hole, dig it deep enough, line it with
- 2 bricks, you have got a cistern and it will seep in.
- 3 Because it is coming from other places that aren't
- 4 being pumped. But not being recharged from the
- 5 surface. That is the difference.
- 6 MR. WRIGHT: In the interest of time, we have
- 7 run a little bit long because of the need to explain
- 8 this question of the dioxins so I will turn it over to
- 9 Mr. Sparrow to talk about the environmental cleanup and
- 10 then we will move on to Mr. Carroll to give us the Air
- 11 Force Updates.
- MR. SPARROW: I will try to be brief. I know
- 13 we are running late here today. I did pass out, there
- 14 was a map out in front. Everybody should have picked
- 15 it up.
- 16 Kind of gives you an update of our
- 17 environmental progress there. It is pretty
- 18 self-explanatory and I think most people have seen that
- 19 map before so I am not going to go into a lot of detail
- 20 about that.
- Just a couple of things that we have
- 22 accomplished since the last RAB meeting that was in
- November.
- 24 First we did complete the work over at the

- 1 skeet range and complete the excavations there, remove
- 2 all of the soils that were contaminated with lead and
- 3 that site is now being, the final documentation is
- 4 being approved or reviewed by the regulatory agencies.
- 5 And that site will be closed with no land use
- 6 restrictions and will be available for public use
- 7 coming up soon.
- 8 There was a Record of Decision Amendment that
- 9 was approved by the Air Force and the regulatory
- 10 agencies regarding the Water Tower 968, the one that
- 11 was removed in the back part of the Air Force Base.
- 12 And I will talk just briefly about that in a
- 13 second. And we continued to do our groundwater
- 14 monitoring as well as the compliance monitoring for the
- 15 landfills.
- 16 The Water Tower 968 we did just complete or
- 17 are completing the soil samples for that. We have
- 18 identified there is lead-based paint in soil there from
- 19 lead-based paint on the water tower. The water tower
- 20 has been removed but the paint is still in the ground.
- 21 And as soon as we complete the analytical
- 22 results and the delineation of where that soil
- 23 contamination is, we will do the excavation of that
- 24 probably in just a couple of weeks so that site will be

- 1 cleaned up for unrestricted land use.
- 2 This is a summary slide here giving you our
- 3 progress bar chart. Again, we pretty much completed
- 4 all of the documentation.
- 5 The only items remaining are the Remedial
- 6 Actions in completing the cleanups on about 17 sites
- 7 that are left. About 25 sites have been closed or are
- 8 in the process of being closed of the original 47
- 9 sites.
- 10 And then we have about 18 sites for which we
- 11 have ongoing remedial activities. There is one site
- 12 that is regulated, an underground storage tank site and
- 13 we are still completing that one.
- 14 There were five sites (non-CERCLA) to be
- 15 cleaned up. Four of those have been cleaned up. There
- is only one that is remaining to be cleaned up.
- 17 And work that we have got coming up this
- 18 summer, again, continuing all of our performance
- 19 monitoring of our wells, continuing the landfill
- 20 operations.
- 21 We again will do the soil excavation of 968
- 22 and we are also doing optimization of remedial actions
- 23 that were taken about a year or two ago both at the
- 24 Fire Training Area 2 site and Building 995.

```
1 They are indicated on this drawing but they
```

- 2 are way down in the very far area of the facility.
- 3 There is still some fuel contamination at the Fire
- 4 Training Area 2 site. Remedial actions were taken in
- 5 cleaning it up but they are not performing fast enough.
- 6 So our intent is to go back and do some more
- 7 excavations of soils. We found that there are some
- 8 soils remaining that have fuels in there that is bound
- 9 up in clay soils. We will do the excavations of that
- 10 this summer.
- 11 As well as over in 968 there is some of the
- 12 TCE, Trichloroethylene, contamination that is bound up
- 13 in the soils. We have identified a couple of small
- 14 areas and we are going to go in and do some additional
- 15 excavations and we will continue the cleanup process
- 16 for groundwater. That is Building 995, I am sorry.
- 17 At 995. And that is pretty much the status of that.
- 18 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you. Now Mr. Carroll, can
- 19 you provide the Air Force Updates?
- 20 MR. CARROLL: I'll talk about the Multiple
- 21 Facility Demolition and Abatement, the steam plant
- 22 demolition and the steam vault, steam line vaults that
- 23 we have been talking about.
- 24 Give you an update on the EDC Property

