

**Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2006**

1. Call to Order & Reading of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Community Co-Chair LTC Tom Tadsen at 6:00 p.m. at the Shearer Community Center, Paris Township, Ohio.

LTC Tadsen introduced Glen Beckham as the U.S. Army Co-chairman for the Restoration Advisory Board.

LTC Tadsen asked the board members if they had any additions or corrections to the minutes. No comment from the RAB members present. Mr. Tom Smith made a motion to suspend with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walter Landor. LTC Tadsen called the motion to question...."All those in favor please say 'Aye.' All those opposed?" The motion carried, and LTC Tadsen announced the minutes were approved as printed. LTC Tadsen announced that copies of the March 15, 2006 minutes are on the back table along with tonight's presentation handouts.

Secretary Christy Esler took a visual attendance with 18 members present, 2 excused and 4 absent (Ms. Barbara Andreas, Ms. Trish Nuskievich (Trumbull County Commissioners Representative), Mr. Charlie Ramer and Ms. Irene Glavies-Lutz.

2. General Business

The first order of general business, LTC Tadsen announced that Ms. Marti Long has resigned after years of service on the RAB. LTC Tadsen asked Secretary Christy Esler to please contact the applicants to request that they attend the schedule meeting on September 27th. These applicants will be asked to come forward and explain to the RAB members why they would like to become a member. The RAB members will be prepared to vote at the upcoming September 27th RAB meeting.

LTC Tadsen spoke about the Feasibility Study (FS) that was posted on the rvaap.org website with a public comment period. This FS public comment period was posted on the website in error. Glen Beckham apologized for the incorrect posting of the public comment period for the FS, and any confusion it may have caused. Glen also announced that copies of the "Community Relations Responsibilities for Remedial Response Phases" are available on the back table. This handout outlines the different document plans and the Army's community relations responsibilities.

Glen Beckman spoke about Indiana Army Ammunition Plant (INAAP) and discouraged the members and the audience from comparing RVAAP to INAAP. Mr. Chris Enlow is the project manager and point of contact for INAAP. For additional questions regarding other facilities, Ms. Gail Smith's contact information is on the handout table tonight.

LTC Tadsen introduced the presenters for the evening.

3. Presentation on the Update on the Phase I Plan - Laboratory Study of the Behavior of Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Compounds in Paint at Elevated Temperatures. Mr. Joe Carvitti & Darrell Joseph, Battelle Memorial Institute.

After completion of the formal presentation, the RAB members proceeded with questions directed to Joe Carvitti & Darrell Joseph.

Nancy Taylor- Why was the highest concentration of PCBs used with the lowest temperature?

Joe Carvitti- We used the lowest temperature and the highest PCB concentration, because this will give us an analytical range and also tell us how much solution is needed, what the residual amount is.

Nancy Taylor – Is it better for the highest concentration and lowest temperature?

Joe Carvitti – one gram of PCBs is still too much - ¼ gram results will fit the instrument. We will use no more than ½ of a gram for each of the samples to be run.

LTC Tadsen- Is another reason for the sample weight filter overloads?

Joe Carvitti- Yes. The filter would be so clogged that it wouldn't let air to flow through properly so this means fewer samples for the entire duration of the test.

Nina Miller- So you're using a total of 12 samples - then the samples are narrowed to 4. Do you have additional samples in the parts per million (ppm) ranges?

Darrell Joseph- There are variations in ppm of PCBs in various Load Lines (LLs) and in the paint colors. We picked the most representative samples out of the total 12 Load Lines.

Nina Miller- Is there a pre-test temperature?

Joe Carvitti- At 1200°F, less total volume of PCBs were destroyed than at 2100°F, for residue purposes. Using 3 temperature ranges produces more accurate data.

Nina Miller- If you burn the buildings, what temperatures would they reach?

Joe Carvitti- Thermocouple data from previous LL burns show a rapid increase in temperatures and that the temperature stayed at that level for approximately an hour. The temperature never exceeded 2100°F. Three temperature stages will give us a better result during the tests.

Darrell Joseph- The available literature tells us the appropriate range of temperatures, and PCB transformation at 2100°F results in maximum destruction of PCBs.

