
Community Relations Plan

Warner Robins Air Logistics Center
Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

prepared for



Environmental Management Branch
78th Civil Engineer Group
Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

submitted by

Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND OFFICE SYMBOLS

78 CEG/CEAN	78th Civil Engineer Group, Environmental Management Branch
ABW	Air Base Wing
ACW	Air Control Wing
AFB	Air Force Base
AFCEE	Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment
AFMC	Air Force Materiel Command
ALC	Air Logistics Center
AOC	Area of Concern
ARB	Air Reserve Base
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
BCE	Before the Common Era
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
CEG	Civil Engineer Group
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CRP	Community Relations Plan
CMI	Corrective Measures Implementation
CMS	Corrective Measures Study
DoD	Department of Defense
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
ft ²	Square feet
FY	Fiscal Year
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
HRS	Hazard Ranking System
HWMU	Hazardous Waste Management Unit
IRA	Interim Remedial Action
IROD/RAS	Interim Record of Decision/Removal Actions
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
J-STARS	Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System
LF04	Landfill No. 4
LTM	Long-term Monitoring
MDS/SGPB	Bioenvironmental Engineering Services
MXW	Maintenance Wing
N/A	Not Applicable
NFA	No Further Action
NFRAP	No Further Response Action Planned
NPL	National Priorities List
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OU	Operable Unit
PA	Public Affairs
PA/SI	Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation



PCE	Perchloroethene, also known as Perchloroethylene
PP/ROD	Proposed Plan/Record of Decision
RA	Remedial Action
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD	Remedial Design
RFA/PSA	RCRA Facility Assessment/Potential Source Assessment
RFI	RCRA Facility Investigation
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
RIP	Remedy in Place
ROD	Record of Decision
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
TCE	Trichloroethene, also known as Trichloroethylene
U.S.	United States
USAF	United States Air Force
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WP14	Sludge Lagoon and Waste Pit 14
WR-ALC	Warner Robins Air Logistics Center





Section 1 Introduction

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in cleanup programs, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has developed this Community Relations Plan (CRP), which provides information on the two-way communication mechanisms established between the base and the local communities. The plan documents the level of awareness and interest concerning the cleanup process.

Environmental cleanup activities at Robins AFB are part of a larger Department of Defense (DoD) environmental program entitled the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). ERP activities are primarily governed by two federal laws, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). CERCLA establishes the legal requirements for identifying, investigating, and cleaning up inactive hazardous waste sites. RCRA requires corrective action for releases of hazardous waste or constituents from past or present practices and operations that pose a threat to human health and the environment from any Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) at a storage, treatment, or disposal facility with a RCRA permit. Information concerning the ERP process and the specific cleanup activities at Robins AFB is provided in Section 2.0. Section 2.0 also describes the location, history, and mission of Robins AFB.

The purpose of this CRP is to continue sharing knowledge and encouraging community participation related to the cleanup of environmental contamination at Robins Air Force Base. This CRP reflects the specific interests, priorities, and opinions of individuals from the local communities.

This CRP reflects the specific interests, priorities, and opinions of individuals from the local communities. Information was gathered from interviews conducted every two years from 1996 to 2010 throughout local cities including Warner Robins, Centerville, Perry, Byron, Fort Valley, and Macon. Interviewees have included representatives of local municipalities, the business community, as well as members of the Robins AFB Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), rechartered in June 2006 as the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). These interviews were conducted by a representative of the Robins AFB Environmental Management Branch (78 CEG/CEAN) and an independent consultant. A summary of the results of these interviews and profiles of the various communities are presented in Section 3.0. A summary of the EAB and its relationship to the local communities is also provided in Section 3.0.

Section 4.0 identifies the community relations goals and objectives and associated activities that have taken place over the last several years and future objectives to improve two-way communication between Robins AFB and the various area communities. The structure and function of the EAB is described in Section 4.0.

Following these sections, the remainder of this document consists of the following appendices that contain supporting information:

Appendix A Community Relations Contacts

Lists names, addresses, and phone numbers of the central point of contact for the public, key Robins AFB representatives, federal and state agencies, local elected officials, and EAB membership.

Annual CRP updates keep the community informed as the program progresses.



Appendix B Public Information Locations

Lists the locations of the information repository and the administrative record that contains documents related to the Robins AFB ERP and lists information on recommended locations for public meetings.

Appendix C EAB Fact Sheets

Presents EAB Fact Sheets produced during 2011 following the EAB meetings held in February, May, and August.



EAB Fact Sheets are produced following each quarterly EAB meeting and present technical information briefed in the meeting in an easily readable format supplemented with appropriate graphics.

The public's point of contact for questions is Mr. Kendahl Johnson of the Robins AFB Public Affairs (PA) Office. He can be reached as follows:

Mr. Kendahl Johnson
Public Affairs Office
78 ABW/PA
620 Ninth Street, Suite 230
Robins AFB, Georgia 31098

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Section 2 Description of Robins AFB and the ERP

The purposes of this section are to describe the location, history, and mission of Robins AFB and to review the nature and extent of environmental issues at the base, including the objectives of Robins AFB's ERP activities and specific details on environmental sites.



Robins AFB is located in the geographic center of Georgia.