- 1 Transfer issues. And the next one is Property Review
- 2 and Actions concerning asbestos and buildings.
- 3 That may be new to the RAB but it is a
- 4 continuing thing that we have been talking about. And
- 5 discuss last, the Archive Search Report that we are
- 6 conducting as we speak with the Corps of Engineers.
- 7 On the Multiple Facility Demolition, I will
- 8 say steam plant and steam plant vaults, demolition and
- 9 abatement that we have going on.
- 10 As you all know that contract was awarded
- 11 back before March and the work, actual work began March
- 12 31. As you have all been around the former base, you
- 13 can see the white plastic material on the windows.
- 14 That is part of the asbestos abatement work.
- 15 And there is negative pressure. The building is sealed
- 16 and under negative pressure when they are conducting
- 17 that activity.
- 18 This past week they just cleaned up enough of
- 19 the loose asbestos from the building to clear the
- 20 building so that the scaffolding company could go in
- 21 and erect the scaffolding to do the remaining abatement
- 22 for the piping and from the actual boilers inside the
- 23 building.
- 24 So we have gotten to another step and they I

- 1 think they are turning back on the HEPA filtration unit
- 2 either today or yesterday. And they are going back and
- 3 starting to do that, the abatement.
- 4 There was an article that identified what is
- 5 going on last week in the Rantoul Press, maybe two
- 6 weeks ago now but it was pretty clear about the
- 7 process. And if you haven't read that, go back to the
- 8 website and take a look at that.
- 9 The additional work we are doing under the
- 10 same contract is a Corps of Engineers contract and it
- 11 is to abate and to take care of all of these old steam
- 12 line vaults that you see across the base.
- 13 And they are the old junction boxes basically
- 14 with the steel lids and they have the little gooseneck
- 15 pipe coming out of them.
- And as we briefed, we are going to abate
- 17 those. Abate asbestos if asbestos is present in those.
- 18 Take care of the piping, get rid of the piping in there
- 19 and then do the demolition of those old vaults and
- 20 restore that to what the surrounding area is.
- 21 If it is grass, it will be grass. If it is
- 22 asphalt, it will be asphalt. Anyway we are about
- 23 halfway done with that. And they have done piping
- 24 removal on about half of that. The demolition of those

- 1 vaults should begin about mid-May.
- 2 So some of the vaults didn't have asbestos in
- 3 them so you may see a work crew there that doesn't have
- 4 containment or doesn't have a little tent there but
- 5 some of them do and you will see something similar on a
- 6 smaller scale that you see in the steam plant where you
- 7 have got the containment system in there and they will
- 8 have the negative pressure. They will be working.
- 9 That is all being done in accordance with EPA
- 10 guidance and regulatory requirements. The other thing
- 11 we are doing as part of that and this was a life safety
- 12 thing, what we call life safety issue, was the old
- 13 waste water treatment plant that was in the
- 14 southeastern part of the base that had Dosing and
- 15 Imhoff Tanks.
- 16 These are large concrete structures that we
- 17 needed to get demolished for safety issues. These
- 18 concrete structures have been demolished. I think
- 19 there is a little bit of one left but they are almost
- 20 done with that.
- 21 They are recycling the concrete and they are
- 22 clearing the trees and they have chipped those for
- 23 reuse and they are about ready to restore the site
- 24 where we got a little ahead of ourselves on that -

- 1 but they are going to restore and hydroseed that site.
- 2 So if you have driven by the old fire
- 3 training area and seen the restoration there, it will
- 4 probably be something similar to that on a smaller
- 5 scale. It will be a nice green field once they are
- 6 done, once the grass is back and established.
- 7 On the property transfer, I don't have any
- 8 sub bullets under that but we are making progress on
- 9 the property transfer.
- The economic development conveyance we have
- 11 been talking about for several years is at DoD,
- 12 Department of Defense for approval as we speak. We
- 13 have received comments from them. We have addressed
- 14 those comments. Those comments are going back in this
- 15 week.
- 16 And we expect to have their approval on that
- 17 EDC, Economic Development Conveyance, that is the
- 18 trigger for the property transfer for the remaining
- 19 property on Chanute with the exception of the 50 some
- 20 odd acres that we still have with the airport FAA
- 21 transfer.
- 22 So we are nearing completion on that EDC
- 23 agreement. And of course linked to that agreement is
- 24 the demolition of White Hall.

```
1 So we hope to be ready to announce very soon
```