LTC Tadsen – Existing research and documents only cover the burning of liquid PCB's, but the burning of solid PCBs is a new science.

Joe Carvitti - Thanked LTC Tadsen and said - yes solid PCB testing is a new science which requires critical adjustments. For example, we thought 4 grams wouldn't be enough to plug

the filters, but it was. We are taking this step by step. When this document is published it will be the 1st of its kind.

Nina Miller- When you use ice to cool the solid, will the temperature change affect the results?

Joe Carvitti- The cooler contains ice water inside the coil, to keep the gas sample outside less than 70°F. It will cool the sample from 1200°F down to 70°F. We do not know what happens during the cool down phase, but we are following approved EPA methods. The cooling process does not destroy the residue.

Darrell Joseph- There are no particles left in the gas, so this will minimize the possibility of forming dioxins or furans during the cool down phase as it would in the atmosphere.

Nancy Taylor- If the temperature is not cooled enough, will the system shut down so it doesn't hurt residue?

Darrell Joseph- Testing has shown that the gas actually cools down to 50°F.

Dan Spicer- Directed a question to Joe Carvitti; if the preliminary test is for 20 minutes at 1200°F, will the actual test be at 1200°F?

Joe Carvitti- Not as of yet, It looks as though everything was released from the paint, but we will know for sure once we see the results. During the test, the sample lost all its beige color. It's likely that the test for Paint #1 (dark green) will run for 20 minutes. This results in uniform air flow, so we are leaning towards a 20 minute test time.

No other questions were fielded from the RAB members for the Battelle Memorial Institute presentation. LTC Tadsen opened the floor to public attendees for questions.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) – The samples you picked were not the highest levels found at RVAAP. Will there be enough data including different levels of PCB's used?

Joe Carvitti- Yes, the paint samples used represent 75 to 80% less than 9,000 ppm to gain the result of the bulk emissions using these samples. Darrell believes nothing will be left of the sample at 1200°F, so we expect very little, since everything had been emitted or transformed. The temperatures at 1200°F -1600°F destroyed or transformed for every percentage of PCB containing paint. Darrell has spent many hours searching existing literature on PCB liquids/soil contamination. Our expectation is that this research will provide new information and data, so based on these samples we should get the results we expect.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - So a small error in the testing and the release of furans this could be of significant magnitude if an open burn takes place.

Joe Carvitti- We do not expect emissions to be large, but we are only at the beginning stages of this testing procedure, so we need to wait until the results come back.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - The buildings have been painted more than one time, and there are numerous layers of paint. What about the samples deteriorating over the years.

Joe Carvitti- You can get to the very bottom layer of paint at 1200°F in less than a minute. Age shouldn't impact the quality of the sample. Sample results would show any deterioration.

Unannounced journalist (Akron Beacon Journal) - asked the time table for formal testing
Joe Carvitti- 3 to 4 weeks after receiving the preliminary results. The draft report will be available in October and we should have the preliminary results in mid September to evaluate if we're on schedule.

LTC Tadsen – Bill Krimmer has expressed concern over time, of accurate and thorough PCB speciation and evaluation. Bill's input, along with that of the general public, has been very important during this process.

Joe Carvitti announced that if anyone has additional questions or comments please contact the RAB secretary Christy Esler.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - The scale burn at North Carolina - will they use ambient air or zero air?

Joe Carvitti- Said that he expects to use filtered ambient air, and will sample the ambient air before the burn takes place, so we will know what is in the air.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager)- What will they use to wash down the surfaces before another test is performed?

Darrell Joseph- The wash solution is toluene, and uses washdown method 23 & 5.

LTC Tadsen- Asked about approved method 23 & 5 – whose method is that?

Darrell Joseph apologized, and stated that those are the USEPA approved methods.

Joe Carvitti – Stated that the Code of Federal Regulations, CFR.40 Part 61 App. A defines and elaborates the approved test methods.

LTC Tadsen – What happens to prepare the burn hut before we burn at the North Carolina EPA?

