

**MEETING SUMMARY, FORMER NANSEMOND ORDNANCE DEPOT (FNOD)
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)**

To: RAB Members, Interested Parties
 From: Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc., RAB Facilitator
 Adriane James, U.S. Army Corps Project Manager and RAB Co-Chair
 Re: February 6, 2003 RAB Meeting Summary

<p>RAB Members Present: Jim Bennett Fred Copeland Russ Dudley Adriane James Bruce Johnson Debbie Miller Thomas O’Grady Marian “Bea” Rogers David Saunders Cherie Walton</p>	<p>Affiliation: Dominion Lands GE VDOT USACE, Project Manager, Gov’t. Co-Chair Respass Beach VDEQ City of Suffolk Community Co-Chair Bennett’s Creek Reactives Management Corporation</p>
<p>RAB Facilitator Present: Sandra Chaloux</p>	<p>CEC, Inc.</p>
<p>RAB Members Absent: Tim Fink Rob Thomson</p>	<p>TCC EPA</p>

7:05 p.m. **Introduction and Welcome/Call to Order**
(Sandra Chaloux – CEC, Inc.)

The meeting was called to order. RAB members and guests introduced themselves. Adriane James (acting Army Corps project manager) introduced herself. Sandra reviewed the meeting agenda. Cherie Walton noted a correction on page 3 of the Dec. RAB meeting summary in the Main Burning Ground section. The second sentence should read... “Cheryl said that the field team discovered 2 large anomalies in the Horseshoe Pond area – one was “ferrous” (or metallic) and one was nonferrous.”

7:15 p.m. **RAB Business & Landowner Updates**
RAB Business

Cherie Walton was elected as alternate community co-chair. Regarding RAB applications, Bea Rogers informed the RAB that Jackie Taylor (Respass Beach Civic Association President) decided to withdraw his RAB application due to a position he accepted on the Craney Island Joint Study Commission. Carl Serrette, the other RAB applicant, was not present. The RAB decided to postpone a motion on Carl’s application until he was present.

Landowner Updates

Tom O’Grady told the RAB that the City has a prospective site plan under review for the Bridgeway Tech Center 2 for another office park like Bridgeway Tech Center 1. He said he hoped it would be approved in the next 60-90 days. He estimated that construction on that site would begin in late Spring on this site and would be completed within 9 months. Dominion Lands sold the 10.5-acre parcel to Continental Properties who will be constructing another 60,000-70,000 square foot building like the one they built a year or so ago.

Cherie Walton suggested that project shirts be available to RAB members. RAB members are willing to pay for the shirts. Other RAB members agreed. Rick said he would coordinate it.

Corps Update

(Rick Aiken, Cheryl Fromme, Tim Thompson, Adriane James – USACE)

Rick began the update with a review of the Impregnite Kit Area public notice (Notice of Intent to Delist from NPL) that EPA placed in the Virginian-Pilot on January 21, 2003.

Chemical Warfare Material Testing

(Rick Aiken –USACE Contractor)

Rick showed the headline for the February 3 Virginian-Pilot article that ran about the chemical weapons testing at FNOD. EPA did the testing to make sure that the site doesn't have chemical weapons. He went on to say that the article wasn't that far off base but the way the story was presented was very alarming and did not really match the information in the article. This testing was planned for a long time and driven by an incomplete history. The testing is not being done because the project team expects to find any chemical warfare materials. He went on to say that in fact the project team did not expect to find any. The project team needs to close this loop. The testing was completed on February 5. The field screening did not indicate any presence of chemical warfare material. Samples were sent to a lab for confirmation. Results from the lab are expected in 60 days. Cheryl said that the lab will call Rob if they find any positives from the samples right away. Cheryl asked Harry Wheeler who conducted the testing to add any other information. Harry said the testing was conducted at the Horseshoe Pond, Main Burning Ground, and J-Lake areas –based on historical information, interviews with depot employees, and historical aerial photographs. He said the testing went well and nothing was found during the field testing.

Pat Genzler asked what type of coordination the Corps did with the landowners prior to the press release on the testing. Rick said that the Public Affairs Work Group (including representatives from the landowners, EPA, VDEQ, and the Corps) held a conference call to discuss it the day prior to the media alert. Rick explained that the work group agreed that they would be better off being proactive and releasing the information early –in the remote chance that some chemical warfare materials were found. Rick said what he was most worried about – was a false positive during the field screening –which can happen. The RAB was briefed about this testing at several of the prior RAB meetings.