2.1 BASE DESCRIPTION

2.1.1 Location

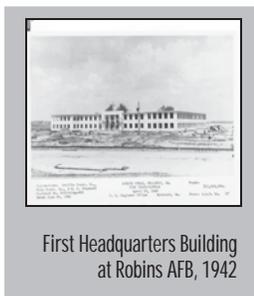
Robins AFB is located in the geographic center of Georgia, adjacent to the city of Warner Robins, within Houston County (see Figure 2-1). The base is 16 miles south of Macon and 100 miles south of Atlanta. Interstate I-75, United States (U.S.) Highways 41 and 341, and state highways 247 and 11 are the primary transportation links to the neighboring communities of Warner Robins and Centerville to the west, Perry to the south, Fort Valley to the southwest, Byron to the northwest, and Macon to the north. The Ocmulgee River borders the base on the east. The base covers 8,435 acres of upper coastal plain, of which 2,235 acres are jurisdictional wetlands and about 300 acres are upland forests. The base also owns two parcels of land in Huber, Georgia (11 acres) and Jeffersonville, Georgia (0.8 acres).

The base consists of 3.8 million square feet (ft²) of maintenance shops, 1.7 million ft² of administrative space, and 3.5 million ft² of storage space. The base's runway is the largest in Georgia, measuring 12,000 feet long by 300 feet wide, with two 1,000-foot overruns.

2.1.2 History

Robins AFB traces its history to June 1941, when Macon city fathers and civic leaders, with the help of U.S. Representative Carl Vinson, influenced the U.S. War Department to construct an Army Air Corps supply and maintenance depot in Houston County. The site was adjacent to the small town of Wellston, which at that time had a population of 47 families. The defense buildup preceding World War II was under way, and the Middle Georgia area was chosen primarily because it had land for an airfield, an abundance of pure water from artesian wells, and an abundant labor pool. These were important points to consider in 1941 when emphasis was on speed of construction.

Ground was broken officially on September 1, 1941, by the first depot commander, Colonel Charles E. "Steve" Thomas, and leading members of the Macon and Middle Georgia business and political communities. Officially dedicated on April 26, 1943, Robins Air Force Base, originally known as Robins Field (named after Brigadier General Augustine Warner Robins), played a key role in winning World War II. Robins AFB has hosted numerous units and organizations and even a major command. The primary function of the base has always been to act as the home of an Army Air Corps, then Air Force, Depot. Originally known as the Georgia Air Depot, it was renamed several times, as follows: the Southeast Air Depot, Wellston Air Depot, Wellston Army Air Depot, Warner Robins Army Air Depot, Warner Robins Air Service Command, and Warner Robins Air Technical Air Service Command. At the end of World War II, as its function changed and satellite bases were closed, the name changed several additional times. In 1946, the Depot became the Warner Robins Air Materiel Area, and the installation was renamed to Robins AFB in 1948 after the Air Force became a separate service. The Depot designation finally



First Headquarters Building at Robins AFB, 1942



changed to its present form in April 1974 when its new world-wide responsibilities led it to be renamed the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center (WR-ALC).

The decades following World War II were a time of challenge and change for the base. After World War II, the employee population was reduced. During the Korean War, Robins AFB workers swiftly and heroically retooled and fitted hundreds of mothballed B-29s, which played a key role in saving the Republic of South Korea from Communist aggression. In the 1960s and 1970s, Robins AFB played an important part in the Southeast Asia "Pipeline," which supplied vital materiel to U.S. troops fighting in Vietnam. The changing requirements of a "Jet Age" Air Force added a new dimension to the logistics challenge and led to the development of Robins AFB as an avionics center and a huge, sprawling complex of diverse missions supporting the United States Air Force (USAF) worldwide. That support was called upon once again during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Middle East. C-141 aircraft managed by the WR-ALC were the backbone of the airlift to Saudi Arabia. C-130s, also managed by the WR-ALC, provided valuable transport capabilities for the allied forces. Workers surged parts needed to keep aircraft flying and accelerated the maintenance and repair of aircraft vital to the war effort. Another Robins AFB responsibility, the F-15 Eagle, proved its superiority during repeated air strikes over the Persian Gulf.



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To better achieve an operational sustainment process, Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) leadership decided to reorganize the entire Command along more military lines. In this process, the Air Logistic Centers were divided into new unit organizations that changed directorates into wings, divisions into groups, and branches into squadrons. Today, the WR-ALC has two Wings [the 78th Air Base Wing (78ABW) and the 402d Maintenance Wing (402MXW)] and the Aerospace Sustainment Directorate.

The history at Robins AFB also included past waste disposal practices that were standard for the times. These practices sometimes led to unintended environmental contamination. Though these practices have long since been discontinued, the ERP efforts today are targeted at total cleanup from this past contamination. Table 2-1 references the history of base operations at Robins AFB.

2.1.3 Military Mission

The WR-ALC is one of three Air Logistics Centers (ALCs) that provide logistics support to the entire USAF. The ALC at Robins AFB has worldwide management and engineering responsibility for the repair, modification, and overhaul of the F-15 Eagle, C-130 Hercules, C-5 Galaxy, U-2 Dragon Lady, Special Operations aircraft and helicopters, and analytical condition inspection and system support management for the C-17 Globemaster III.

Among its missions, the WR-ALC determines the spare parts, supplies, and equipment needed to support the weapon systems and commodities for which it has management responsibility. The WR-ALC budgets for, purchases, distributes, maintains, and repairs these weapon systems and commodities. The WR-ALC is logistics manager for the F-15 Eagle, C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft, and C-5 Galaxy aircraft; the U-2 Dragon Lady; 11 cargo and utility aircraft; 4 helicopters; 3 remotely piloted vehicles; and missiles. The WR-ALC manages more than 200,000 items to support these systems. Robins AFB is also the exclusive technology repair center for airborne electronics, gyros, and life support systems for the USAF; it houses the largest repair facility in the world. The WR-ALC has various shops (plating, machining, metal bonding, etc.), which support major workload activities.

During operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Middle East, aircraft managed by the WR-ALC were the backbone of the airlift to Saudi Arabia.



Robins AFB is the main U.S. operating base for the E-8 Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (J-STARS) aircraft, which gained national attention during the Persian Gulf War for its ability to detect, locate, and track stationary and slow-moving ground targets. During 1996, as part of this mission, the base became home to more than 2,400 additional personnel. An estimated \$129 million in military construction has been related to the J-STARS program.

In 1996, the 116th Fighter Wing, formerly located at Dobbins Air Reserve Base (ARB) in Georgia, converted from F-15A/B aircraft to the B-1 Bomber, became the 116th Bomb Wing, and relocated to Robins AFB. This transition involved a construction program of \$110 million and more than 1,100 new personnel. The 116th became the operational unit for the E-8C J-STARS in 2002 when the B-1 bombers were relocated from Robins AFB. The 116th Bomb Wing and the 93rd Air Control Wing (ACW) merged to become the 116th ACW on September 30, 2001. In 2010, the Marine Corps Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 (HMLA-773), formerly located at Naval Air Station Atlanta in Georgia, relocated to Robins AFB. Preparations for this transition included the construction of a 40,000 square foot hanger.



The center has worldwide management and engineering responsibility for the repair, modification, and overhaul of numerous aircraft and helicopters.

Robins AFB provides support to worldwide customers for over 300 airborne electronics systems. This support involves integrated program management, engineering, and software services, as well as hardware repair for radar, infrared, communications, laser, navigation, and electro-optics systems.

Concurrently, Robins AFB's mission includes support for its more than 40 associate units. Major associate units include:

- Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command;
- 116th Air Control Wing;
- 638th Supply Chain Management Group;
- 689th Combat Communications Wing; and
- Defense Distribution Depot.

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

The ERP is modeled after CERCLA, passed by Congress in 1980, and SARA, passed in 1986. Both of these laws establish the legal requirements for identifying, investigating, and cleaning up hazardous waste sites. Most ERP sites at Robins AFB are regulated under RCRA. One National Priorities List (NPL) site (consisting of two ERP sites) is regulated under CERCLA. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) guidelines are applied in conducting all investigation and remediation work in the ERP, whether under CERCLA/SARA or RCRA. The ERP at Robins AFB is implemented and managed by 78 CEG/CEAN.

2.2.1 The ERP Process

Although the fundamental objectives and processes of both the CERCLA and RCRA corrective action programs are essentially the same, there are subtle differences in the processes used to implement the RCRA and CERCLA corrective action requirements. Figure 2-2 defines the primary steps of the ERP process under both of these corrective action programs.

2.2.2 Regulatory Participation in the ERP Process

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) is the state agency involved with the ERP process at Robins AFB and provides regulatory oversight and review for the RCRA sites. Under RCRA, the GA EPD has been delegated authority to manage hazardous waste in the state. As such, the GA EPD has primary regulatory authority



for permitting hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities in the state of Georgia and for corrective action at identified SWMUs and Areas of Concern (AOCs) that are located on those facilities. Because the base is a large quantity generator of hazardous waste and has a permit allowing storage of hazardous waste on the facility, a compliance officer has been assigned. The compliance officer is required to annually inspect the facility, manage, and modify the base's RCRA permit; review all documents/reports; and interpret regulatory requirements as needed. Other staff members from the GA EPD, such as hydrogeologists and risk assessors, assist the compliance officer as needed.

The Air Force is the lead agency for remedial activities involved with the ERP process focused on cleanup of the CERCLA site at Robins AFB, with concurrence by the US EPA and the GA EPD. In accordance with Section 120 of CERCLA, the Air Force has negotiated a Federal Facility Agreement with the US EPA and the GA EPD to establish a procedural framework and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring appropriate response actions at the site in accordance with CERCLA, the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan, and the Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act. Robins AFB 78 CEG/CEAN is responsible for remediating the NPL site at the base, and as such has assigned a Remedial Project Manager for this site. The US EPA and the GA EPD have each also assigned a Remedial Project Manager for this site, who is responsible for regulatory oversight and ensuring that the remediation is in compliance with CERCLA and State requirements.

2.2.3 Community Participation Under the ERP Process

The DoD believes that the earlier the public is involved in the ERP process, the sooner their concerns can be incorporated into the cleanup process. The public involvement effort is generally composed of the following activities:

- community interviews;
- publication of a CRP;
- quarterly EAB meetings;
- establishment of a public information repository where citizens have access to technical documents and other materials related to the ERP;
- release of public information materials; and
- public meetings.

The community relations program is discussed in Section 4.0 of this CRP. The community participation process adheres to guidelines established by the US EPA.

Robins AFB recognizes the importance of involving the public in the environmental restoration process. The EAB was established to serve as a forum so that people in the local communities can be involved with Robins AFB and regulatory agencies working toward providing stewardship for our shared environment. All interested parties are invited to attend each meeting. The EAB is described in Section 4.1. Throughout this document, except in historical references where the organization was the RAB, the term EAB is used.

2.3 ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE ERP

2.3.1 Restoration Background

In Fiscal Year (FY) 1982, Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigations (PA/SIs) were completed for 33 sites at Robins AFB. The most significant is the NPL site, consisting of Landfill No. 4 (LF04) and the Sludge Lagoon and Waste Pit 14 (WP14). The site is divided into three operable units (OUs): LF04 and WP14 contaminant source areas



The EAB was established to create a forum allowing local communities, Robins AFB, and regulatory agencies to work together with the common goal of sustaining our shared environment. All interested parties are invited to attend quarterly meetings.



