

Final Meeting Minutes
Former Galena FOL Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
Galena, Alaska
19 August 2014

Time/Place: 7:00 pm, 19 August 2014 – Larson Charlie Hall, Galena, Alaska

Attendees (not a comprehensive list):

Tim Bodony (RAB Member)
Jon Korta – Mayor City of Galena (RAB Member)
AL Weilbacher, Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC)
Donna Kozak, Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH)
Bruce Henry, Parsons
Ed Heyse, Parsons
Win Westervelt, CH2M HILL
Mike Sanchez, CH2M HILL
Tom Palaia, CH2M HILL
Adam Plack, USACE Omaha
Jamie Oakley, Ahtna Engineering Services
Dennis Shepherd, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Monte Garrouette, ADEC
Sam Myers, Alaska Department of Transportation (ADOT)
Phil Koontz, Louden Tribal Council
Betty Huntington, Gana-A'Yoo Limited

Agenda: See **Attachment 1**

Introduction:

AL Weilbacher. The lack of RAB membership was discussed. One RAB member has passed away, some others have been inactive. Tim Bodony said he would try to recruit other RAB members. AL Weilbacher also discussed the RAB schedule noting the difficulty of having RAB meetings in late summer due to multiple commitments among community members during this busy time of year. Suggested considering one RAB meeting per year in April. Tim indicated the community would like to continue to have two meetings per year.

Presentations:

A presentation was provided to update status of the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) for the Former Galena FOL. An introduction was provided by Adam Plack (USACE).

- Jamie Oakley presented the results of MMRP investigations at the Former Galena FOL (**Attachment 2**). Several sites in the Former Galena FOL were investigated. Although some munitions debris were discovered, including rocket casings, no MEC, hazards or explosives were discovered at any of the sites.
 - o Question: Phil Koontz asked whether similar investigations will be conducted at Campion? Answer: yes, information to be presented separate from the Former Galena FOL presentation.
 - o Question: Win Westervelt asked whether these are the final MMRP investigations at Galena: Answer: The only remaining work under the current MMRP for the Former Galena FOL is the firing range cleanup.

Bruce Henry and Win Westervelt presented the proposed remedies under the Former Galena FOL Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) contract (**Attachment 3**). The presentation explained the various technologies that are proposed and emphasized that public comment was being solicited for sites regulated under the ADEC Contaminated Sites Program ("SC" sites). Also presented were approaches for sites regulated under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, or "RI" sites) to provide a comprehensive cleanup picture. However, it was explained that formal public comment will be solicited for these sites in accordance with the CERCLA process. AL Weilbacher and Bruce Henry's contact information were presented and comments were requested by 29 August 2014 (phone, email, letter all acceptable).

Dennis Shepard (ADEC) re-emphasized the public comment process and the opportunity to provide input on the remedies. ADEC will compare the nature and extent of contamination to the effectiveness of proposed remedies, and approve approaches that are effective for the contaminants of concern. However, the first step is to obtain community input on proposed cleanup methods. Dennis also noted that more details on the proposed remedies, and refinement of the approaches, will be forthcoming as the cleanup plans are developed. Dennis also discussed the ADEC GIS database. Air Force geo-referenced data has been put into a data base and compared to ADEC standards, and is available for public review. This will help the Galena community to identify potential hazards from contaminants for proposed construction or other intrusive activities. Maps of contaminants will change over time as cleanup proceeds.

Sam Myers (ADOT) stated that ADOT has a construction safety process, permit process, and traffic safety plan requirements that will be included in their review of the proposed cleanup plans. In general ADOT is pleased to see remediation move forward.

Questions/Discussion on Proposed PBR Remedies:

- Questions from Phil Koontz: Asked several questions about sulfate-enhanced bioremediation. Bruce Henry explained that natural bacteria could use several compounds, including sulfate, to respire as they degrade petroleum hydrocarbons. Sulfate has some advantages over other compounds, particularly its high solubility. He stressed that sulfate injection is a polishing step to be implemented if most electron acceptors are depleted (i.e., methanogenic conditions have been established and natural biodegradation has slowed). Phil asked what was the cation associated with the sulfate to be injected. Answer: Calcium or magnesium. These sources of sulfate are commonly known as gypsum and Epsom salts, respectively. Gypsum is the same material that comprises dry wall. Phil asked if it was corrosive. Answer: No. While sulfate will be reduced to sulfide in the process, the sulfide will precipitate with iron as mineral pyrite.
- Question from Tim Bodony: Asked about the excavation schedule for 2015. Answer: Win explained that excavations need to be scheduled in late summer / early fall when the water table is as low as possible. Tim wanted to make sure the PBR contractor was aware of GILA concerns with the schedule. Answer: PBR contractor had a discussion with Chris Reitan of GILA earlier that same day to discuss details of the proposed remedies and will be working with GILA regarding their concerns.
- Question from Audience: Would local labor be used and what safety training/certification was required? Answer: Subcontracts would be competitively bid, but prime and subcontractors would be looking to use local labor to the extent possible, including working with Loudon for support. 40-Hr HAZWOPER and current 8-Hr HAZWOPER refresher are the hazmat safety certifications for work performed in Level D protection.

Invited the person who asked the question to provide resume and qualifications so PBR contractors and subcontractors could consider him when looking for support.

- Question from Betty Huntington: Why aren't the PBR contractors coming to the property owners for support? Bruce Henry and AL Weilbacher explained that Loudon was simply mentioned as an example because they have provided HAZWOPER trained labor in the past. However, there is still a need for other non-technical support, for example: lodging. Discussed how the PBR contractors use the list of lodging providers from the Radio Station to find local people and companies providing lodging and other non-technical support.
- Jon Korta (City Mayor and RAB member) was invited to provide any comments to the RAB. He had no questions, but indicated he was pleased to see progress on cleaning up the sites.

RAB meeting was adjourned, but interested parties were invited to stay after the meeting to see the ADEC GIS database. Dennis Shepard and Monte Garrouette demonstrated the system for several people, including Phil Koontz and Jon Korta.

Attachments:

- 1 – RAB Agenda
- 2 – MMRP Investigation Results at Former Galena FOL
- 3 – Performance Based Remediation (PBR) at Former Galena FOL