Meeting Minutes

Meeting Subject:Meeting Date:31 July 2003Norwalk Tank FarmMeeting Time:6:30 p.m.

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Place: Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex

Semiannual Meeting

RAB, PROJECT TEAM, AND OTHER ATTENDEES

RAB Community Members Other Members

D. Caughey Lt Col Alexander (DESC-AMW) (Co-Chair)

E. GarciaB. HoskinsT. Devoy (City of Norwalk)J. Holdren (City of Cerritos)

M. McIntosh (Co-Chair) H. Ng (WRD)

W. Miller
A. Townsend (RWQCB)
W. Sterner
R. Tweidt (KMEP) (Co-Chair)

Other Attendees

D. Alsawaf (Shaw E&I)

B. Cardenas (US Rep. Napolitano)

S. Chou (Geomatrix) DESC-AMW.. Defense Energy Support Center

C. Gallegos (Resident) Americas West

Lt Col Jones (DESC) Subcommittee

F. Rodarte (Resident) RWQCB.......Regional Water Quality Control Board

S. Seipel (Shaw E & I) URS......URS Corporation

D. Solorano-Madrid (Resident) WRDWater Replenishment District of

J. Trani (DESC) Southern California

T. Whyte (URS)
T. Winkler (Citizen)
F. Wright (DESC)

<u>Absentees</u>

J. Rifilato

Not Attending

Dr. Duran (OCCS)

Dr. Landolph (OCCS)

BACKGROUND

DESC-LA and KMEP are conducting environmental cleanup activities at the area in and around the former Defense Fuel Support Point Norwalk, also known as the Tank Farm, located at 15306 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, CA. The RAB is an advisory committee of local citizens and project members that reviews and comments on documents relating to the environmental cleanup. All RAB meetings are open to the public and are scheduled quarterly on the last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in January, April, July, and October unless otherwise voted on by the RAB community membership.

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1. Introduction Mary Jane McIntosh, Community Co-Chair, Meeting Chair

Mary Jane McIntosh called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. The attendees introduced themselves. The new DESC-AMW Commander is Lt Col Renita Alexander, who replaced Lt Col Edward Wilson. Later in the meeting, Perla Hernandez of Congresswoman Napolitano's office introduced Benjamin Cardenas, who started recently in the Washington D.C. office and will be covering the RAB.

2. RBCA Update Shiow-Whei Chou, Geomatrix Consultants, Inc.

Rob Tweidt introduced Ms. Shiow-Whei Chou. Ms. Chou discussed a timeline of the Risk-Based Corrective Action (RBCA) report. The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) accepted the responses on July 3, 2003 and authorized submittal of the final documents.

- 3. KMEP Update and
- 4. Semi-Annual Monitoring Event Shiow-Whei Chou, Geomatrix Consultants, Inc.

Remediation Operations Update. Ms. Chou showed a map of the current remediation systems. She said the soil vapor extraction system has 16 onsite and 7 offsite wells in the South-Central Plume area and 2 wells in the southeast 24-Inch Block Valve area. The system removed and destroyed 1,630 gallons equivalent of fuel since the April 2003 RAB meeting and 392,220 gallons equivalent of fuel since September 1995. The system was down during May 2003 for system upgrades. Ms. Chou also showed a graph of cumulative fuel removed by vapor extraction.

Ms. Chou said the groundwater/product extraction system has eight groundwater wells in the West-Side Barrier area, six groundwater/product wells in the South-Central Plume area, and three groundwater/product wells and two groundwater extraction wells in the southeast 24-Inch Block Valve area. Since the April 2003 RAB meeting, a total of 162,500 gallons of groundwater have been extracted from the South-Central Plume area, 166,900 gallons from the southeast 24-Inch Block Valve area, and approximately 373,400 gallons from the West-Side Barrier area. Total groundwater removed since September 1995 includes 21.8 million gallons from the South-Central Plume area, 2.8 million gallons from the 24-Inch Block Valve area, and 10.4 million gallons from the West-Side Barrier area, for a total of 35 million gallons. Ms. Chou said 8,745 gallons of free product have been removed since September 1995. The system was shut down during May 2003 for system upgrades. Hoover Ng asked where the extracted water goes. Ms. Chou said it is treated with carbon and an air stripper and discharged into the storm drain under a NPDES permit. Mr. Ng also asked about water rights. He said he would look into the issue for more information. Ms. Chou showed a graph of the operations summary statistics and pointed out how free product recovery reached a plateau in 2000.