(OU1), wetlands (OU2), and groundwater (OU3). Primary contaminants at the site include trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchloroethylene (PCE) in soil and groundwater.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities were conducted at the NPL site in FY1986 and FY1988. An Interim Record of Decision (IROD) was completed in FY1991 for OU1, in FY1994 for OU2, and in FY1995 for OU3. In FY1993, the installation constructed run-on controls and completed the pilot-scale system for lagoon solidification at OU1. In FY1994, the installation completed Phase I of the Leachate Collection System. In FY1995, a pilot system for the Phase II Leachate Collection System was constructed. In FY1996, the following projects were completed: Full-scale Phase II Leachate Collection System Design, Sludge Lagoon Solidification, OU2 Sediment Containment Design, and Remedial Design (RD) for the Groundwater Treatment Facility for the NPL site. In FY1998, construction was completed on the Groundwater Treatment Facility for OU3 and the Base Industrial Area Site, as well as the OU1 Cover. The final Record of Decision (ROD) for OU1 and OU3 was signed in September 2004. A risk assessment for OU2 was completed in December 2000. In 2003, it was determined that contamination found in OU2 was not attributed to releases from the NPL site. Therefore, remediation in the wetlands is no longer being addressed under CERCLA, but was completed in compliance with the RCRA Corrective Action Program. A CERCLA-mandated five-year ROD review, the third involving the NPL site, was completed and the final document was approved in 2011.

Since the ERP was initiated, Robins AFB has identified 79 SWMUs. It is anticipated that an additional SWMU (i.e., Building 169) will be added during the next permit modification. Continuation of an aggressive restoration program has resulted in receiving decisions of "No Further Action" (NFA) from the GA EPD on 55 SWMUs.

Robins AFB has achieved unique success among Air Force installations in the aggressive implementation and management of the ERP. Robins AFB achieved Remedy-in-Place (RIP) at all ERP sites seven years ahead of Air Force goals. The base is the first Air Logistics Center to reach this milestone and has been recognized as having a restoration program that is "one of the best in the Air Force" by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health. The Robins AFB approach to cleaning up contaminated sites was recognized in 2010 by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) as one of the best in the Air Force.

The environmental sites at Robins AFB are listed on Figure 2-3. Figure 2-3 also shows the location of the sites and the current status of restoration at each site.

2.3.2 Installation Commitment to Environmental Quality

Since about 1970, national leaders have realized that environmental protection and resource conservation are critical to sustainable national prosperity. Similarly, the DoD realized that protecting the environment, as well as worker health and safety, was essential to remaining a world power. The role of preserving freedom goes hand-in-hand with protecting the world's environment.

As one of the three ALCs serving the entire AF, Robins AFB and the WR-ALC fulfill a key role in national defense. The Base has structured the 78 CEG/CEAN around the AF Environmental Mission Statement for Readiness: sustain operational readiness through environmental excellence. For Robins AFB, this mission statement ensures that proper environmental practices are followed so that aircraft depot maintenance is not interrupted.

The 78 CEG/CEAN embodies the installation's commitment to effective stewardship of environmental excellence. The branch's responsibilities encompass the four major





pillars of the environmental program at Robins AFB: cleanup of environmental sites (*restoration*) [the focus of this document], compliance with all current environmental laws and regulations (*compliance*), ensuring the preservation and protection of natural, cultural, and historic resources associated with the installation (*conservation*), and proactively ensuring a minimum impact on the environment from future base operations by aggressive optimization of processes and material uses (*pollution prevention*). Branch personnel are further ensuring, through an active partnering program, that product directorates on base are working with the 78 CEG/CEAN to make weapons systems more “green” so they are safer and easier to maintain.

The resources allocated by Robins AFB to support the 78 CEG/CEAN and its broad responsibilities continue to assure that the installation's commitment to environmental quality and stewardship is maintained and enhanced.





Section 3 Community Overview

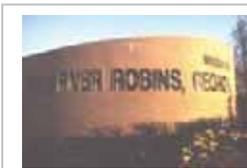
3.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE

This section summarizes the profile of the local area and communities that influence, and are influenced by, Robins AFB. An area location map is shown on Figure 2-1.

3.1.1 Area History

Houston County

Houston (pronounced "Howston") County was named after John Houston, a famous Georgia congressional representative, governor, and judge. Following a treaty with the Creek Indians, the county was first laid out in 1821, with the Ocmulgee River as its eastern boundary, the Flint River on the west, and extending north as far as current-day Macon and south opposite the town of Hartford. The original Houston County encompassed all or parts of the city of Macon and the present-day Bibb, Crawford, Upson, Peach, Macon, and Pulaski Counties. The 1820s saw Houston County's area reduced when Bibb and Crawford Counties were given a large piece of the the northern side of Houston's territory, Peach County was given a northwestern portion, and Pulaski County received sections from the south and southeast. In 1837, Macon County was created, taking from Houston a large part of the western territory.



Gateway to Warner Robins,
home of Robins AFB, in
Houston County.

Perry, the county seat, was settled in 1823 and named in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry of the 1813 Battle of Lake Erie fame. Centerville appeared on area maps as early as 1888 and was chartered as a city in 1958. Until World War II, Warner Robins was a tiny community of 47 people known as Wellston. On June 14, 1941 it was selected as the site for an Army Air Corps Depot, and on March 5, 1943, the new community of Warner Robins was officially chartered and incorporated.