- 2 that that project is going to be moving forward. We
- 3 have to wait for that EDC to be approved to be able to
- 4 officially announce anything on that.
- 5 One thing we have done as part of getting
- 6 ready for the whole base transfer is to look at, take a
- 7 comprehensive look at all the documents.
- 8 And as you know in 1993 when the base was
- 9 closed, there was a master lease with the Village of
- 10 Rantoul for almost all of the property.
- 11 As part of looking into that, that master
- 12 lease had a clause in it that said the Air Force was
- 13 going to come in and abate some asbestos that was
- 14 damaged and deteriorated in about 40 some odd buildings
- 15 I believe.
- 16 And we weren't sure looking at the historical
- 17 documents whether that had ever been done. We did see
- 18 a few cases where it had been done, the buildings had
- 19 been demolished and the abatement was part of that.
- 20 But this is kind of a run through of what we
- 21 did as to determine what we needed to do next. We saw
- that 18 buildings had been demolished, abated or no
- 23 asbestos was present in those.
- 24 When we hired -- let me back up. We hired a

- 1 contractor to go in and do inspections on all the
- 2 buildings that had yet to be transferred and then
- 3 include all of these buildings that we had that
- 4 commitment in 1993 to abate.
- 5 So as part of that, they looked at all of
- 6 these, found those 18 that have already been taken care
- 7 of. One building couldn't be assessed because it was
- 8 dangerous to enter the building.
- 9 That building is safe. It has been boarded
- 10 up by the Village of Rantoul and it is kept safe so
- 11 nobody is able to enter that building.
- 12 Four buildings were transferred through to
- 13 the State of Illinois for the Lincoln's Challenge
- 14 campus over here.
- 15 And those were transferred with the
- 16 understanding that those buildings did have asbestos
- 17 problems and they are going to be demolished. So that
- 18 is going to be the National Guard Bureau responsibility
- 19 and then --
- 20 MR. ROKKE: Excuse me. Will the Air Force
- 21 pick up the cost for the asbestos abatement within
- 22 those structures or will the State of Illinois be
- 23 required to pick up the cost?
- 24 MR. CARROLL: That has been understood by the

- 1 State of Illinois that that was going to be their call
- 2 to -- they were going to demolish those buildings
- 3 anyway. And abatement is part of that demolition cost
- 4 and they understood that.
- 5 MR. ROKKE: The demolition cost, the asbestos
- 6 abatement within the demolition cost since the Air
- 7 Force generated the asbestos in there, will the Air
- 8 Force pick up the cost for the asbestos abatement as a
- 9 portion of the demolition?
- 10 MR. CARROLL: No. We don't plan to do that
- 11 and that is understood with the State National Guard.
- 12 That is part of what their initial funding was to do as
- 13 part of their demolition for that campus.
- 14 MR. ROKKE: I am still concerned. Why should
- 15 the State of Illinois, Illinois Army National Guard
- 16 be responsible for asbestos abatement within those
- 17 structures created by and from the Air Force?
- 18 MR. WRIGHT: The why of it for the purposes of
- 19 time, we will capture that. Can we address the why of
- 20 it later?
- MR. CARROLL: Yes.
- 22 MR. WRIGHT: I don't think we can answer why.
- 23 MR. CARROLL: 17 buildings require further
- 24 abatement by the Air Force. Due to these inspections

- 1 that we have done, it is revealed through these
- 2 inspections that our contractor told us that there are
- 3 17 buildings that we still need to address under that
- 4 original obligation.
- 5 6 of those buildings are occupied. 11 are
- 6 unoccupied. And if you go to the next slide, what we
- 7 did when we found out, the reports aren't final yet.
- 8 Even before we got the draft reports, we got
- 9 this information from our contractor and went ahead in
- 10 an abundance of caution and performed air quality
- 11 testing in all of these buildings that are occupied.
- 12 All results were well below the most
- 13 stringent asbestos air quality requirements for public
- 14 buildings and schools.
- 15 In addition as another control measure, we
- 16 coordinated with the village on necessary interim
- 17 control measures to allow continued use of these
- 18 occupied buildings. Including ensuring damaged
- 19 asbestos containing material is covered or removed,
- 20 installed signage identifying locations of ACM,
- 21 asbestos-containing materials, in mechanical rooms and
- 22 also sealed off potential asbestos hazards as needed to
- 23 minimize any threat to human health and the environment
- 24 and comply with applicable laws and regulations.