Bea wrote a letter to the editor and Diana wrote an email to the paper's ombudsmen about the way the article was presented. Rick said that he hoped that now the door would be more open for positive press on the project and told the RAB to watch the papers to see what develops.

Tom O'Grady pointed out that the headline/article can still be viewed everyday online. He asked if the RAB could request the paper to change the online headline. Diana said she would follow-up with the paper to see if she can get the headline changed. Diana encouraged all of the RAB members to write a letter if they felt inclined. Diana pointed out that Scott Harper (Virginian-Pilot) reporter was also unhappy about the way the story was presented in the paper.

Groundwater Modeling

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE, Dave Back -Micropact)

Cheryl Fromme introduced Dave Back, an Army Corps contractor who gave a presentation on the model that his company has put together for the project. He explained that the goal of the groundwater model was to enable the project team to predict groundwater flow directions throughout the site to predict how groundwater contaminants would migrate. The model will also enable the project team to delineate the nature and extent of the known groundwater

contaminant sources, identify where some of the unknown sources are, and identify data gaps. The model will also help during the feasibility study as the team tries to identify the best remediation strategy. The model takes into account geology (soil characteristics –ie. sand, clay, shell fragments), hydrogeology (groundwater and surface water data), and data from geophysical studies. Most of the groundwater flow from rainwater is horizontal once it percolates down vertically. The mathematical model provides good quality assurance for large volumes of data.

Dave said that the Corps just installed seven new monitoring wells (two in Respass Beach, two at J-Lake, one at the James River beachfront, and two at the Nansemond River beachfront). The only well that showed organics during the groundwater sampling was the deep well at the Nansemond River beachfront. The concentrations found were found at very low levels (well below EPA's risk based concentration levels). Cheryl told the RAB that the Corps was not surprised by the findings because GE has conducted pump and treat in the vicinity for some groundwater contaminants on their property. Cheryl said the organics found in this well were not FNOD contaminants of concern. Cheryl said that she would pass the information onto GE's environmental consultant. Nothing was found in the shallow groundwater well at the Nansemond River Beachfront. Cheryl said these findings were consistent with GE's consultant's findings. Fred (GE) said that what they found in the groundwater at GE was Acetone (a solvent). GE has worked on remediation of this problem under the guidance of the state for five years and did everything they were supposed to do. Rick reiterated that the levels found were actually below cleanup levels. Dave told the RAB that sunlight breaks down this type of organic very well.

Dave and Cheryl showed a map illustrating the locations of the new and existing groundwater wells on site. Tom O'Grady asked if the Corps could identify which wells on the Bridgeway Tech Center 2 property were no longer needed. Cheryl said that the project team was working on identify the wells no longer needed. Tom said the Corps needed to know which wells could be abandoned in the next 30 days. George Mears (USACE) pointed out a new monitoring well that appears to have been installed on Continental Properties (near the gravel road). No one seemed to be aware of who installed it. Cheryl expressed concern that the well was not locked. Jim Bennett recommended that the Corps contact Ted Sherman at Continental Properties about the well.

Dave Back went on to tell the RAB that they found groundwater contamination where they would expect to see it (on the GE property and in the TNT area). He said that based on the sampling conducted, there does not appear to be a wide spread groundwater problem at the former depot. Even in the TNT area, he said that they did not find groundwater contamination very far down-gradient of the site. A RAB member asked about the wells at the James River Beachfront. Cheryl said that the Corps conducted sampling in October and again in January. All the samples came back non-detect. The Corps will be conducting 2 more quarters of sampling to verify the findings. Bea asked when there would be a final report on the groundwater modeling. Cheryl said that the Corps hoped to meet with EPA in March. This meeting will establish the timeframe. The Corps will provide an update at the next RAB meeting.

Project Timeline (Rick Aiken – USACE)

Rick said that he hoped that the Impregnite Kit area could be deleted from the NPL by the end of March 2003. OE work in the TNT area began on December 3. If everything goes well, it will be completed in 4 weeks. The worst-case scenario for completing this effort is 8 weeks. He said that the Corps will hold a public meeting in conjunction with the June RAB meeting to kick-off a no further action Record of Decision for the Offshore work and possibly the Track K Dump (which may or may not happen). Rick said that he hoped the Corps can report on the

TNT area investigation and the GE pond efforts at the August RAB meeting. Bea asked if EPA or the Corps had received any comments on the Impregnite Kit area delisting. Rick said none had been received. The public comment period will end on February 20, 2003. Rick also showed the FNOD Master CERCLA schedule which provides an overview of the various phases of work anticipated for each site/effort. He said right now the majority of the site should be completed by 2013. This schedule helps the project team in their planning efforts.