Peach County

Peach County was formed in 1923 from portions of Macon and Houston Counties. Fort Valley, the county seat, was incorporated in 1856, but had a post office as early as 1825. Originally known as Fox Valley, a clerical error changed the name to Fort Valley. A newspaper article dated September 1925 boasted that "Fort Valley is the point from which more peaches are shipped annually than any other point on earth." Byron, formerly in Houston County, was incorporated in 1874, named after the English poet of the same name. Byron's early history and growth were closely linked to the historic Byron Rail Depot, which was an important railroad center for both passenger travel and peach shipping.

Bibb County

The Macon-Bibb County area has a long and interesting history. Macon is located on Georgia's Fall Line, where the Piedmont region meets the flat Coastal Plains. This is also the site of the Ocmulgee Old Fields, which were home to Creek native tribes and their predecessors for as long as 12,000 years before European settlers arrived. Archaeological excavations at the Ocmulgee National Monument indicate the presence of Native American settlements beginning about 8,000 years Before the Common Era (BCE). Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto recorded the first Christian baptism on the "new continent" during his explorations in the area in 1540. His priests baptized two Native Americans in the Ocmulgee River near the funeral and temple mounds at Ocmulgee National Monument.



In 1806, after the Creeks ceded their lands east of the Ocmulgee River, Fort Hawkins was built as a trading post and for the protection of settlers moving across the Southeast. Following treaties with the Native Americans in 1821, Bibb County was created in 1822 and Macon, incorporated in 1823, was designated as the county seat. The first college in the world for women, Georgia Female College (now Wesleyan College) was chartered in Macon in 1836. During the Civil War, Macon resisted two attacks by Union troops but was occupied by the Federals in 1865. A Confederate depository was located in Macon, as well as foundries and munitions plants.

3.1.2 Municipal Demographics

Population

The Middle Georgia area continues to exhibit significant growth, as documented by several state and federal sources. Houston County experienced a 24.2 percent increase in population during the period 1990-2000 and another 26.3 percent increase in growth from 2000 to 2010 (factfinder.census.gov). The 2000 Census shows that Peach County grew by 11.7 percent during the period 1990-2000 and data show that the population increased 17 percent between the years 2000 and 2010. Bibb County had a 2.6 percent increase in growth during the 1990-2000 period and an additional increase of 1.1 percent from 2000 to 2010. Table 3-1 provides more detailed population data during that time period for the three counties.

Approximately 28.6 percent of Houston County's population is African-American, with Hispanic/Latino and Asian representing 6.1 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively. The median age in Houston County is 34.5. Peach County is home to 45.9 percent of African-Americans, 6.8 percent Hispanic/Latinos, and 0.8 percent Asians. The median age in Peach County is 33.3. African-Americans make up 52.1 percent of the population in Bibb County with Hispanic/Latinos at 2.8 percent and Asians 1.6 percent, respectively. The median age in the area is 35.6. The above age and ethnicity statistics are based on the most currently available 2010 data (factfinder2.census.gov).

Local Government

Houston, Peach, and Bibb Counties are each governed by a five-member county commission. The city governments of Warner Robins, Perry, and Fort Valley consist of a mayor and six city council members; Warner Robins and Fort Valley have full-time mayors, while Perry has a part-time mayor and a full-time city manager. Centerville is governed by a part-time mayor and four city council members, and Byron has a part-time mayor with five city council members. Macon city government consists of a mayor and city council; three city council members are elected from each of the city's five wards for a total of 15 council members.

Economics

Robins AFB, covering 8,435 acres, is Georgia's largest single employer. Statistics from the Economic Impact Statement for FY2010 indicate that the base had an approximated \$4.3 billion impact on Georgia. Robins AFB employs approximately 22,000 personnel, with a net payroll of \$1.7 billion. Annual expenditures by the base in Georgia totaled \$239 million.

The 2010 data from the Georgia LaborMarket Explorer (explorer.dol.state.ga.us) show the five largest employers (excluding all government and public schools, railroads, and the U.S. Postal Service) in Houston County, in alphabetical order, were Frito Lay Inc., Houston Hospitals Inc., L 3 Services Inc., Perdue Farms Inc., and Wal-



Mart Associates Inc. with the three primary employment sectors in 2010 employing the following percentages of the labor force: services (44.9 percent), goods and manufacturing (11.3 percent), and government (43.7 percent). Peach County's big five employers of 2010 were Advance Stores Co. Inc., Blue Bird Body Company, Fort Valley State University, Lane Packing LLC, and Peach Regional Medical Center. Services (41.7 percent), goods and manufacturing (29.8 percent) and government (28.3 percent) made up the three primary employment sectors with employment percentages shown for 2010. The three primary employment sectors in Bibb County and associated employment percentages in 2010 were services (76.4 percent), goods and manufacturing (9.6 percent) and government (13.9 percent) with the largest employers in 2010 being Mercer University, Georgia Health Holdings Inc., Government Employees Insurance Company, The Medical Center of Central Georgia Inc., and Wal-Mart Associates Inc.

Education

The Houston County School System and its 38 schools are district accredited by the AdvancED Accreditation Commission. With a total enrollment of approximately 27,100, the system consists of: 23 elementary (K-5) schools, eight middle (6-8) schools, six high (9-12) schools, which includes the Houston County Career Academy, and an alternative school (6-12). There are also several private schools in the area. Five Houston County schools are National Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence and 23 schools have been named Georgia Schools of Excellence a total of 37 times. During the 2010-2011 school year, 21 schools were Title I Distinguished Schools. Warner Robins is home to the Warner Robins Campus as well as the Robins Resident Center of Macon State College, a Georgia College and State University campus, a commuter campus for Fort Valley State University, and Middle Georgia Technical College, which offers vocational training in business, health, technical, and skilled occupations.