- 1 So that has all been done and we are
- 2 monitoring those buildings where we have done that
- 3 work. We have contractors going in there a couple of
- 4 times a week to make sure those are maintained and not
- 5 damaged or anything like that.
- 6 MR. WANG: Should the Board members know the
- 7 buildings? When you say 17 buildings, I have no clue.
- 8 MR. CARROLL: Yes. Those buildings, and I
- 9 have a list of those buildings somewhere. We can
- 10 follow up with that.
- 11 MR. WANG: I would like to see where they are
- 12 here too.
- MR. ROKKE: Does the Air Force have any plans
- 14 to check for asbestos or lead paint within all of the
- 15 former housing units on the installation?
- 16 MR. CARROLL: Those former housing units were
- 17 transferred years and years ago. That was part of that
- 18 transfer and notification was given to the recipients
- 19 at that time.
- 20 So that is something we have no obligation to
- 21 go back and do. That was done a long time ago. People
- 22 were made aware that that was a, you know, a condition
- 23 of the buildings when the buildings was transferred and
- 24 they were made aware of their responsibilities to

- 1 maintain those buildings after transfer.
- One of those (17) buildings is Grissom Hall.
- 3 That is occupied which is the Chanute Air Museum and it
- 4 houses the theater and the Lincoln's Challenge, some
- 5 Lincoln's Challenge classes.
- 6 There is a building -- I want to be sure that
- 7 we have them all down. So that is Building 12. There
- 8 is Building 52 that is over here in the eastern part of
- 9 the base. Building 61. Building 729. Building 801
- 10 across from the church on the south part of the base.
- 11 And this ranged from, you know, a door seal
- 12 or maybe a boiler unit seal in a mechanical room or
- 13 mechanical room damage to vent work that is up above
- 14 suspended ceilings to -- here is where our contractor
- 15 is being a little bit more cautious than maybe they
- 16 would have to be in another state --
- 17 Even floor tile that is damaged, they are
- 18 considering damaged ACM. We want out of caution to be
- 19 sure that that is addressed. And then Building 975
- 20 which is a storage unit.
- 21 MR. HUSBANDS: 52, 61, 729, 801 and 975. The
- 22 other unoccupied buildings are 2 --
- MR. WRIGHT: What you just inquired was just a
- 24 comprehensive list?

```
1 MR. WANG: Yeah. Giving the Board members a
```

- 2 list of these buildings.
- 3 MR. CARROLL: We will do that as a followup.
- 4 MR. WANG: Thank you.
- 5 MR. CARROLL: Okay. The next thing that we
- 6 have is something that we have done also to do as
- 7 comprehensive of a review as we can of the Operational
- 8 History of Chanute.
- 9 The Operational History is what happened over
- 10 time. And there was an initial report that was drafted
- in 2003 that went through the Operational History of
- 12 what kind of activities occurred and it really focussed
- 13 a lot on munitions, firing ranges, the smoke grenade
- 14 testing and other things including chemical agent
- 15 training that we had -- that the Air Force had done
- 16 over time.
- 17 And that report is due out soon but we have
- 18 also met with the Corps of Engineers who did that
- 19 archive search and found that there is one feature of
- 20 interest that we need to look at fairly quickly and
- 21 there was a chemical agent training building on the
- 22 south part of the base and it is near Century Boulevard
- 23 and Chandler Road that we already knew existed and that
- 24 they had done chlorine gas testing, gas mask testing.

```
1 But this search report, this search has
```

- 2 revealed that there is more training that went on there
- 3 than we had understood had happened. This training was
- 4 chemical agent identification and decontamination.
- 5 So we don't know the extent of that training
- 6 but we do know it was in the vicinity based on the
- 7 historical documents that that training was done in the
- 8 vicinity of that building.
- 9 It's on transferred property and we have
- 10 contacted the village and notified them of where that
- 11 location is and, you know, that is a location where
- 12 there was some gardening planned for this year and we
- 13 asked them to hold off on that until we were absolutely
- 14 sure that we looked at that and made sure there was no
- 15 problem there out of caution.
- 16 And we are working on a contract to go out
- 17 there and investigate that location to see if there is
- 18 anything that might be residual from that.
- 19 For instance, it is understood that they may
- 20 have used some carbon tetrachloride which is a cleaning
- 21 solvent as part of their activities there and they may
- 22 have used these chemical agent training kits that the
- 23 troops had to go through to identify what chemical
- 24 agent that they are looking for.

