

MEETING MINUTES, FORMER LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS SITE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

To: Restoration Advisory Board members and Interested Parties
From: Ray Pilon, US Army Corps of Engineers, Project Manager
Re: Minutes of June 29, 1999 RAB meeting

RAB Members Present: Stephen Yaksich, Government Co-Chair Nils Olsen, Community Co-Chair Mike Basile Thomas Freck Rebecca Zayatz Theresa Mudd Gary Smith Martin Hodgins Paul Dicky Edward Lilly Darwin James Langlois Nona McQuay William Roger Angus Clyde Johnston, Jr. Neil Patterson, Jr. Daniel Serianni, Jr. Lawrence Brennen John Syms Bruce Mero	Affiliation: US Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District University of Buffalo/Lew-Port School Board USEPA Resident Chemical Waste Management Resident Modern Corporation Resident Niagara County Health Dept. Local Civic Group Town of Lewiston Local Environment. Lewiston Businessman Union/Local 463 Tuscarora Indian Nation Resident Resident Somerset Group US Air Force
RAB Members Absent: Kent Johnson Walter Polka Timothy Henderson Charles Lamb	NYDEC Lew-Port School System Local Environment Town of Porter

7:05 p.m.

Introduction and Welcome/Call to Order (Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc.)

Sandra welcomed everyone to the first Restoration Advisory Board meeting for the Former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works Site. Sandra proceeded to explain that CEC, Inc. has been contracted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to facilitate and provide administrative support to the RAB. The government representatives for the RAB were introduced (Ray Pilon and Steve Yaksich with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mike Basile with the USEPA and Kent Johnson, who was not present at this meeting, is representing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation). The RAB members and

MEETING MINUTES, FORMER LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS SITE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

guests were then invited to introduce themselves including their affiliation and a brief explanation of why they were interested in participating in the RAB process. Sandra explained that the main goals for the first meeting were to get acquainted and to get the board oriented about the RAB and its function and to provide information on previous and current restoration plans. She gave a brief overview of the agenda for the evening and proceeded with the RAB Orientation.

RAB Workshop/Orientation (Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc.)

Sandra conducted an orientation workshop which described the purpose and responsibilities of the RAB. She reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the RAB in general as well as the specific roles of the Co-chairs, community RAB members and the government RAB representatives. Sandra also reviewed several of the operational issues facing the RAB such as the development of a mission statement, operating rules, and the election of a community co-chair and an alternate co-chair. Sandra disseminated the new Army Corps RAB Guidance for FUDS sites to all the RAB members. This guidance includes a sample set of operating procedures that the RAB can use to customize their own set of operating procedures.

7:28 p.m

DERP-FUDS Overview (Ray Pilon, US Army Corps) Ray Pilon gave a brief presentation to give a site history of the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works Site, to identify the environmental impacts from Department of Defense uses and to explain the remedial investigations and cleanup actions being conducted under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS). Ray explained that the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works site was created in 1942. The War Department initially bought 7,500 acres to develop a TNT production plant. The plant was constructed on 2,500 acres of that parcel and TNT production began in October of 1942 and was ceased in July of 1943. After TNT production ceased, the 5,000 acres that had been the buffer zone for the plant was sold back to private landowners. The 2,500 acres that were used for the TNT production were transferred to the Corps of Engineers in 1944. Some parcels of the 2,500 acres have been transferred to private owners and the U.S. Government still retains a portion of those acres. Ray reviewed the Government uses of this property from 1942 to present. The Corps has been investigating this site since 1988 and determined that the environmental impact of these Defense uses has resulted in groundwater and soil contamination by chemicals in some areas. These areas have been identified and are being investigated and cleaned up.

MEETING MINUTES, FORMER LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS SITE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

Ray explained that the Corps will be following the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) regulatory process at the site. This requires a site-wide Remedial Investigation. The purpose of this investigation is to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the entire site as it relates to former Department of Defense operations.

Phase I of the Remedial Investigation has been completed. It involved a detailed history search and an investigation of 34 areas within 9 separate components. These 9 components consist of the following properties:

Component 1: Chemical Waste Management (CWM) Services Inc.

Component 2: Somerset Group

Component 3: Town of Lewiston

Component 4: Town of Porter

Component 5: US Government (Niagara Falls Storage Site)

Component 6: Modern Disposal Services Inc.

Component 7: Former LOOW underground utility/waste lines

Component 8: Former Air Force Plant 68 underground utility lines

Component 9: Surface water drainages

The investigation activities of this Phase I Remedial Investigation included:

- Sampling of soil, ground water, sludge, waste-water, surface water and sediment
- Laboratory analysis of samples
- Geophysical investigation to locate buried metal objects
- Test pits to locate buried metal objects
- Surveying of sample locations
- Comparison of analytical results to NY State cleanup criteria (TAGM4046)
- Data evaluation to determine if further investigation or additional interim removal is necessary

Approximately 2 ½ million has been spent in the past 2 years doing the removal actions. The Somerset Property is completed and the removal action consisted of friable asbestos, miscellaneous chemicals, contaminated piping and equipment. Currently removal is underway at the Chemical Waste Management property which consists of removal of a TNT pipeline and chemical waste sewers. (David Wilder to give a presentation on the TNT pipeline.) Proposed cleanup actions for this site are for the former buried drum trench, burn pit area, buried drum trench and former trash pit area.