Dieldrin

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

Cheryl told the RAB that when the Corps did confirmation sampling in the Pesticide Drum area, they found hits of Dieldrin (a different type of pesticide than were associated with the drums found). The Corps doesn't know if the finding is a sitewide soil issue. The Corps will be reviewing all previous data sitewide. Cheryl said there have been hits on GE property, and on TCC property ranging from low to very high. The Corps will be looking at levels and the possible distribution site wide. If the project team determines that Dieldrin is sitewide and the result of being applied for its intended use as a pesticide rather than due to a spill or dump, depending on the levels, no further action may be required by the regulators. Cheryl said that VDEQ and the Corps are going to work closely to determine the status of this issue. She said that she hoped she would know within the next 30 days the answer on this. The Corps will need to map the data showing the concentrations sitewide and coordinate with the regulators to determine what the next step is. Debbie Miller (VDEQ) also indicated that the Corps may need to fill in data gaps by taking more samples to delineate the extent of the problem. If cleanup is required, the Corps will also have to determine whether the Dieldrin is a result of Department of Defense activity or whether it will be a TCC responsibility. Dieldrin has not been found in groundwater. A RAB member asked what was prompting this issue. Cheryl answered that it was the confirmation sampling results in the Pesticide Drum area that raised the question.

Ordnance & Explosives Update

TCC/TNT Area

(Rick Aiken – USACE Contractor)

Rick showed the Pit 18/TNT area OE investigation grids. He showed the 2 grids where TNT and adapter boosters were found. The big chunk of TNT has been removed. Rick said that the only thing remaining in the two grids are some small pieces. The northern, eastern, and southern boundary of the affected area have been delineated. Next the OE team will work to delineate the western boundary of the affected area and finally address the affected OE grids slice by slice. Rick said he expects the work to be completed in 4-8 weeks.

Bea asked when the samples would be provided to Cornell University for research and development. He said that the TNT samples will be sent to Cornell in a few weeks when the OE team starts working in the affected grids. Most of the OE work is being conducted Tuesday through Thursday (and Friday if they need a makeup day). The soil and groundwater investigation will begin at this site in March 2003.

GE Main Burning Ground site

The Corps is trying to get approval to use an armored mechanical sifter at the Main Burning Ground. If approved, OE clearance efforts would be completed a year to 18 months ahead of schedule and save approximately \$1 million. Of the 58 grids remaining to be cleared, there are 18-19 OE grids that would benefit from mechanical sifting at this site.

Human Remains Reburial

Tim Thompson –USACE Archaeologist

Tim reported that the Corps received a large response from the January newspaper article that ran about the human remains reburial. Tim said the Corps had begun to develop of mailing list of interested parties. He asked Bea and the other members of the RAB to let him know of anyone else that may be regarded as an interested party. He said he would need a point of

contact, the name of the church or social organization affiliation, a mailing address, and a telephone number of any interested parties. Tim can be contacted by phone at his Fort Lee location at 804-734-4974. Tim said that the Corps has drafted a letter to send to those who called the Corps and expressed an interest. Bea said that she would fax some information to Tim Thompson about some potential interested parties. Sandra asked the RAB members if they had any suggestions for the Corps on this effort. Cherie Walton said that her minister may be interested in participating in the ceremony. Tim told the RAB that he doesn't want to have social groups or churches trying to compete with each other to take this over. He said that the Corps needs to determine a suitable reburial location and is hoping for a very inclusive ceremony –where all interested parties can participate. Tim said he had received responses from 5 interested churches so far. He also reported that the Corps had received interest in this by Congressman Forbes' office. Tim told the RAB that the Corps is hosting a community meeting on March 20 at TCC in the Manning Building (where the RAB used to meet) at 7:00 p.m. to obtain public input. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend. Tim said that the Corps' permit with the State Historic Preservation office requires that the reburial of the remains be conducted within two years of the excavation (which would be by July 2003). Bea said that she hoped that the reburial would take place close to the site and that she would not want to see the remains being reburied in Virginia Beach for example. Tim said that he mapped out the locations of the 5 churches that have expressed an interest so far. Each is about equal distance from the site. Tim said that he hoped the community would get together on this and come up with a solution and consensus for the reburial.