1 So we should have a contract awarded for that

- 2 very soon and be out there looking, making sure that
- 3 there is nothing there that is a residual of those
- 4 activities. And those activities occurred we think in
- 5 the 30's and up through World War II up until about
- 6 1950.
- 7 MR. ROKKE: The NCOIC that ran that facility
- 8 along with the rest of the team is still here in the
- 9 community. So he has been to the meetings previously.
- 10 He has raised questions at meetings
- 11 previously. And all of us that did do the NBC training
- 12 here, most of us are still within the immediate
- 13 vicinity.
- 14 So we can talk about that. One concern that
- 15 I do have and this is connected with that facility,
- 16 back in during the Vietnam War era, there were riots on
- 17 the University of Illinois campus at which time
- 18 chemical weapons were dispatched from Chanute Air Force
- 19 Base, very specifically an extreme form of CS gas for
- 20 use on Chanute down there in the campus.
- 21 In 1987 behind the Armory Reserve Center and
- 22 METCAD and everything else, the telephone company was
- 23 putting in new trunk lines for a telephone line. They
- 24 unearthed buried chemical warfare munitions buried out

1 in the field which would be behind METCAD and the

- 2 Armory Reserve Center.
- 3 And as a consequence our specific team,
- 4 myself, Rolla Dohlph and then Matt Weber, Spike Weber
- 5 were called in by Paul Dollins and his other team
- 6 members, Art Slates and Gene Brinkley. And we had to
- 7 go in and remove all of that stuff.
- 8 And what we did at that time is we went into
- 9 Level A suits, I was in the Level A suits with Spike.
- 10 Matt Weber was running decontamination.
- 11 Rolla Dohlph was on the phone back to the U
- 12 of I Police Department who was on the phone to
- 13 Washington D.C. to get instructions.
- Once we recovered it, we put it in 55 gallon
- 15 drums. They were put into the Armory Reserve Center
- 16 garage and they flew in the black helicopters from
- 17 Granite City to remove those.
- 18 The question I have is there anything, other
- 19 things remaining out there because I don't know if
- 20 anybody went out to do it.
- 21 I only know of the one site we found during
- 22 the telephone company excavation that our specific team
- 23 of chemical experts for the Army did clean up.
- MR. CARROLL: That was in Champaign ?

- 1 MR. ROKKE: It was out on East Main Street in
- 2 Urbana. We do know that the stuff came from Chanute.
- 3 The containers came from Chanute.
- 4 MR. CARROLL: We will double check to see if
- 5 there is any indication of any later stories of
- 6 chemical weapons, chemical warfare material or anything
- 7 like that.
- 8 We have not to date have indication that
- 9 occurred past the early 1950's. And what was here was
- 10 the identification kits training which is not a
- 11 chemical warfare material.
- 12 MR. ROKKE: It was CS because what we did, we
- 13 ran a gas chamber here like we did at all other
- 14 installations. And we ran people through that.
- 15 MR. WRIGHT: Part of the archive search, if
- 16 there is any kind of documentation anybody has that
- 17 brings out that kind of information, that is the kind
- 18 of stuff we want to capture in the archive search.
- 19 MR. ROKKE: I do have the videotapes from that
- 20 operation. We do still have the official Army reports
- 21 still available.
- MR. WRIGHT: I think that kind of stuff would
- 23 be I think useful.
- 24 MR. CARROLL: We will be looking at that very

- 1 soon and be putting a rush on that to try to make sure
- 2 that we get that addressed because the village wants to
- 3 go in and have that available for use as soon as they
- 4 can. And we want to be sure and have caution to take
- 5 that, make sure there is no problem.
- 6 MR. WRIGHT: To expand on Dr. Rokke's comment,
- 7 if you have documentation, please share that with the
- 8 Air Force. The Air Force wants to get all this
- 9 information, wants to consolidate it.
- 10 Any kind of document that you have that
- 11 applies to the cleanup will be a welcomed addition to
- 12 the library that we have been collecting.
- 13 MR. ROKKE: When that facility left Chanute
- 14 Air Force Base, it went to Fort McClellan, Alabama.
- 15 That is where the Air Force moved their facility to.
- 16 And that structure and that facility around
- 17 there outside the immediate Air Force facility where
- 18 they moved this stuff from Chanute to, there is
- 19 substantial contamination at this time.
- 20 And it still did at that time because I was a
- 21 director down there at the time when we went to close
- 22 the base and we had the problems.
- MR. WRIGHT: Specifically now getting back to
- 24 this discussion, are there any Board members, what we

