

**Final Meeting Minutes**  
**Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting**  
**Former Galena Forward Operating Location (FOL), Alaska**  
**Galena, Alaska**  
**23 October 2019**

**Time/Place:** Wednesday at 8:00 pm, 23 October 2019 – Larsen Charlie Hall, Galena, Alaska

**Attendees:**

Fourteen (14) people attended the RAB meeting including representatives from the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC), the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), the City of Galena, Louden Tribal Council, community members, and Air Force remediation contractors (Parsons and CH2M/Jacobs). The following is a list of those attending the meeting.

Christiana Hewitt, AFCEC  
Donna Kozak, Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH)  
Bruce Henry, Parsons  
Ed Heyse, Parsons  
Win Westervelt, CH2M/Jacobs  
Jamie McKellar, ADEC  
Tim Bodony, RAB Co-chairman  
Nolan Aloysius, City of Galena Mayor  
Shanda Huntington, City Manager  
Bob Rebarchik, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Susie Sam, Louden Tribal Council  
Phil Koontz, Louden Tribal Council  
Larry Hausman, Galena Resident  
LaDonna Lindley, Court Reporter

**Agenda:** See Attachment 1

**Introduction:**

Bruce Henry (Parsons) opened the RAB meeting by having everyone attending introduce themselves and their affiliation. Bruce then gave a presentation on Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) cleanup efforts.

**Presentation**

**Performance-Based Remediation**

Bruce Henry gave a presentation (Attachment 2) with an update on the PBR contract. The PBR contract is for the cleanup of 32 sites at the Former Galena FOL. Six sites have achieved cleanup complete to date. Installation of remedial systems started in 2015 and at the end of 2019 all remedies are in place. Maintenance and operation of the remedial systems will continue through the summer of 2020. There will be a new cleanup contract in 2020; 2020 will be a transition year.

Sites that have achieved Cleanup Complete include:

1. Site CST009 Building 1400 Former Ammunition Storage UST (UST1400) – 9/29/15

2. Site CST013 Former Incinerator USTs (UST1770) – 12/6/16
3. Site CSS005 Refueling Pads (PADS) – 6/23/17
4. Site CSS001 Electric Power Station AST (AST1569) – 6/30/17
5. Site SS021 Building 1549 Old Fire Station - 9/29/17 (administrative closure; contamination associated with adjacent site)
6. Site SS013 Control Tower Drum Storage Area South – 8/13/18

Sites under review for Site Closure include:

1. Site OW024 – OWS1833 MWR Storage OWS
2. Site CG002 – Missile Storage Area (administrative closure; contamination associated with adjacent site)
3. Site CB001 - Galena Aviation Vocation Technical Center (administrative closure; contamination associated with adjacent site)

Bruce also identified Site SS014 (Former Birchwood Hangar) as another site that could be closed as all sources associated with the site have been addressed and the underlying groundwater plume is associated with upgradient Site SS017.

Bruce reviewed the activities that occurred over the summer of 2019, which included the following:

- Completed installation and start up the Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system at Building 1845 TCE Area/Building 1700 Refueler Maintenance Shop (Sites SS006/SS019)
- Expanded the bioventing system at Southeast Runway Fuel Spill (Site ST010)
- Excavation at the Former Waste Accumulation Area South of Building 1499 (Site SS018)
- Excavation at the former Disposal Site West of Dike (Site DP023)
- Excavation at the Former POL Yard Fuel Filling Station (Site ST005 Area D)
- Excavation at the Combat Alert Cell (CAC Building; Site CST011 Area 1)
- Other field work that included annual groundwater monitoring, confirmation soil and groundwater sampling, trichloroethene (TCE) soil pile remediation, landfarm operations, and well abandonment and removal of old remediation systems.

A figure was shown that provided the location of the remedial systems in operation at the Former Galena FOL (see Attachment 2).

Specific activities performed at Sites SS006, SS018, and DP023 were presented by Bruce as follows:

SVE Startup at Site SS006: The SVE system at Site SS006 (Building 1845 TCE Area) was completed in the summer of 2019 with startup occurring July. Vent wells were connected to the blower shed located on east side of City Storage shed, with emissions through a stack 30 feet tall. Startup flow rates were limited to 1/3 of design and initial emissions were treated by granular activated carbon (GAC). Flow rates were adjusted to keep emissions at or below the target extraction rate of 5.88 pounds per day. Startup was completed 27 July 2019 when the GAC system was disconnected and the ambient air monitoring program began. The 21-day ambient air monitoring stations are located north, south, east and west of the stack (see Attachment 2). Three 21-day monitoring events were completed from 27 July to 29 September 2019. All results were well below the target concentration of 2.0 micrograms per cubic meter

( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ). The target concentration is conservatively based on an indoor air exposure scenario. Emissions were maintained below the target extraction rate of 5.88 pounds per day. Ambient air monitoring will continue quarterly or when new or different vent wells are brought online.