MEETING MINUTES, FORMER LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS SITE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

A report on the completed Phase I will be available for public review on the Corps' web site (<http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/loow/>) and in the Lewiston library by the end of July. An Administrative Record will be maintained in the Buffalo District Public Information Center as well. (The group was told that a History Search Report was available to everyone on web page <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/loow/>).

Phase II, based on results from the Phase I investigation is proposed for late 1999 and will focus on areas requiring additional investigations or interim removal actions. The proposed Phase II investigation will include:

- Focused investigations at selected areas
- Obtain additional information to support design of potential removal actions
- Obtain additional information on the background concentration of metals

There will be additional removal actions as required and confirmatory sampling performed.

7:43 p.m.

TNT Pipeline (*David Wilder, Radian*) Radian International has been contracted by the Corps of Engineers to perform the removal action of the Chemical Waste Sewer lines, the TNT Pipeline and the Wastewater Treatment Plant that is on Lewiston property. Major components of this project are the TNT Pipeline on the Chemical Waste Management property, the TNT Pipeline on the Lewiston Property, the Chemical Waste Sewer Line on the Somerset Group property, the trench on Chemical Waste Management property and the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Lewiston property. Radian is responsible for all the environmental cleanup of these properties which will include water, soil, sludge, construction debris, video inspection of the pipeline, decontamination and removal of part of the pipeline if necessary, removal and disposal of debris and site restoration.

Cleanup of the Waste Water Treatment Plant has included pumping out all the water in the wet wells and baffles, temporary storage and analysis of the materials, demo the plant, knock holes in the bottom and fill with sand and grade it out. (Mr. Wilder showed photos of the sites and work being done.)

MEETING MINUTES, FORMER LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS SITE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

Radian has tested the water in the Water Treatment Plant and found no contamination in the water.

Tasks performed on the chemical waste sewer lines include pumping out the water and sludge from the different stations, pressure wash the pipelines, replace pipes in areas where needed, and video inspect them. This process will continue until all the pipes are clean, sealed up and filled with sand. Excavation of the pipeline is still ongoing.

8:15 p.m.

Organizational Issues (*Sandra Chaloux and RAB members*) Sandra initiated the election of a community co-chair and alternate co-chair for the RAB. The election was among community members only. The community members wishing to be considered for these positions were listed on a ballot sheet and passed out to the members for voting. Nils Olson was elected as Co-chair and Jim Langlois as the Alternate.

Sandra also passed out a draft set of RAB Operating Rules and the DoD Guidance of Operating Rules. The RAB was asked to review for discussion at the next RAB meeting. The members were also asked to think about a mission statement for the group and brought up some of the following ideas:

- Stay informed about funding
- Full disclosure of all facts
- Input of how money should be spent
- Clarification on scope of RAB-LOOW vs. the National Guard/Air Force
- Mission for restoration should be ecological/environmental responsibility

8:45 p.m.

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

The RAB decided that they would meet on a quarterly basis or as needed. The next RAB meeting was set for Wednesday, September 15, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. at the same location. The group suggested specifying that the meeting is held in the "Primary Building". Agenda items identified for the next RAB meeting include:

- Corps Update – NFSS update
- Property Owners Update
Local Perspective-Site History
- Review of Operating Rules/Mission Statement
- National Guard Update
- Boron Fuel
- Construction Update-CWM

MEETING MINUTES, FORMER LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS SITE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

- Human Health Studies-what's been done/what's planned

Action items:

- CEC to prepare a mailing list of the RAB members to distribute to the RAB.
- Site tour to be scheduled for RAB members – CEC will coordinate with the Corps and RAB to arrange a time and date

9:00 p.m

Meeting Adjourned

Guests Present:	Affiliation:
Rich Baker	Citizen
Ann McBride	Niagara Gazette
Dan Lane	Foster Wheeler
Linda Shain	Somerset Group
Paulette Glasgow	Citizen
Mitia Schaub	Contractor
Sandra Staigemold	EA Engineering
C. Davis Wilder	Radian
J. W. Kohl	R.O.L.E.
Ron Plante	Channel 2 News
Bruce Hillero	U.S. Air Force
Don Rappold	Lewiston-Porter CSD
Lydia Rappold	Lewiston-Porter
Pam Kowalik	Buffalo News
John Stoyell	Lewiston Env.
Michael House	Stevenson Environmental
Derek Rhodes	IT
John Syms	Somerset Group
B. Gannon	Lewiston Resident
Jared Beggs	Beggs Insurance