The Peach County public education system, with an enrollment of approximately 4,000, consists of six schools: one elementary, one middle, and one high school in Fort Valley plus two elementary and one middle school in Byron. Also located in Peach County is Fort Valley State University, a four-year college, with an enrollment of nearly 2,500 students, representing 130 of Georgia's 159 counties, more than 30 states, and approximately 10 countries.

The Bibb County public school system consists of 25 elementary schools, seven middle schools, seven high schools, and four special entity schools totaling just over 24,000 students. There are also several private schools in the county. Institutions of higher education include three colleges: Wesleyan College, the first college in the world to grant degrees to women, Mercer University, and Macon State College. Also located in Macon are The Georgia Academy for the Blind and Central Georgia Technical College.

Culture and Recreation

Houston County lays claim to a number of cultural and recreational attractions. The Museum of Aviation, adjacent to Robins AFB, has 180,000 ft² of exhibits and more than 93 historical aircraft on a 51-acre site, including the F-15A Eagle that played a key role in Desert Storm. Perry and Warner Robins lie along the Peach Blossom Trail (U.S. Highway 341/41), where peach orchards have traditionally dotted the countryside. Perry is also the location of the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter, a 1,100+ acre site designed for meetings, trade shows, livestock events, horse shows, fairs, concerts, and sporting events. Perry's other claim to fame is its historic Colonial downtown.



Peach County, true to its name, produces the majority of all peaches grown in Georgia and offers several attractions related to peach production. Byron and Fort Valley are also along the Peach Blossom Trail, and a week long Georgia Peach Festival is held in the county in mid-June. Byron also characterizes itself as a “shopper’s paradise” with many antique shops and a large outlet mall. Fort Valley is home to the Masee Lane Gardens, headquarters of the American Camellia Society. Peach County has three National Historic Register Districts and three National Historic Register sites.



Warner Robins Welcome Center, located in the former train station

Cultural and recreational attractions in Bibb County include the Museum of Arts and Sciences and Mark Smith Planetarium; Grand Opera House; Macon Little Theater; the Harriet Tubman Museum, which focuses on black history, culture, and art; the Ocmulgee National Monument, which preserves the funeral and temple mounds of ancient Native American peoples; and the Sports Hall of Fame. Macon has more than 5,500 National Register historic structures in 11 historic districts. The city is also known as the Cherry Blossom Capital of the World for its over 300,000 Yoshino cherry trees; its annual 10-day Cherry Blossom Festival has become one of the top events in the South.

3.1.3 On-Base Community

Robins AFB houses a community that in 2010 included 259 on-base family housing units and 9 dormitories to accommodate airmen, non-commissioned officers, visiting airmen and officers as well as transient lodging facilities to accommodate guests of active duty members and retirees. In October 2007, the base transitioned to a privatized system of housing. Residents are supported by most of the services found in a community of this size. The hospital provides outpatient care. The base has 180 acres of recreational land, as well as a youth center, a library, a theater, and clubs for officers, non-commissioned officers, and airmen.

3.1.4 Community Access to ERP Information

One primary avenue for ensuring community access to ERP information related to environmental sites at Robins AFB is the EAB. The Robins AFB EAB is co-chaired by two individuals, one representing Robins AFB and the other representing the local community. Chairing of quarterly EAB meetings alternates between the installation co-chair and the community co-chair.

The chief of the 78 CEG/CEAN serves as the installation co-chair. This individual promotes effective partnering of the Robins AFB on-base community and branch personnel with the local communities and environmental regulatory agencies. This partnership helps to achieve the most effective sharing of information of interest with the communities. The installation co-chair also ensures access to appropriate base personnel to provide briefings on topics of interest and to answer any questions raised by EAB community members.

The community co-chair serves as the lead representative of the local communities on the EAB. This individual brings any questions, suggestions, or special items of interest voiced by local constituents to the EAB membership and serves as the interface with local communities. The community co-chair ensures the effective partnering of the base with the community residents and organizations to exchange information and ideas. This individual also helps to ensure that complete information is disseminated to interested parties.

A second primary avenue for ensuring community access to ERP information related to environmental sites at Robins AFB is the Information Repository. Robins AFB has been highly proactive in developing and maintaining an electronic record of final



documents related to the environmental cleanup program. These documents are available to the public for review at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library in Warner Robins.

3.2 KEY COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND INTERESTS

Community interviews have been conducted every two years since 1996 throughout the cities of Warner Robins, Centerville, and Perry in Houston County, Byron and Fort Valley in Peach County, and Macon in Bibb County. The most recent interviews were conducted in October 2010. All interview sessions were conducted by Charline Logue, as a representative of 78 CEG/CEAN and as EAB Manager, and an independent community relations consultant. Interviewees have included representatives of local municipalities, citizen groups, the business community, and private citizens. Members of the Robins AFB EAB have also been interviewed. The key comments expressed during these interviews are summarized below.

General Perceptions About Robins AFB

Over the years, almost everyone interviewed has spoken enthusiastically about the role Robins AFB plays as the single largest employer in the area and in the state. "Everybody loves the base" was the view expressed by one respondent during the 2008 interviews, and this comment has been typical of local comment during the entire interview span. Accolades from interviewees have focused on the high morals, high integrity, and professionalism of Robins AFB employees, and the "awesome knowledge base" available to the community because of the presence of the base in the community.