Excavation at Site SS018: Site SS018 was a waste accumulation area south of the steam plant where a fuel pipeline leak impacted approximately 500 cubic yards of soil. Soil around the fuel pipeline was removed by hand and the excavation was approximately 10 feet deep. An abandoned pipeline was also encountered that was oriented almost perpendicular to the active fuel pipeline. The petroleum-contaminated soil was transported to the Galena Landfarm for further treatment. The pipeline was inspected by an outside contractor after excavation and minor repairs to the protective coating were performed prior to final backfill.

Excavation at Site DP023: Site DP023 (Disposal Site West of Dike) was a waste disposal area south of Million Gallon Hill. A Time Critical Removal Action (TCRA) in 2015 removed about 2/3 of the disposal area debris and soil. The remaining disposal area was excavated in August 2019. Soil and waste material were segregated and are being characterized for disposal in 2020. Waste may be disposed of in Galena or out of Galena at licensed waste disposal facilities pending characterization.

Specific activities performed at ST005 Area D and CST011 Area 1 were presented by Win Westervelt (CH2M/Jacobs) as follows:

Excavation at Site ST005 Area D: Site ST005 Area D was an aviation gasoline (AVGAS) fuel filling station located adjacent to the current City of Galena fuel filling station. A limited excavation in 2018 removed 75 cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soil around the concrete fill stand, but some contamination remained underneath the concrete fill stand and within the roadway south of the fill stand. In 2019, the concrete pad was demolished and buried onsite. The additional excavation removed another 735 cubic yards of contaminated soil beneath the concrete pad and within the roadway. The petroleum-contaminated soil was transported to the Galena Landfarm for treatment. The excavation was backfilled and the roadway repaired.

Excavation at Site CST011 Area 1: Site CST011 Area 1 is a former underground storage tank (UST) location near the northwest corner of the CAC hangar building. In-situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) was used in 2018 to treat a small area of gasoline-contaminated soil. When the treated soil was tested in 2019, the extent of contamination was found to be larger than previously known. Two excavations were performed in 2019 removing a total of 300 cubic yards of petroleum-contaminated soil. The soil was transported to the Galena Landfarm for treatment.

Bruce Henry then provided an overview of other field activities that occurred in 2019 that included the following:

Confirmation Soil and Groundwater Sampling: Confirmation soil and groundwater sampling is used to evaluate cleanup progress and confirm if a site has met cleanup goals. Confirmation sampling was conducted at the following sites in 2019:

- Site ST020 (Building 1837 – Former UST)
- Site SS005 (Wilderness Hall (Bldg 1872))
- Site CST014 (Dining Facility UST)
- Site TU001 (Power Plant Tank 49)
- Site CST011 Areas 1 and 2 (Combat Alert Cell USTs)
- Site SS025 (West Perimeter Road TCE Spill)
- Site CPL006 Area 2 (Old Abandoned Pipeline)

If sampling indicates that remediation goals have been met, then a report will be prepared for ADEC review requesting site closure.

Galena Landfarm: The Galena Landfarm was expanded in 2018. The amount of soil treated and transported to City landfill for cover material in 2019 was approximately 2,200 cubic yards. Soil will continue to be treated in 2020.

Bruce then presented a list of the field work that will occur during the winter of 2019/2020 that will include the following:

- Bioventing and SVE systems running and monitored monthly at 15 sites
- Vertical and horizontal air sparging systems running and monitored monthly at 7 sites (3 with SVE). The SVE system at ST020 and the air sparge system at SS005 will be shut down based on 2019 confirmation soil and groundwater sampling indicating that cleanup objectives have been met.
- One SVE system (Site SS025) only operates during the summer and fall
- April/May 2020 – The operating systems will be shut down for annual soil vapor sampling to track cleanup progress

A figure was presented (Attachment 2) that shows the locations of the remediation systems that are operating in Galena.