Joe Carvitti- The stainless steel walls and duct work are cleaned in between test burns with hexane or toluene to decontaminate the room. This will ensure that the room is completely clean, and will not cause any unexplained sample result.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - Toluene will not recombine chemicals?

Joe Carvitti- Toluene will not act as a catalyst. It would take more than toluene or hexane to do that.

No additional questions were fielded from the audience. LTC Tadsen introduced our next presenter.

4. Presentation on the RVAAP Public Web Site, Patrick Ryan, Science Applications International Corporation.

After completion of the formal presentation, the RAB members proceeded with questions directed to Patrick Ryan.

Howard Furl's (RAB Member) alternate Brian Miller asked if we knew who logged on to search for information.

Pat Ryan- Said that nothing is recorded to identify visitors to the site - there is just a counter. There is a survey provided that allows you to include your personal information if you wish.

LTC Tadsen said that he has a slow computer - will this inhibit his ability to view the documents?

Pat Ryan- Yes - the internet connection speed is the main factor. To view documents, you would need a relatively high-speed cable internet connection.

LTC Tadsen- If the documents are bookmarked, that would be a very big help.

Pat Ryan- Yes bookmarks do help. That way you can choose one section to look at instead of having to open the entire document report.

No other questions were fielded from the RAB members for SAIC's presentation. LTC Tadsen opened the floor to public attendees for questions.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager)- How often will you update the website, since some members of the general public do not visit it often?

Pat Ryan- That depends how fast we get the information from our sources, but we generally update the website on a monthly basis.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) – For large documents, or html versions, is it possible to get a brief summary?

Pat Ryan- We try to get it out there with the latest technology. Adobe document reader seems to be the best software available to the public today.

LTC Tadsen suggested reading the executive summary of the specific document.

Sara Lock (RAB Member) - The search tool is very useful and that does give you a brief summary.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - What about a definition on the different agency's?

Glen Beckham- Are you asking for the army abbreviations? (IOC, JMC)

LTC Tadsen- the Army is changing daily, so it would be very difficult to create a list from one agency to another. The Tables of Acronyms and Abbreviations are included in each document.

Mike Sever (Record Courier) - When the preliminary report comes in, when will it be posted on the web site?

Glen Beckham - Are you referring to the October Battelle internal Army review? That will be published in a 30 to 60 day time frame.

LTC Tadsen- Is the website being used to take the place of the repositories?

Pat Ryan- No, RVAAP will remain to supply the repositories with a copy of the documents for the public to view along with the public document web site.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - When I went to the Reed memorial library I was not able to review the disks.

LTC Tadsen asked Secretary Christy Esler to check into this and report back at the next scheduled meeting.

Laura Duncan (Middlefield resident) - Are there any ground water wells installed outside of the installation?

Glen Beckham- Said once again, there have been no reports of any contaminants directly related to RVAAP found outside the fence. We continue to look at the studies.

Laura Duncan (Middlefield Resident) - A company installed ground water wells in Middlefield and found amounts of PCB's in the soil.

Ron Duncan (Middlefield Resident) - Upon my review of a document from the facility (Ravenna) there was mention of hexavalent chromium.

LTC Tadsen – hexavalent chromium is found in a number of specific Environmental Areas of Concern (AOCs) on the installation, and is very localized.

Ron Duncan (Middlefield resident) - What about it being diluted in the creek?

Glen Beckham- Asked Ron what historical document he is referring to.

Ron Duncan said that it was something from the 1940's.

Joe Beutler (RAB Member) - Is the website going to be maintained in the far future for other facilities.

Glen Beckham- The current plan is for the website to be maintained and updated at least until the year 2012.

Eileen Mohr said that the long term monitoring program will last at least 30 years

LTC Tadsen- Added – thirty years beyond the clean up action.

Julie Smeiles (The Weekly Villager) - during the long term monitoring, will the repositories still be maintained and updated? Will you still notify the public?

Glen Beckham- As long as the data is being collected, it is public information.

The RAB tour for the members will be held at 3:00 on September 27th at RVAAP. The next scheduled RAB meeting will be at 6:00 September 27th and the location will be announced.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Esler
RVAAP RAB Administrator