- 1 are going to do, the next thing we are going to do is
- 2 identify items of interest from the Board before we
- 3 open it up to the community.
- 4 So from the Board members, are there any
- 5 specific items related to this brief or related to
- 6 Chanute that we need to bring up at this point? Open
- 7 items?
- 8 MR. ROKKE: Still going back to the previous
- 9 concern, given the extent of contamination prior to
- 10 remediation activities, given the extent of certain
- 11 contamination on the base during remediation activities
- 12 that we still need to finish, I would suggest that the
- 13 Air Force notify the VA and notify, have a notification
- 14 for prior people that were stationed at Chanute, family
- 15 members, anything, of what the contamination is or
- 16 could have been such that they can obtain proper
- 17 physical health assessments and then obtain medical
- 18 care.
- 19 As a result of everything, I did coordinate
- 20 with Dr. Matthew Reinhard at the War Related Illness
- 21 Injury Study Clinic in Washington D.C. And their phone
- 22 number is 1-800-722-8340.
- 23 And Dr. Reinhard has agreed to accept any
- 24 former Chanuters on consult to their clinic for

- 1 assessment of health effects.
- We have individuals here in the community
- 3 right now that are sick that worked on the base that
- 4 are already going out there for medical care. I have
- 5 been there and part of our other team has already been
- 6 out there also.
- 7 MR. WRIGHT: I think probably, sir, the avenue
- 8 to address that I think going through the media to make
- 9 those kind of alerts are probably a better way.
- 10 I think for the Board for purposes of this
- 11 Board itself, I don't know how much this Board can do
- 12 in terms of that specific avenue.
- I think the folks here are primarily
- 14 concerned about reconstituting the installation itself
- 15 back to or continuing that reconstitution course with
- 16 the environmental requirements.
- 17 So I appreciate that information. I just
- 18 don't know if these folks from the Air Force can
- 19 actually take action on that. So pressing on. Sir?
- 20 MR. WANG: I guess the village has
- 21 representation, a co-chair, but this person is no
- 22 longer here. So in time we replace --
- MR. WRIGHT: Sir, as far as we know, Mr.
- 24 Sandahl is still on the Board. Any type of activity,

- 1 we have reached out to him. We have not heard back
- 2 from him.
- 3 So we had this discussion earlier. So the
- 4 position of the Air Force is until the -- or let me put
- 5 it like this.
- 6 They are still trying to contact him and they
- 7 will take appropriate action once they find out what
- 8 his position is. Because his employment situation
- 9 really has nothing to do with his position on the
- 10 Board. He may just be absent.
- MR. WANG: Okay.
- MR. WRIGHT: Would you like to add anything
- 13 to that?
- MR. CARROLL: I think as you said in the RAB
- 15 operating procedures, he is the RAB co-chair, he is not
- 16 the RAB co-chair because he was the village
- 17 administrator. He is the RAB co-chair because he was
- 18 voted in as that.
- 19 So until, unless and until we hear from him
- 20 and we go through the procedure, the other alternate
- 21 procedures we have after he hasn't been here for a
- 22 number of times --
- 23 MR. WANG: I understand but my understanding
- 24 is he has a role on this Board. He is representing the

- 1 Rantoul government and making sure the interests of
- 2 Rantoul government.
- 3 And so that is why. He is no longer in the
- 4 village of Rantoul government. What is the plan? Do
- 5 we want to replace someone or --
- 6 MR. CARROLL: When we do hear from Bruce that
- 7 he plans to resign or if he submits his resignation, we
- 8 will go through the process of working on electing a
- 9 new co-chair.
- 10 MS. RAWLINGS: The communication with the
- 11 village continues, right? That has not stopped? I
- 12 assume they are. So I assume you have ongoing
- 13 conversations?
- 14 MR. CARROLL: Yes. We are in almost constant
- 15 communication with the village. A lot of these issues,
- 16 most of these issues we have talked about today so,
- 17 yeah. We have talked several times a week here
- 18 recently.
- 19 MR. WRIGHT: It might be helpful to document
- 20 that communication so that the Board members understand
- 21 what communication is taking place and how that is
- 22 going to happen in the absence of Mr. Sandahl.
- MS. BECNEL: I have one issue I would like to
- 24 bring up. The whole issue of contamination of the