Positive Messages to Keep in Mind about the Project

Rick Aiken (USACE)

Rick highlighted some of the positive aspects of the FNOD project including:

- Cleanup is happening at FNOD.
- Development is also happening around the site.
- The project is about to delist its first of six National Priority List sites (Impregnite Kit Area).
- Good, positive working relationships have been established between the Corps, EPA, DEQ, and the community.
- There are no hidden agendas or animosities amongst the project team members or active community members.
- There has been extensive communication with all stakeholders.
- NPL status has helped the project obtain priority within the Corps, but cleanups at NPL sites are intentionally slow and meticulous.

Land Use Control Implementation Plan (LUCIP)

Bea asked about the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the City of Suffolk. Rick said he has been overwhelmed with everything else that has been going on and has not been able to work on that. Rick said he hoped to have this MOA completed within 60 days.

2002 Accomplishments

Rick also reviewed some of the latest project accomplishments:

- OE work completed on Dominion Lands property
- Offshore study completed
- Impregnite Kit Area Close-out Report completed
- Confirmation sampling of Pesticide Area completed
- Confirmation sampling of Track K Dump completed
- Pontoon bridge concern resolved
- Resolved concern over possible tunnels on site
- First draft of Groundwater model completed
- Interim Land Use Control Plan Signed

- Completed critical data validation for Background Study
- Completed Desk Top Audits for 4 Areas of Concern
- Completed final report on human remains burial at James River Beachfront
- Completed two thirds of the OE clearance work at FNOD (48 acres of the 67 acres to be cleared)
- Removed almost 750,000 pounds of scrap (non-OE related)
- Removed about 2208 OE items sitewide

Bea asked about the status of the Background Study. Cheryl said EPA has a new Hydrogeologist working on the project. This EPA representative asked the Corps to contact her when the groundwater model was completed. Cheryl said she hopes to meet with this EPA representative to discuss this further in March. Cheryl said that the other EPA representatives working on the project have reviewed and are ready to approve the Background Study once their Hydrogeologist is ready. Cheryl will update the RAB on this in April.

8: 50 p.m.

Regulatory Update (Rob Thomson – EPA, Debbie Miller - VDEQ)

Nothing new was noted. (Rob was not there, but Bill Hudson represented EPA)

8:50 p.m.

Public Comment Period / Q&A

Bea asked about the old buildings on the eastern portion of the site –is there any asbestos in them? Who is responsible? Cheryl said that these buildings were used by Frederick College. The Corps has no plans to address these buildings. The Corps will investigate the soil and possibly groundwater in this area but not the buildings.

Tom O’Grady asked about the anomalies at the Horseshoe Pond. Cheryl said the analytical data has not come back from the lab yet but the Corps does believe that the findings were impregnate kits. Rick said that some interviews with prior Depot employees have confirmed that the Horseshoe Pond was used for some type of landfill activities. The Corps plans to investigate this area more thoroughly. Cheryl said that they have confirmed that there is no connection between the findings at the Horseshoe Pond and the near shore area. Therefore no further investigation is planned for the near shore area in the vicinity of the Horseshoe Pond.

8:55 p.m.

Establish Action Items/Set Agenda and Date for Next RAB Meeting

The next RAB meeting was set for April 3, 2003. The meeting will be held at the Bon Secours Health Center at Harbour View at 7: 00 p.m. The meeting room is on the second floor.

Agenda items for the next RAB meeting:

- Update on Background Study
- MOA with City
- IKA delisting update
- Dieldrin
- Pesticide Drum Area
- Human Remains Reburial
- CWM testing results
- Sitewide Groundwater Modeling Update

Action Items:

- Diana to check with Virginian-Pilot about removing the headline of the online CWM story
- Rick to look into project shirts for RAB members.
- Corps to determine which wells can be abandoned on Bridgeway Tech Center 2 property within 30 days –report back to Tom O’Grady
- Corps to contact Continental Properties about new unidentified well

- RAB members to contact Tim Thompson with contact information for interested parties for the human remains reburial

9:05 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Others Present:	Affiliation:
Harry Wheeler, Jr.	TechLaw, Inc.
Diana Bailey	U.S. Army Corps, PAO
Rick Aiken	J.M. Waller & Associates
Bill Hudson	EPA
Scott Emry	HRPDC
Cheryl Fromme	USACE-Norfolk District
Tim Thompson	USACE – Norfolk District
Cliff Walden	Zapata Engineering
Michael Winningham	Zapata Engineering
Jeff Overton	Suffolk Towers
Pat Genzler	VCCS/TCC