

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

RAB Meeting: July 10, 2007

ATTENDEES: Robert Lowder/Camp Lejeune
Andrew Smith/Camp Lejeune
Daniel Hood/NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic
Gena Townsend/USEPA Region 4
Randy McElveen/NCDENR
Joe Colella/Shaw
Matt Louth/CH2M HILL
Kim Henderson/CH2M HILL
Christopher Bozzini/CH2M HILL
Jessica Skeean/CH2M HILL
Donna Laudermilch/CH2M HILL

Laura Bader/RAB Co-Chair
Jerome Ensminger/RAB Member
Thomas Mattison/RAB Member
Leonard McAdams/RAB Member
Richard Mullins/RAB Member
Marvin Powers/RAB Member
Cynthia Rester/RAB Member
Bobbie Newman/CCR
Craig Thomas/USMC

FROM: Donna Laudermilch/CH2M HILL

DATE: July 13, 2007

LOCATION

Coastal Carolina Community College, Business Technology Building, Room 103 in
Jacksonville, North Carolina

MINUTES

7:00 PM

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) Site Update

Objective: The purpose of this agenda item was to provide an update on the status of investigation activities at military munitions response program (MMRP) sites on Base. This discussion was led by Base representative, Mr. Bob Lowder.

Overview: The RAB reviewed a figure showing active and historic ranges. According to the Base representative, only historic ranges located in areas being encroached upon are currently being closed. Site investigations in-progress include:

- Knox Trailer Park
- Lejeune Cantonment 2.36 Bazooka Range

- D-27, Beach Assault Area
- B-12 Baffled pistol range
- Gun position 41A and B
- D-9, Skeet Range
- Firing Point #2

Knox Trailer Park: The site was identified as a grenade range by a former explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) technician; however the area was never identified as a range on any historic maps. To date, all trailers have been removed from the site. The closure process includes: geophysical mapping and sampling (completed March 2006), an intrusive investigation (completed January 2007), and detailed sampling (scheduled for August 2007). The intrusive investigation included sampling 10% of the anomalies from the geophysical mapping in order to identify any grenades which would classify the area as a range. One flare was found from the intrusive investigation. Additionally, pesticides and petroleum products were identified in collected samples. The comprehensive sampling scheduled for August 2007 is designed to identify the extent of contamination.

Lejeune Cantonment, 2.36" Bazooka Range: The site was identified as a bazooka range by a former EOD technician. Additionally, a Base CS Chamber and reported D7 gas chamber were located within the area. The site was never assessed; just abandoned, so the Base is now in the process of closing the site out, as it plans to use the area for a maintenance facility. The site is located by South Plant (wastewater treatment plant) for Site 78. The closure process includes: geophysical mapping and sampling (completed in April 2007), and detailed sampling (scheduled for September 2007). Intrusive activities have not yet been completed.

D-27, Fortified Beach Assault Range: The site was identified as a range in the Archive Search Report (ASR), operating from 1953-1977. The Base is constructing an armory and associated parking lot within the range area. The currently funded project is to assess the armory and parking lot area only. Assessment of the remaining range area will be completed under a separately funded project. Geophysical mapping and sampling was completed in December 2006, and an Explosives Safety Submission (ESS) was submitted in July 2007. The ESS is required to obtain approval from Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity (NOSSA) and Marine Corps System Command (MARCORSYSCOM) on the approach for intrusive activities. Intrusive activities will begin once ESS is approved.

B-12, Baffled Pistol Range: The site was identified as a range in the ASR. A bullet trap was installed at the range in 1999; however, the concern is that lead and arsenic is present from range activities prior to 1999. The Base is constructing bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQs) in the area. Funding for the closure process was received in June 2007, and the investigation is projected to begin in September 2007.

Gun Position 41A & B: The site was identified as a range in the ASR, operating until the early 1980s. The site is located within the proposed Marine Special Operations Command (MARSOC) complex area. Funding for the closure process was received in June 2007, and the investigation is projected to begin in September 2007.

D-9, Skeet Range: The site is an active skeet range, operating from 1953 to present. The site is located within an area the Base plans to use to build a facility for the 9th Marines. Within

the Skeet range area, initial geophysical surveying identified limited lead contamination. In addition to the range, there are several other sites located in the area which need to be assessed including, an incinerator site (IR Site 25), a radiological lab dump, a laboratory incinerator (IR Site 37), and Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) Site 43. The IR sites within the planned area for the 9th Marines were identified as requiring No Further Action (NFA) in the Initial Assessment Study (IAS) completed in 1983; however the rationale is unclear. Base representative Mr. Bob Lowder stated that the Base has a letter showing the contaminated soil was dug up from one of the IR sites, stockpiled, and disposed of off-Base; however no other supporting documentation has been located. As a result, sampling for radioactive isotopes will need to be completed in this area. Shaw previously excavated pesticide-impacted soil at SWMU Site 43 in the vicinity of Building PT37 and collected samples for radiological analysis. The results did not identify radiological contamination.