During the 2010 interviews, the interviewees were presented with a brief history of the environmental cleanup program at Robins AFB. As part of this discussion, the 2010 Restoration Site Status Map (Figure 2-3) was compared to the 1998 Restoration Site Status Map (Figure 2-4) to provide a visual image of the significant progress that the base has made in cleaning up the environmental sites. One interviewee commented that the progress in the last 12 years is "unbelievable." Another interviewee commended the Base for the progress that has been made, as he realizes that cleanup of environmental sites is not "an easy or fast process." An elected official commented that he is "proud of Robins AFB for being a leader in environmental cleanup."

Relationship Between the Base and Local Communities

During all sets of interviews, elected officials and business leaders have spoken highly of the cooperative ways in which local government, commerce, and the base work together. During the 2010 interviews, one of the EAB board members noted that during the May 2010 EAB tour to learn about the base's emergency response capabilities, he was very pleased to see the level of partnership that occurs between the Base and the fire stations and emergency personnel in the surrounding counties.

Several interviewees have complimented the senior base leadership for being so open and accessible and for participating so actively in community affairs. "An A+ relationship!" is how one local official has characterized the interactions between Robins AFB and local municipalities. During the 2008 interviews, one interviewee noted that it is a "miracle" and a true testament to effective teaming partnerships that the base has been able to come to an agreement on the cleanup strategies on so many sites with both the GA EPD and the US EPA in such a short time period.

A recurring theme in the interviews relates to progress of the base's environmental cleanup. "The base is seen as environmentally friendly," one interviewee asserted.



Many interviewees consider the base's approach to cleanup to be so smooth and well-planned that the average citizen has no idea the cleanup is going on. In 2010, an elected official noted that "the community knows that the base has everything under control." The community knows that the cleanup will progress in an expedited manner.

Knowledge of the Robins AFB Environmental Restoration Program

During the span between the first set of interviews in 1996 and the most recent in 2010, interviewees have revealed essentially constant knowledge and interest relative to the cleanup, but a significant increase in public confidence that Robins AFB is doing a good job has been noted during this time period. In fact, several elected officials have commented that the overall lack of interest and concern is reflective of the public's confidence that Robins AFB is a good steward of the environment.

During the 2010 interviews, the interviewees were informed that the environmental program has won several awards in recognition of the outstanding progress. Most recently, the base received the 2009 Thomas D. White Restoration Award at the Air Force Materiel Command level for excellence in the cleanup program. Interviewees responded that these awards were "wonderful" and that the base should "take a lot of pride in them." Several 2010 interviewees complimented the base leadership for doing such a tremendous job and taking such a proactive approach. Many interviewees thanked the EAB Manager for taking the time to come out and inform them of the progress that has been made.

Public Knowledge of the Environmental Advisory Board

During early interview sessions, most of the interviewed municipal officials and members of the general public either did not know an EAB existed, or if they did, were unfamiliar with its purpose or activities. However, more recent interviews revealed a much higher level of familiarity with, and interest in, the EAB.

As part of the 2010 interviews, the interviewees received information about the methods used by the base to distribute information regarding the cleanup program to the community, including the EAB meetings, Fact Sheets, the EAB public website, this Community Relations Plan, etc. Several elected officials in recent interviews were aware of people in their communities who were EAB members, and most of the elected officials said they would like to attend an EAB meeting in the future.

During the 2010 interviews, the elected officials acknowledged receiving the EAB Fact Sheet. Several also commented that they copy and distribute the Fact Sheet to City Council members and city staff members. Several interviewees have complimented the base on the look and content of the materials. One official commented that he finds the Fact Sheets to be a tremendous help and "extremely useful." Interviewees have expressed ongoing interest in receiving information related to environmental programs at the base.

The 2010 interviewees were also informed that the presentations from each EAB meeting, the Fact Sheets, as well as each year's CRP are posted on the EAB website (www.robinseab.org).

Member Opinions about the Environmental Advisory Board

Long-term EAB members have felt, in general, that their expectations about belonging to the EAB had been met and that their longevity with the EAB was due to the personal benefits they gained from their participation. Several EAB members have positively commented on the impact of the Robins EAB Manager in ensuring



The Robins AFB EAB receives briefings and tours in regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year. Here EAB members listen to a technical briefing during a tour.



that topics of current interest are presented, the tours are efficiently conducted, and all member questions receive complete answers. Many have attributed their continued presence on the board to their interest in what is going on and what approaches are used to address the cleanup problems at the base, as well as the sense of doing something worthwhile. Some of the expectations other EAB members said had been realized included learning more about the "reality" of base operations and environmental issues, playing a role in communicating to others, and bringing items of interest to the base from the community. One member said he had learned more from his EAB participation than he had given, a sentiment shared by several of the other members that have been interviewed.

EAB members interviewed have had consistently high praise for how the EAB meetings are conducted and the support provided by the EAB staff. Members have commented that the EAB staff is very inviting and encouraging, presentations are very good, and the meetings are very informative. Another appreciated the willingness of the base to be open to communication and their honesty in "discussing where they are making progress and where they are not." This same individual also stated that the EAB staff had "never not filled a request [for information] I have had." New EAB members have said they were delightfully surprised that when they asked a question or requested additional information, the designated topic would appear on the next meeting's agenda and that any information promised would be delivered. One new member appreciated that there is a form he can complete at the end of each meeting with his questions, comments, and suggestions.



EAB meetings provide a forum for members, Environmental Management Branch staff, visitors, and briefers to discuss items of interest.

