

Meeting Minutes
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting (RAB)
Former K.I. Sawyer AFB, Gwinn, Michigan
October 19, 2016

The following are minutes recorded during the October 19, 2016, Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting held at the KI Sawyer Heritage Air Museum at former KI Sawyer AFB:

Introductions

Meeting was called to order by AFCEC – Co-Chairperson Kay Grosinske. A sign-in sheet was passed around and verbal self-introductions were completed to identify people present at the meeting and their affiliations.

No comments were presented about changes or revisions to the draft 2015 RAB meeting minutes, and they were approved.

Copies of the presentation were provided to attendees. Ms. Grosinske reminded everyone that environmental work is being performed under several contracts and that there was a transition of contracts this year.

Status Update and Slide Presentation

Mr. Greg Brooks and Mr. Andrew Smith provided a slide presentation summarizing the status of each of the active sites and the perfluorinated compounds (PFC) investigations at KI Sawyer. Mr. Phil Dula summarized the completion of Cape's 2010-2016 Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) Contract, and Mr. Paul Walz introduced the Bay West team for the 2016 Central BRAC PBR Contract.

The following sites were discussed.

ST004

An explanation of the free product removal system was provided, including a photo of the trench. The system is performing as designed and minimal maintenance has been required. The slides noted that 282 gallons of fuel have been collected in 2016.

Mr. Schenden asked about deed restriction changes. Ms. Grosinske answered that deed restrictions at ST004 currently covered soil from 20 feet below ground surface to the water table, but that excavation of the brine pit had uncovered contaminated soil at shallower depths and that some remained after a portion was removed. The soil from the ground surface to a depth of 20 feet will need to be added to the deed restrictions.

Mr. Anderson asked about the free product modeling report and how long the interceptor system will operate. Ms. Chowdhury answered that the modeling report estimated that the system would need to run about 50 years.

FT007.

Mr. Brooks provided a summary of previous groundwater monitoring results that indicated low but persistent benzene concentrations in one well, and Air Force's continued monitoring after remediation to provide data to support a request for unrestricted closure. The slides described the remediation soil venting and air sparging activities completed in March or April 2015.

SS017

Slides presented inspection activities completed in 2016, and next steps involving soil sampling beneath the apron to evaluate remaining soil contamination and locations. A work plan describing soil sampling activities is under development.

LF008

Only diethyl ether concentrations remain above drinking water standards in one monitoring well at LF008. Vinyl chloride has been below DEQ criteria for the past several sampling rounds. There are about 14 years of monitoring left for the site under state landfill closure rules.

Mr. Schenden asked about other landfills at other bases and whether they have been developed or planned for development. Ms. Grosinske replied that other landfills have been developed with solar arrays, parking areas, and golf courses.

LF010/011

Mr. Brooks described the groundwater monitoring results and the trends for iron and manganese. Mr. Brooks indicated that increased manganese concentrations may be a result of the use of HydroSleeves for the collection of groundwater samples. Future work involves inspections and maintenance of fence, signs, cap, etc.

XE027

No groundwater sampling is being conducted at XE027, so discussion was on inspection and maintenance activities. Future activities include request for unconditional closure of Lower Burial Pits and request for transfer of Main Pits from DEQ's RCRA program to Part 201.

Perfluorinated Compounds Assessment

Mr. Smith provided a presentation of the PFC assessment activities completed in 2016, and the planned activities for the near future. Mr. Petrie explained the Michigan DEQ proposed criteria for PFCs. Mr. Jacuzzi asked if the DEQ criteria will become drinking water standards, and Mr. Petrie replied that they probably will. Mr. Schenden asked how PFCs are treated, and Mr. Smith answered that carbon treatment is currently the best treatment option.

Mr. Schenden asked about detections in the most southern sample in Silver Lead Creek, and how it could be there. Some discussion ensued and Mr. Smith provided the actual concentrations. Ms. Chowdhury stated that background samples were not collected. Mr. Anderson stated that the southernmost well at site LF010/011 is the closest well to site FT007 and suggested it might be used for sampling.

In discussing the WWTP, Mr. Schenden asked if the AF had used the sludge drying beds, and indicated that the County did not use them. Mr. Petrie answered that the AF did use the sludge drying beds.

Other

Mr. Kristola asked if there had been any overflows of the ST004 trench and sheet pile wall. Mr. Brooks answered no, there have not been any overflows of the trench and wall.

Mr. Schenden asked if there will be any more investigation of PFCs in effluent from the WWTP. Ms. Grosinske answered that AFCEC will not investigate further. He also asked if there have been any other WWTPs that AFCEC is aware of that had similar results. Ms. Schneider answered that she had not seen others. Ms. Grosinske answered that AFCEC may collect confirmation samples next year. Mr. Schenden asked if MDEQ will require corrective action of WWTP. Mr. Petrie answered that MDEQ is aware of the issue, is still evaluating, and that a fish study will likely be done.

Open Discussion

Open discussion is captured under the questions and answers for each site.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled for September or October 2017.

End of Minutes