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Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting 19 August 2020

1. Call to Order

The Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant (RVAAP) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for the Installation Restoration Program was called to order by the Community Co-Chair Ms. Sarah Lock, of Paris Township at 6:12 p.m. Wednesday, August 19, 2020 virtually using Microsoft TEAMS.

Meeting attendance was recorded as 12 members present, 1 excused absence and 10 unexcused absences. Public attendance was recorded at 3.

This meeting did not have a quorum of members present thus meeting minutes were not discussed or approved. Sarah Lock of Paris Township did ask the members present if there were any comments or changes to the minutes from the December 11, 2019 meeting. There were no comments or changes to those minutes. They will be discussed and approved at the next scheduled meeting.

There was also a change of membership discussed. Unfortunately, Mr. Joeseph Beutler, Charlestown Township Representative, has some health issues that limit the time he is able to commit to the RAB. He has asked that the Charlestown Township trustees appoint another representative. Rebecca Shreffler, RAB Administrator, has contacted the Charlestown Township trustees to name a replacement representative.

Ms. Sarah Lock, new Community Co-Chair, also reminded members of the resignation of Mr. James DiPaola as the Community Co-Chair and as a member of the RAB. Ms. Lock was nominated and voted to the Community Co-Chair position at the December 11, 2019 RAB meeting.

2. Presentation – Thermal Treatment System for Soils Remediation Activities at Load Lines 1-4 and 12, Chad Belenky, Iron Creek Group

Chad Belenky of Iron Creek Group then gave a presentation on the thermal treatment system for soils remediation activities at Load Lines 1-4 and 12. To request a copy of the formal presentation please contact the RVAAP RAB Administrator at (330) 872-4411, rmsheffler@chenega.com or visit www.rvaap.org.

Following the presentation Ms. Sarah Lock (Paris TWP) thanked the speaker and opened the discussion for questions by RAB Members. Public members were asked to hold any questions until after all member questions.

Kevin Palombo, Ohio EPA representative on the board, asked if all vegetation present in the soil would be destroyed and if the system could handle larger pieces of vegetation such as logs?

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Mr. Belenky answered that most of the larger woody debris such as logs would be separated from the soil prior to the process. This is a thermal process so you end up with some smoldering. In terms of root matter and other plant material, if it is sufficient it will also be removed as part of the process. Then essentially the plan is to revegetate those areas after backfill and the reclamation process.

Kevin Palombo then added what he found interesting was the smaller the grain, like clays, actually transfer the heat better during the process. Does this mean the process actually works better when treating small grain clay soils versus larger grain sandy soils?

Mr. Belenky answered that is correct. It is actually counter intuitive. One would think the coarser the material, like sand, the better the vapors would be released. But in reality it's the vapor pressure from heating and changing the contaminants into a gas phase that dries the mud of the soil. So the tight clays are beneficial to work with in that sense.

Kevin Palombo then asked if Mr. Belenky could talk about the verification sampling to be done before the soil is back filled to the excavation site.

Mr. Belenky noted essentially post treatment the cells are monitored to ensure they achieve target temperature based on the contaminants. At that point the quonset huts will be rolled off the cell pile and the soil is sampled by hand in quadrants. Samples are then sent to an accredited laboratory for analysis. The team will review those results and get clearance to decommission that cell. At that point the material would be back filled and a new cell will be built.

Next Sarah Lock of Paris Township asked if Mr. Belenky could expand upon the type of soils present at the former RVAAP and particularly at Load Lines 1-4 and 12.

Mr. Belenky described the soils in the area as finer grain material, predominantly silts and clays. There is also some contact with bedrock at some of the excavation sites. The team is not expecting much gravel at any of the sites.

James Mayer of Garrettsville Village asked what temperatures are attained inside the cell during treatment.

Mr. Belenky explained temperature ranges from 300F at the bottom end to almost 900F at the very top end. What drives those temperatures are the contaminants of concern. The team needs to ensure the boiling point of the contaminants of concern is achieved so they are mobilized in gas phase. Often mobilization of those gases is seen at lower temperatures because the exposure to heat is over such a long period of time. A loose analogy is how a puddle evaporates eventually over time even though the boiling point of water is not achieved.

Mr. Mayer then followed up with asking if a vacuum was used on the exhaust side of the cell. Mr. Belenky confirmed the hut is run under slight vacuum the help collect all the off gassing of contaminants and run it through the after burner.

