

CRREL Restoration Advisory Board  
Minutes of Meeting #1, January 15, 2014

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2 Location: Frances C. Richmond Middle School Library, Lyme Road, Hanover NH

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4 Members Attending: Darrell Moore, USACE-NAE  
5 Ken Richards, NH DES  
6 Tim McNamara, Dartmouth College  
7 Kristine McDevitt, Citizen Volunteer  
8 Kate Connolly, Citizen Volunteer, Town of Hanover  
9 Roelof Versteeg, Citizen Volunteer  
10 Jonathan Brush, SAU 70  
11 Dick Berg, Citizen Volunteer (by speakerphone from Florida)

12  
13 Also in attendance: Larry Cain, USACE-NAE  
14 Larry Danyluk, ERDC/CRREL  
15 Bryan Armbrust, ERDC/CRREL  
16 Jeffrey Pickett, AMEC Project Manager  
17 David Van Wie, AMEC, RAB Facilitator  
18 Rod Rustad, AMEC  
19 Scott Calkin, AMEC

20  
21 Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm.

22  
23 1. Introductions

24  
25 Darrell Moore, co-chair for USACE, welcomed the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members  
26 and the audience. RAB team members introduced themselves and provided background on  
27 their skills and interests.

28  
29 2. Background and Purpose of RAB

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31 Mr. Moore and David Van Wie summarized the background for establishing a RAB, including  
32 the history of the RAB Rule and Department of Defense RAB Rule Handbook. Mr. Van Wie  
33 noted that a copy of the CRREL Community Relations Plan (CRP), dated February 2013, was  
34 provided in the binders for each member. The CRP outlines the process used to solicit  
35 community interest and candidates and invite the members to join the RAB. They also  
36 discussed the role of the RAB and the co-chairs.

37  
38 Mr. Van Wie explained that AMEC prepared a draft RAB Mission Statement and Operating  
39 Procedures at the request of the USACE, which were circulated to the members for review prior  
40 to the meeting. He suggested that the draft Mission Statement and Operating Procedures be  
41 provisionally adopted by the RAB, following election of the Community Co-chair, to provide  
42 governance for the RAB until such time that any amendments are proposed and an amended  
43 document can be approved.

44  
45 3. Election of Community Co-Chair

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47 Tim McNamara was nominated by Kate Connolly; nomination was seconded by Jonathan  
48 Brush. Vote was unanimous in favor of Mr. McNamara serving as Community Co-chair. He  
49 and Mr. Moore will work together to plan the meeting agendas, and will alternate in chairing the  
50 meetings.

51

1 4. RAB Mission and Operating Procedures

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3 Mr. Van Wie introduced the draft document as a discussion draft based on similar documents  
4 for other RABs and the RAB Rule Handbook and Defense Environmental Restoration Program  
5 (DERP) guidance. Mr. Moore noted that the RAB consider specifically the procedure for adding  
6 members to the RAB, since there was interest expressed by another community member. Mr.  
7 Moore noted that the USACE/ERDC Colonel would have to approve and formally invite any new  
8 members recommended by the RAB.

9  
10 Mr. Van Wie asked for questions and comments on the draft Mission Statement and Operating  
11 Procedures. Dick Berg asked what is the scope the RAB advises on, just TCE or other issues?  
12 Inside or outside of CRREL?

13  
14 Mr. Moore responded that the RAB will review and advise on the entire Environmental  
15 Restoration Program at CRREL, not just TCE and vapor intrusion, but also any other  
16 compounds of concern in groundwater, soil, bedrock or vapor resulting from past CRREL  
17 operations.

18  
19 Ms. Connolly asked about the review process for draft and final reports? When will the RAB get  
20 to review results? Mr. Moore noted that draft results will be provided in paper reports after they  
21 have been validated by the consultant and reviewed internally by USACE.

22  
23 Mr. Versteeg noted that the scope is covered in Section 2.2 under RAB duties. However, Mr.  
24 Van Wie noted that the scope of the Environmental Restoration Program should be added to the  
25 document, as well as referring to "CRREL *and affected areas*". Mr. Moore noted that the  
26 CRREL site under investigation includes any areas that may be affected by contamination from  
27 the facility.

28  
29 Ken Richards observed that criteria for selecting new RAB members should be added and voted  
30 by the RAB prior to consideration of any new members. Mr. Van Wie will draft and add.