Remediation System Upgrades. Ms. Chou said there were two upgrades this quarter. KMEP installed a moisture separator downstream of the air stripper to prevent damage to the catalytic oxidizer. They also installed a transfer tank to the West Side Barrier system to reduce pressure buildup in conveyance pipelines to improve pump performance. Gene Garcia asked if these improvements would increase noise. Ms. Chou said no, since neither is mechanical. Mr. Garcia said there are two citizens at the meeting tonight who said they have experienced an increase in noise at their residence near Madris Avenue and Excelsior Drive. Scott Seipel said the increase in noise was probably from a new blower that was installed recently in the DESC remediation system in the northern area of the Tank Farm. It may also be from the air sparging system. Frank Wright asked if it was possible to not run the system at night. Daoud Alsawaf suggested that they could put up a sound barrier. Wanda Sterner pointed out that the trees outside that area are dead and/or do not have any leaves, so they do not provide any sound protection. Ms. McIntosh asked that DESC look into it and report back at the next meeting.

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Semi-Annual Monitoring Event. Ms. Chou said that KMEP and DESC conducted the latest Semi-Annual Monitoring Event in April 2003 and sampled 82 wells, including four Exposition Aquifer wells. No chemicals were detected in the Exposition wells. Free product was observed in 16 of 152 wells gauged. The North-Central free-product plume remains as smaller separated plumes in the same general areas as noted during previous monitoring events. The South-Central free-product plume has a reduced free-product thickness and remains in the same general areas as noted during previous monitoring events. Free product was also observed in truck rack area, southeastern 24-Inch Block Valve area, and an area northeast of the South-Central free-product plume. Ms. Chou next showed maps comparing groundwater flow and free product from April 2002 and April 2003.

The lateral extent and concentrations of TPH (total petroleum hydrocarbons) decreased in the area between the North-Central and South-Central free-product plumes since October 2002. The lateral extent resembles that of April 2002. TPH concentrations in well GMW-1 (north of the Intermediate 24-Inch Block Valve) continued to decrease. One anomaly was found in well GWM-O-19 near the southeastern 24-Inch Block Valve. This well will be resampled during the next Sentry event. Ms. Chou showed maps comparing TPH from April 2002 and April 2003. Ms. McIntosh asked that Mr. Tweidt to provide the Sentry data to the RAB members before the next RAB meeting.

Benzene concentrations decreased in wells GMW-45, GMW- 47, and GMW-57 in the northeast field area. Benzene concentrations increased in four wells surrounding the South-Central free-product plume but remained within historical limits for those wells. The benzene concentration decreased in GMW-O-14. Benzene was not detected in the southeastern 24-Inch Block Valve area during the April 2003 monitoring event. Ms. Chou showed maps comparing benzene from April 2002 and April 2003. Ms. McIntosh said she has an issue with information being passed off as "within historical limits." She said we should be seeing more decreases. Mr. Garcia said it is time to start talking about doing something about decreases in the Chang property area. Ms. McIntosh said this area is a great concern to many and something has to be done. Mr. Tweidt said they are working on it and will follow up with it. Mr. Seipel said that the monitoring reports are written for the RWQCB and focuses on the areas of greatest concern; they do not really discuss clean wells. Ms. McIntosh said the RAB also uses the report as a tool and requested that the reports be more detailed than stating something is "within historical limits." Ana Townsend said that RWQCB reviews the reports, and if they see an increase in concentrations, then they may request an increase in remediation.

Detected concentrations of 1,2-DCA were below the Risk-Based Corrective Action level of 70 ug/l, recently accepted by the RWQCB. Concentrations of 1,2-DCA in off-site wells west of the site remained non-detect or similar to those detected during previous monitoring events. 1,2-DCA continues to be non-detect in several wells located near the west side barrier wells. Ms. Townsend said that they are still trying to get to MCLs (maximum contaminant level). Ms. Chou said they continue to see a decrease in 1,2-DCA near the West Side Barrier wells. Ms. Chou showed maps comparing 1,2-DCA from April 2002 and April 2003.

MTBE concentrations in wells MW-19 (MID) and MW-6 continued to decrease. MTBE remained non-detect in off-site monitoring wells west of the site, except at WCW-7 where the concentration remained low. MTBE concentrations in the southeastern portion of the site were generally similar to those observed during the previous semi-annual monitoring event. Ms. Chou showed maps comparing MTBE from April 2002 and April 2003. It was suggested that next time have the maps overlay instead of being separate. Ms. McIntosh asked if there was MTBE detected in the Intermediate 24-Inch Block Valve area. Ms. Chou said they did not see any changes, but they will resample the area during the Sentry event.