Mr. Mayer then asked about how many yards of material is treated per cell.

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Mr. Belenky explained there is about 525 cubic yards give or take per cell. For this project approximately 5700 yards is expected so there will be about 10 or 11 batches.

Sarah Lock then asked how the team ensures there is no debris dropped while transporting material from the excavation site to the treatment site.

Mr. Belenky stated the plan for this site is to use all-terrain vehicles to transport soils so load size is small and well managed. There will also be dust management practices in place so material doesn't blow off trucks during transport. Travel speeds are also low on site. There are cleaning protocols in place when paved areas must be used to make sure wheels and undercarriages of vehicles are cleaned before entering the pavement.

Ms. Lock then asked if the quench units would be necessary at this site for the off gasses.

Mr. Belenky clarified quench units will not be required for this project. There is a very extensive air permitting process that has been developed with the Ohio EPA and is included in the Remedial Design.

James Mayer, Garrettsville Village, said there was a mention in the presentation that about a thousand yards of concrete needed to be treated. In previous projects at the former RVAAP heavy metals, in particular lead, were of concern when treating building foundations. He asked what testing was done for heavy metal contaminants.

Mr. Belenky explained the concrete in this project was from raised walkways. The delineation work has been completed by another technical firm so there are clear instructions for the work site. Iron Creek is working in partnership with CH2M/Jacobs and they will be supporting Iron Creek on the technical aspects of the project. In short there is not a lot of mixed media, so there is no metals contamination in the soils that will be going through the thermal desorption process. There are a few metal impacted locations that are quite small that will be excavated directly and be taken to an approved disposal facility and be back filled with clean material from off site.

Katie Tait, Environmental Specialist with the OHARNG, added the concrete walkways are raised so differ from foundations up against the soils. The concrete is also unpainted so there is no concern at this point for lead based paint.

Sarah Lock asked if there were any further questions or discussion from the board. There were no responses. Ms. Lock then opened the discussion to allow questions or comments from any public attendees. There were no further questions or comments. This concluded the discussion on the presentation.

3. General RAB Business

1. Sarah Lock of Paris Township moved to the RAB Operating Procedure Update. This was just a reminder that the revised RAB Operation Procedure was discussed and adopted at the last RAB meeting held on 11 December 2019.

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2. Rebecca Shreffler notified members of an upcoming public meeting being held August 26, 2020 to explain recommendations in the Proposed Plans for Atlas Scrap Yard and C Block Quarry. Copies of those Proposed Plans can be found on www.rvaap.org, or at one of the RVAAP information repositories. The public comment period for these documents is August 17, 2020 to September 16, 2020.
3. The next order of business was scheduling the next meeting. Because there was not a quorum present for this meeting Sarah Lock suggested perhaps virtual meetings are not the best option for the board. She also suggested the RAB administrator reach out to members to get some feedback on the virtual meeting platform and any issues that prevented attendance. Ms. Lock then asked Katie Tait and Kevin Sedlak if there were any upcoming projects or activities that would guide a decision on when to hold the next meeting.

Kevin Sedlak stated there is another remediation project coming up using a different thermal treatment system and suggested pushing the next meeting to late spring or early summer 2021. Katie Tait agreed with this timeframe.

James Mayer, Garrettsville Village, asked if there was any guidance regarding requiring Real ID compliant identification in order to access the facility. Kevin Sedlak stated the official deadline for compliant ID implementation was pushed to October 1, 2021 due to the pandemic.

With this Sarah Lock suggested the next meeting be scheduled in May 2021. A location will be discussed and chosen by the board based on venue availability and pandemic status closer to the meeting date. The board decided the next meeting will be held on May 19, 2021 at 6pm, location TBD. RAB Administrator Rebecca Shreffler will inform the board of further details closer to the meeting date as they become available.

Katie Tait reminded the board to be on the look out for any upcoming public meetings between now and the meeting May 19, 2021. As previously discussed, there is a public meeting scheduled for August 26, 2020 and another public meeting being planned hopefully for September 2020. All information will be posted on www.rvaap.org and ran in the local newspapers.

There were no further comments, discussion or general business topics.

The meeting was adjourned by Sarah Lock at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Shreffler, RVAAP RAB Administrator