31  
32 Mr. Richards also asked for an overview of the USACE and CRREL organizations, which was  
33 provided by Mr. Moore and Mr. Armbrust from ERDC. An organization chart will be provided to  
34 the RAB to help with understanding of the various groups and functions within USACE,  
35 including:

- 36 • Engineer Research and Development Centers (ERDC) and CRREL
- 37 • USACE New England District (NAE) in Concord, MA
- 38 • Army Environmental Command (AEC)
- 39 • Army Medical Command

40  
41 Mr. Richards provided an overview of NH Department of Environmental Services' (NHDES) role  
42 in requesting and reviewing draft documents. He noted that NHDES does not do independent  
43 testing but reviews methods and quality control procedures. NHDES is the lead regulator, but  
44 EPA could step in, if necessary, but the USACE is making good progress. Larry Cain noted that  
45 this is not a National Priorities List (NPL) site so it is not on US EPA's high priority list.

46  
47 Jeffrey Pickett of AMEC summarized the data validation process for reviewing sampling and  
48 laboratory analysis procedures and results.

1 With no further discussion of the RAB mission, duties and procedures, it was moved by Kristine  
2 McDevitt and seconded by Mr. Brush that the Draft Mission Statement and Procedures be  
3 provisionally adopted, with proposed amendments to be presented at future meetings. The vote  
4 to approve the draft was unanimous.

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6 5. Status of Investigations and Activities

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8 Mr. Moore provided a brief overview of the history of the investigations, both on CRREL  
9 property and on surrounding properties. Initial investigations in the 1990s focused on ground  
10 water, and after understanding of vapor migration developed after 2000, then vapor intrusion  
11 investigations were initiated. He noted that out of 18 initial Areas of Concern (AOCs) on the  
12 CRREL property, four remain under further investigation including AOC2, AOC9, AOC 13 and  
13 the Groundwater Treatment Plant.

14  
15 Mr. Moore summarized the initial on-site vapor investigation, and the decision to move quickly to  
16 the property boundary to assess potential for off-site impacts. The Open House in April  
17 addressed the initial round of sampling for off-site vapor pathways. While results indicate no  
18 risk in buildings or shallow soils, quarterly sampling is planned for the Middle School. Results  
19 show the vapor concentrations are confined to deeper soils below 50 feet, beneath the tighter  
20 soils.

21  
22 Ms. McDevitt asked about addressing the neighbors' concerns about the extent of the vapor  
23 migration. Mr. Moore and Mr. Richards acknowledged that they will try to provide a clearer  
24 explanation of the extent of subsurface vapor beyond the property at the next meeting. Mr.  
25 Richards noted the current scope of further sampling at the Middle School goes beyond what  
26 NH DES would have required. USACE has insisted on quarterly sampling to address community  
27 concerns. To the north of CRREL on the RiverCrest property, the USACE still needs to further  
28 evaluate the possible effects on future development of that property.

29  
30 Roelof Versteeg asked about what is being done on the CRREL property nearer the sources  
31 (AOCs) to remediate the problem in soil, groundwater and bedrock. The AMEC team briefly  
32 summarized surface soil sampling at the CDC, Membrane Interface Probe (MIP) and  
33 groundwater profiling work completed in late Fall 2012 and Winter 2013. They also outlined  
34 plans for an upcoming investigation of bedrock groundwater. There will be more information on  
35 current investigations and work plans at the next meeting.

36  
37 The group also expressed an interest in learning more about what is known about the geology  
38 of the site and surroundings. AMEC will provide additional information at the next meeting.

39  
40 7. Community Relations Plan

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42 Mr. Van Wie noted that Community Relations Plan needs to be reviewed by the RAB and  
43 updated to be sure that USACE is meeting the community's need for information. He also noted  
44 that the ERDC/CRREL web site needs to be updated to remove dated information from earlier  
45 in 2013, and to add current information and study plans. RAB members were asked to review  
46 the CRP and provide comments to Mr. Van Wie prior to or at the next meeting.

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- 1 8. Next Meeting  
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3 The next two meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, February 26 and Wednesday, March 26.  
4 Both meetings will be 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the same location (Middle School Library). The  
5 agenda for the next meeting will include:  
6       Review of off-site investigations and results  
7       Subsurface geology  
8       Overview of work plans for additional on-site investigations  
9  
10 9. Comments and questions from the public  
11  
12 There were no comments or questions.  
13  
14 10. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.