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Intermediate 24-Inch Block Valve Area Update. Ms. Chou said that KMEP gauged and sampled the monitoring wells in the vicinity of the Intermediate 24-Inch Block Valve release in March 2003. They did not see any free product or any increase in chemical concentrations. In April 2003, site assessment activities were conducted. Six borings were drilled and one monitoring well was installed. A report of the activities was recently sent to the RAB members. It looks like the release does not extend more than 30 feet. Groundwater samples contained TPHg, TPHd, BTEX, and MTBE, but it is hard to say if this is due to the release or from previously interpreted plumes. KEMP connected a temporary soil vapor extraction (SVE) well, located adjacent to intermediate block valve, to the existing remediation system. They plan to install an additional SVE well this quarter.

Ms. McIntosh asked about the analytical results on page 10 of the report. Ms. Chou said that they saw concentrations at various depths in the soil samples, but since the area previously contained free product and since concentrations remained low, the detections are most likely from previously interpreted plumes. Ms. McIntosh asked that since the highest concentration in boring GB-4 was noted at 18 and 25 feet below ground surface, could we assume that the release went downward? Ms. Chou said yes. Mr. Tweidt said the leak location was seven to eight feet below ground surface, and the release looks like it went downward in a vertical cone-shape. Mr. Tweidt said they investigated to groundwater and excavated to 15 to 17 feet below ground surface. Ms. Townsend suggested having a map of the excavation at the next meeting. Ms. McIntosh requested this map be sent to the RAB members along with the Sentry data.

5. <u>DESC-LA Update</u> Daoud Alsawaf, Shaw E & I Group

Kola Olowu of DESC welcomed the new Commander, Lt Col Alexander, and DESC's new environmental contractor, Parsons. Mr. Olowu thanked Shaw E & I Group for their fantastic work for DESC and the community. He introduced Parsons' new Project Manager, Mr. Redwan Hassan, and said they will keep up the high efficiency that Shaw had shown. Ms. McIntosh thanked Shaw on behalf of the RAB.

Central Plume Remediation System Update. Daoud Alsawaf said that the Central Plume remediation system has removed a total of approximately 255,055 gallons of hydrocarbon mass. Approximately 141,426 gallons of fuel have been recycled and destroyed, including 55,534 gallons through free product recovery, 84,495 gallons through soil vapor extraction, and 1,395 gallons of dissolved phase hydrocarbons were recovered. In addition, an estimated 113,629 gallons have been removed through bioremediation. Approximately 41 million gallons of water have been treated and discharged offsite. Mr. Alsawaf showed a graph of the free product and soil vapor extraction summary. There is hardly any free product left to recover. Mr. Alsawaf next showed a photograph of the remediation system. Mr. Alsawaf said that air sparging now produces the best results and suggested changing free product recovery wells to air sparging wells.

Ms. McIntosh asked about one of the systems not getting the most bang for the buck, as mentioned at the last meeting, and what can be put in its place. Mr. Olowu said that the new contractor would look into it. Ms. McIntosh asked about the potential removal of some of the tanks to aid remediation. Lt Col Alexander said a study had not been started yet, but they will be looking into it. Theresa Devoy said that the City asked Congresswoman Napolitano to sponsor legislation to remove the tanks.

Ms. McIntosh asked about concrete vaults for KMEP's valves. Mr. Tweidt said they are talking to their engineering department about it, but there are two issues: security, since it could open up the mainline pipeline to terrorists or vandals; and future work, since there is a potential for the block valves to be removed, depending on realignment and reuse. The fuel is a critical asset, so they need to weigh risk versus benefits. Ms. McIntosh said she had issues with that. Any other leak would be disastrous; it does not make sense to have more releases when we are trying to clean up the site. The costs to the community outweigh other costs.

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Mr. Tweidt said that KMEP has phased out MTBE. The replacement, ethanol, will not be allowed to be piped in, which will result in a major transition and retooling. He is talking to management to try to get money earmarked for the decommissioning portion of the KMEP property at the Tank Farm.

Bill Miller asked about the Intermediate Block Valve release. If there were a high PSI, it would not take long for the release to go down 30 feet. Mr. Tweidt said the full pressure of the pipeline was not going to the hole. Ms. Sterner asked about the steel plug in the valve; the metal to metal can cause corrosion. Mr. Tweidt said he is confident of the engineering standards, and they inspected the other valve plugs. Mr. Alsawaf suggested using liquid silica to create an impermeable barrier around the valve, which would eliminate the need for concrete vaults.

5. Set Date and Agenda for Next Meeting

The next RAB meeting will be held **Thursday, October 23, 2003, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex.

6. Public Comment Period

Tracy Winkler suggested using a microphone at the next meeting.

Mr. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

Ms. McIntosh adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS		
Item	Responsible Party	Due Date
Sentry data and Intermediate 24-Inch Block Valve area excavation map to RAB members	КМЕР	10/9/03
Next RAB meeting	All	10/23/03