- 1 base, Agent Orange, and all of those kinds of issues
- 2 are still pretty prominent in the minds of, you know,
- 3 some members of the community.
- 4 And I was wondering is there any possibility
- 5 of maybe having a public forum especially for that
- 6 purpose? Structured.
- 7 I mean, I like the idea that you have here,
- 8 you know, keeping things focused for the purpose of
- 9 information. Information, conversation, you know,
- 10 let's shed light on it.
- 11 Let's bring more information to the situation
- 12 rather than cutting the conversation off. I think by
- 13 having as much information as possible about what took
- 14 place here, what is Agent Orange.
- I mean, it is taking on a life of its own. I
- 16 mean, it is like a boogeyman or something. I mean,
- 17 what is it? What was it used for? Just a lot of
- 18 particulars so people can understand and, you know, why
- 19 it wouldn't be here.
- 20 And I think if we can get some more positive
- 21 information, maybe this will help to alleviate some of
- 22 the concerns and fears that some members of the
- 23 community still have.
- 24 Maybe a slightly more informal discussion but

- 1 with, you know, persons who are informed. For example,
- 2 Dr. Schneider, people like Dr. Schneider, the EPA.
- 3 You know, just let's have a forum, maybe even
- 4 a couple to finally put certain ideas to rest in terms
- of, you know, what is going on and what isn't going on.
- 6 I think that that would be useful at least to consider.
- 7 MR. WRIGHT: I would say it would actually be
- 8 very valuable and what I am thinking I think if the Air
- 9 Force were invited to that.
- 10 Dr. Schneider is at your disposal. I mean,
- 11 he is here specifically to answer questions, quick
- 12 questions in the language that can be consumed.
- So I would venture to say that you have
- 14 avenues through the folks here to communicate with the
- 15 Air Force. If the village or if the community set up
- 16 something like that and invited the Air Force, I would
- 17 venture to say that the avenues opened through the
- 18 staff that is here for folks who attend and participate
- 19 in that and answer the questions.
- 20 And Mr. Carroll is an absolute expert on this
- 21 stuff and there are other folks who I have worked with
- 22 in the past with the base recovery and closure activity
- 23 who are experts on this stuff, who know this stuff.
- 24 They know the law, they know the policy, history, the

- 1 politics. They know the funding sources.
- 2 So there is a slew of expertise that is
- 3 available to come to the community if invited and speak
- 4 at that. And correct me if I speak out of turn but I
- 5 think the Air Force is more than willing and would
- 6 encourage the community to do that type of stuff to
- 7 give them an opportunity to kind of clear the air.
- 8 MS. BECNEL: And also a public forum that is
- 9 well publicized in the media inviting the community but
- 10 very structured, pretty structured but informal because
- 11 I like the idea of appropriate ideas being discussed
- 12 like you have indicated.
- MR. WRIGHT: I think the Air Force just based
- 14 on the structure couldn't do that but I think if the
- 15 community did it, the Air Force would be a willing
- 16 participant.
- 17 So if the community took that on either
- 18 through an economic development group or some other
- 19 entity within the community that has the wherewithal to
- 20 put that stuff in the paper, to send out fliers. If
- 21 you understand how the communication channels work in
- 22 your community.
- 23 If you set that up, the Air Force will
- 24 participate. I would promise you. My experience with

- 1 the Air Force has been opportunities to engage with the
- 2 public are not passed on lightly if you are going to
- 3 set that type of thing up. So I think I would welcome,
- 4 I encourage it actually.
- 5 MR. ROKKE: In the same tone, I am the host of
- 6 Warrior Connection which is a weekly national radio
- 7 show for military veterans and current military. It is
- 8 on the Progressive Radio Network.
- 9 I specifically asked before and I would like
- 10 to ask again what is the possibility of getting an Air
- 11 Force representative to come on to my radio show on
- 12 Sunday night to discuss Chanute Air Force Base.
- MR. WRIGHT: I would say having been an
- 14 ex-chief of public affairs, one-on-one type radio
- 15 shows, that is a very convoluted process for the Air
- 16 Force.
- 17 They are very, very -- I was public affairs
- 18 chief. I am a civil engineer by trade but I was public
- 19 affairs for the Air Force Base.
- It is not a simple thing to send people to
- 21 radio shows only because of the nature of the questions
- 22 and possibly get off track.
- 23 That is one of the things, there is an
- 24 official request process. If you pass it through these