Bruce then described the remaining activities that will occur in summer 2020 on the Galena PBR contract. A Record of Decision will be prepared for Site CS001. Field work in the summer of 2020 will be limited to waste disposal for Site DP023, operation of the SVE systems at Sites SS006/SS019 and Site SS025 (pending soil confirmation sampling results), and operation of the Galena Landfarm. All field works stops by 30 August 2020.

Other activities for 2020 include preparing close out reports (as appropriate) and a Five-year Review for all open sites. The current PBR contract ends September 2020, with a follow-on PBR contract to be determined. Bruce wrapped up the RAB presentation by describing the avenues of communication available between the community and the Air Force. Bruce then asked if there were any questions.

Tim Bodony (RAB co-chair) asked if the Site SS006 SVE system is currently operating, whether it will operate during the winter, and whether air monitoring would continue in all four directions. Bruce confirmed that the system is currently operating and will operate through the winter. The system was switched over from shallow vent wells to deep vent wells for winter operations in October. Ambient air monitoring will continue quarterly.

Larry Hausman (community member) asked whether there will be a RAB meeting in the spring. Bruce responded there will be a spring RAB meeting, and that transition to a new PBR contract will be discussed.

### **Closing Remarks**

Jamie McKellar (ADEC) spoke to the RAB and community members and offered that she is always available to answer any questions or concerns about cleanup activities at Galena.

Christiana Hewitt (AFCEC) thanked the Galena community for attending and contributing to the meeting, and that she is also available to answer any questions the community may have.

Phil Koontz (Louden Tribal Council) asked whether there was any progress or update on PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in groundwater and will it be addressed in the next PBR contract? Christiana responded that the Air Force will continue to monitor for PFAS in

groundwater, and if any PFAS are found in drinking water supplies, the first action the Air Force would take is to provide bottled drinking water or well head treatment systems. Christiana also stated that the Air Force will follow the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process for cleanup of any PFAS in soil and groundwater at the Former Galena FOL.

Tim Bodony (RAB Co-chair) asked how often does the Air Force sample the drinking water production wells both on-base and in New Town Galena? Christiana responded that the Air Force has sampled the water supply wells on the Former Galena FOL twice, and results were non-detect for both sample events. Tim requested clarification that the sampling was not a regular event and had to be specifically requested and asked about sampling for other contaminants like TCE and benzene. Donna Kozak (BAH) clarified that the water supply wells are sampled by the City according to their operating agreement with ADEC.

Tim was under the impression that the Air Force was responsible for routine sampling of the water supply wells for Air Force-related contaminants. Donna responded that the Air Force had historically sampled the water supply wells for several years and never found any contaminants. Shanda Huntington (City Manager) confirmed the City routinely samples the water supply and that the Air Force pays for the GAC for the treatment system.

Tim further asked if the Air Force pays for sampling of all water supply wells beyond what ADEC requires from the City. Donna thought that the ADEC agreement with the City included volatile organic compounds (VOCs) like TCE and benzene, but the Air Force could look into it and confirm. Christiana and Donna also discussed that the Air Force samples monitoring wells in the vicinity of the water supply wells to ensure contamination is not spreading. The water supply wells are screened much deeper than the contaminant plumes and the water supply has never been impacted.

Christiana asked if there were any additional questions (there were none) and closed the RAB meeting.

**Attachments:**

1. RAB Meeting Agenda
2. Presentation: Performance Based Remediation at Former Galena FOL, Alaska

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**Attachment 1**  
**RAB Meeting Agenda**

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# Galena Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

## Final RAB Meeting Agenda

October 23, 2019

8:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Larsen Charlie Community Hall  
Galena, Alaska

### **Welcome**

**Christiana Hewitt, AFCEC**

- Introductions

### **Overview of Environmental Restoration**

- Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) Contract
  - Summary of 2019 Field Operations
  - Activities Planned for 2020 Field Season

**Bruce Henry, PARSONS**  
**Win Westervelt, CH2M**

### **Remarks from ADEC**

**Jamie McKellar, ADEC**

### **Remarks from ADOT**

**Sam Myers, ADOT**

### **Questions from the Public**

**Bruce Henry/Win Westervelt (Facilitators)**

### **Schedule for Next RAB and Closing Remarks**

**Christiana Hewitt**

For more information about the Galena Environmental Cleanup program, please contact the AFCEC Public Affairs hotline at 1-866-725-7617 or via email at [afimsc.pa.workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:afimsc.pa.workflow@us.af.mil)