There is an ongoing project to delineate and/or sample these identified sites in order to narrow down the area where the 9th Marine facility can be built. Funding for the closure process was received in June 2007, and the investigation is projected to begin in September 2007.

Firing Point #2: The site was identified as a range in the ASR. The site is located within the proposed area for a future phase of the Base landfill. The Phase 1 landfill is already closed, and the Base is currently using Phase 2. Base representative Mr. Bob Lowder submitted a modification a few months ago to decrease the size of Phase 3 and 4, in order to create a Phase 5. The Phase 3 landfill will not be started for another 6 to 10 years. The range is located within the planned Phase 4 area, so the Base wants to assess/close out the range ahead of time. This project has not yet been funded; funding is anticipated for September 2007.

During this discussion, Mr. Ensminger stated that the laboratory dump site which was identified in the IAS as Site 19. According to Mr. Ensminger, the laboratory was using Strontium-90 and Cesium-137, and two animal carcasses were unearthed in soil contaminated with strontium-90. Mr. Ensminger questioned how long the laboratory was in operation. Base representative Mr. Bob Lowder stated that Environmental Management Division (EMD) is trying to locate documentation that would provide information on the site use and history. According to Mr. Ensminger, groundwater samples were collected in 1984 that exceeded the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for beta-particles.

Mr. Ensminger then asked how long EPA Region 4 had known about the radiological presence at Site 19. EPA representative Ms. Gena Townsend stated they had known for approximately six months. The Base has located a manifest showing that Strontium-90 contaminated soil and Strontium-90 beta-buttons went to a disposal site in Washington State. According to a conversation between Mr. Ensminger and a former EMD employee, radioactive material from Site 19 was buried at Site 69, which is believed to be a radiation pool containing beta-buttons. Base representative Mr. Bob Lowder indicated that the only information he currently had was a point on a map showing the radiation pool. Mr. Ensminger then stated that split samples were collected at Site 69, samples for normal chemical analysis were sent to some lab and the other half of the samples went to the Navy Environmental Support Office (NESO). Mr. Ensminger speculated that the radiological analysis was done at NESO. He had found a copy of the interim report containing the results, but could not locate the final version. Base representative Mr. Bob Lowder asked

Mr. Ensminger to share any additional information he had so they could continue to work together.

Mr. Ensminger questioned why Site 69 has not been investigated lately if radioactive material is present. The Base representative explained that resources are focused on active sites with known contamination, where there is the potential to impact people and the environment, given the limited amount of funding available for investigation and remediation.

Mr. Ensminger then provided the RAB with a copy of a letter from LANTDIV dated May 8, 1981 stating that a separate report would be forwarded discussing the results of a radiological investigation. He questioned whether radiological experiments were being executed at the lab listed in the letter. He then questioned whether biological experiments were also being conducted. The Base representative stated the he could not answer that question as he was not with EMD at that time; however an investigation will be conducted. According to the Base representative, beta-buttons were used on the decks of ships in the 1950s, as their luminescent properties would mark pathways. The beta-buttons were removed from ships and tested on dog carcasses. The Base was in contact with the author of the 1981 letter, but he was unaware of where the beta-buttons were buried.

The Base representative then explained that two separate issues are present at Site 69: chemical warfare materials (CWM) and chlorinated solvents. The IR portion of the site has been delineated; however there are issues with determining how best to remediate the chlorinated solvents as it is located under the chemical dump site. According to Mr. Lowder, the Army has cognizance of all CWM sites. According to the Army, one of the acceptable approaches for CWM is to leave it in the ground once it's been delineated and if it is not migrating. An assessment is planned for Site 69; however, since the site location is remote and the contamination is not migrating, resources are currently focused elsewhere.

EPA representative Ms. Gena Townsend stated that the EPA is unaware of any hidden information. The EPA found out about radiological presence just before the last RAB meeting. Based on that information, samples will be collected to gain an understanding.

NCDENR representative Mr. Randy McElveen added that the State had not heard anything about the radiological presence until this meeting. He stated that if he felt like any information was being hidden from the public, it would be revealed immediately.

III. Next RAB Meeting

The Next RAB Meeting will be **Tuesday, October 23, 2007 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**. Mr. Bob Lowder will secure a location for the meeting and send the information to the RAB members. Agenda topics for the October RAB meeting will include: an update on Site 88, an update on the most recent Site 69 sampling results, and a REVA update.

During this discussion, Base representative, Bob Lowder, indicated that all future public meetings will be held from 6:30-8:30.