- 1 folks, I don't know the specific request process for
- 2 the Public Affairs Activity in San Antonio but there is
- 3 a very, very specific process to request public affairs
- 4 interviews and from my experience in the past, those
- 5 things were not taken lightly.
- 6 MR. ROKKE: I understand.
- 7 MR. CARROLL: I have previously contacted our
- 8 PA office with that request. It has been refused.
- 9 MR. WRIGHT: There are a lot of reasons for
- 10 that. And because of time, I would like to see, do we
- 11 have anybody in the community audience that has a
- 12 question that has not been answered here? I know we
- 13 have gone very long and I apologize for that.
- MS. THOMPSON: My name is Holly Thompson. I
- 15 am a librarian. When they were talking about the
- 16 alleged Agent Orange usage, did I understand this
- 17 correctly?
- 18 The two components, the two herbicides that
- 19 are used to make Agent Orange were combined together
- 20 and sprayed here but it is not Agent Orange because we
- 21 don't know if it is the same portion; is that correct?
- MR. SPARROW: I would like to make a
- 23 clarification to that. There was one individual that
- 24 said he mixed some components. That does not make

- 1 Agent Orange.
- 2 So you know, whether they were mixed here or
- 3 not is not really true. What was used were two
- 4 different herbicides and it is just two common
- 5 herbicides that were used on base.
- 6 So they were not Agent Orange. Agent Orange
- 7 is a specific manufactured process. Just pouring two
- 8 things together doesn't make it.
- 9 MS. THOMPSON: So it wasn't the same
- 10 proportions?
- 11 MR. SPARROW: It is manufactured as Agent
- 12 Orange. So you have to manufacture that. Agent Orange
- 13 it is not just pouring two liquids together.
- MS. THOMPSON: My question was: Was it the
- 15 same two herbicides that were used but it is not the
- same thing because it wasn't done at a facility?
- 17 MR. SPARROW: The individual said he used
- 18 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T. Those two components are components
- 19 of Agent Orange.
- MS. THOMPSON: Thank you.
- 21 MR. ROKKE: Continuing on on the Agent Orange,
- 22 Admiral Elmo Zumwalt in 1990 wrote the major report for
- 23 the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs on the extent,
- 24 the use and the hazards of Agent Orange and dioxin and

- 1 everything.
- 2 MR. WRIGHT: Sir, I hate to interrupt but
- 3 because of time component and the Admiral Zumwalt
- 4 report, I think it is addressed in the last --
- 5 MR. CARROLL: It has been addressed many
- 6 times.
- 7 MR. WRIGHT: I apologize. I know you want to
- 8 get this stuff out but I think it has been addressed
- 9 previously.
- 10 And I would like to find out if we have any
- 11 items that haven't been addressed in the community
- 12 while we have got the folks here. We are already 45
- 13 minutes longer. Are there any other community issues
- 14 anyone would like to address?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 MR. WRIGHT: Great. Thank you. And, sir, if
- 17 you want to talk with me afterwards, I will be here.
- 18 In that case, thank you so much.
- 19 Just a couple Meeting Wrap-Up. We do have
- 20 some Action Items here we will capture and send it out
- 21 to the Board.
- 22 And there are some additional items passed
- 23 around the room that we will address also. Mr.
- 24 Carroll, you are going to talk about the agenda item

- 1 for the next meeting.
- 2 MR. CARROLL: Typically we get up and talk
- 3 about what the Air Force is going to be briefing during
- 4 the next RAB.
- 5 You all know the drill. Howard will have an
- 6 update on the environmental cleanup progress. I will
- 7 hopefully have good news on the EDC Property Transfer
- 8 progress by the time we have our next RAB.
- 9 And let's see, anything else the Air Force
- 10 needs to -- oh, yeah, steam plant demolition should be
- 11 well progressed by then.
- 12 White Hall, we hope once the EDC gets
- 13 approved, we hope we get some good news on White Hall
- 14 and that progress. Those are the things the Air Force
- 15 wants to bring up and we will open it up for RAB member
- 16 recommendations now. Anything else?
- 17 (No response.)
- MR. CARROLL: We're good to go. I won't
- 19 belabor the point then. Then that is it.
- 20 MR. WRIGHT: I am going to capture your
- 21 question to communicate to the city government. And if
- 22 that is it, ladies and gentlemen, thank you for
- 23 attending. Thank you for the police for stopping by.
- 24 Thank you and have a great day.

```
MR. CARROLL: The next proposed RAB meeting is
1
 2 November 20.
         (Meeting concluded at 1:48 p.m.)
3
 4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```

1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
2	
3	I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
4	accurate transcript of the proceedings had in the
5	above-entitled matter taken on May 15, 2014,
6	stenographically recorded by me and reduced to
7	typewriting at my direction.
8	
9	
10	Becky L. Jessup, CSR
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	