Interviews of EAB members have also yielded compliments for good agendas and concise presentations. Stated one member, "The presenters stay on time, are always knowledgeable, and all questions are answered." Another member said he "push[es] away from the table satisfied, with just enough information presented." Also appreciated by a new EAB member was the fact that the individuals who make presentations at the meetings come up afterwards to talk to the members. In that same vein, one interviewee liked the fact that the Air Force consultants are at every meeting and interact with the EAB members. Many EAB members over the years have attributed the smooth running of the EAB to the EAB Manager, who one member described as "responsive", "very versatile," with "keen flexibility" and good public relations and technical skills. Regarding the post EAB documentation, one EAB member commented that they are "inclusive, concise, and a good record of the meeting events."

Throughout the interviews, members have continued to lament the difficulty in getting more public participation and community interest both in the Base's cleanup and in EAB activities. Most members have expressed the common observation that when they share information with friends, neighbors, relatives, or co-workers (as most of them say they do), people are usually mildly interested, but generally do not ask follow-up questions or show any inclination to get involved.

EAB members interviewed did cite several ways in which they share the cleanup information they learn with various audiences, including students and organizations. Several members discussed their efforts in sharing information with the professional, environmental, and civic organizations to which they belong.

Level of Public Environmental Awareness

Interviewees over the years have expressed differing opinions on the level of local environmental awareness. Some citizens had low knowledge of local environmental problems, while others said environmental awareness was higher than average. Elected officials in Macon and Fort Valley believe that the presence of Superfund sites



in their communities has heightened the level of local environmental interest.

The general sentiment in 2010 was that local environmental knowledge is adequate, but that real interest is generated only when a particular issue has potential to affect an individual or one's neighbors. One interviewee stated that the public interest is relatively low because the base is doing such a good job managing their environmental program. There are no major concerns for the public to be worried about.

Several environmental groups involved in Robins AFB and the surrounding communities were mentioned during the 2010 interview series. These included the 21st Century Partnership, the Middle Georgia Clean Cities Coalition (involved with alternative fuels), and the Middle Georgia Clean Air Coalition (concerned with air quality).

Considerations in Communicating ERP Environmental Information

Three major local newspapers have been repeatedly mentioned as key mechanisms for dissemination of environmental information and widespread communications vehicles for the local communities. These are *The Telegraph*, the *Houston Home Journal*, and the *Rev-Up*. The *Telegraph* serves as the primary local printed medium and the *Houston Home Journal* often carries legal notices and the like. The *Rev-Up* serves as the official Robins AFB newspaper.

Related to other forms of communication, interviewees have indicated that local broadcast news media, including broadcast television, cable channels, and radio, are effective outlets for transmitting news. In 2010, in particular, several interviewees noted that brief presentations by Robins AFB officials to local organizations (e.g., the 21st Century Partnership) may be an effective means for disseminating information regarding the cleanup program to the local community.

During 2010 interviews, the elected officials acknowledged receiving the EAB Fact Sheet. Several also commented that they copy and distribute the Fact Sheet to City Council members and city staff members. Several interviewees have complimented the base on the look and content of the materials. One official commented that he finds the Fact Sheets to be a tremendous help and "very, very useful." Interviewees have expressed ongoing interest in receiving information related to environmental programs at the base.

The 2010 interviewees were also informed that the presentations from each EAB meeting, the Fact Sheets, as well as each year's CRP are posted on the EAB website (www.robinseab.org).





Section 4 Community Relations Objectives and Recommended Activities

This section briefly discusses previous community relations activities related to the Robins AFB ERP, summarizes the objectives of this CRP based on the community interviews, and outlines recommended community relations activities.

4.1 COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

Based on the successes of the base's existing community relations programs and recommendations in previous CRPs, the following community relations activities occur:

- EAB meetings:

The mission of the EAB is to encourage community participation in the full range of environmental matters at Robins AFB, including the Air Force's ERP cleanup process, and to allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Robins AFB officials. The EAB specifically serves to support Robins AFB and disseminate information to the public. The EAB is made up of representatives of regulatory agencies, local community members, and Robins AFB members.

EAB meetings are held quarterly. Prior to each EAB meeting, a public notice is run in local print media to announce and publicize the event. The meetings are attended by members, Robins AFB personnel, regulatory agency representatives, and members of the local community, as well as contractors, briefers, and others with an interest in the environment. Frequently, distinguished guests attend; these may include command personnel from the base and local elected officials. EAB meetings are open to the public.

EAB meetings are chaired by the Installation Co-chair and the Community Co-chair. Meetings normally open with a welcoming statement and announcements. Various briefings are presented by base personnel and others, supported with graphics and storyboards as appropriate. The topics presented are timely and of great interest to the membership and the general public. Generally, one meeting each year is conducted as a tour of environmental sites and facilities of interest at the base. Minutes documenting the activities of each meeting are prepared and submitted to the EAB members.



EAB meetings are chaired by the community-co-chair and the installation co-chair.





- Fact Sheets:

A four page, color Fact Sheet is prepared after each EAB meeting to present technical and related information briefed at the EAB meeting in an easily understandable written format. The Fact Sheets from the February, May, and August 2011 EAB meetings are provided in Appendix C.

- EAB Website:

An EAB website has been developed to enable communication of information related to the ERP and EAB through electronic means. The EAB website can be accessed at:

www.robinseab.org

- Public Comment Periods:

All required public comment periods are scheduled and publicized.

4.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

Community participation is an important aspect of a site or installation cleanup. The Robins AFB ERP community relations program seeks to continue to facilitate communication that has existed between Robins AFB and local citizens for many years. The overall objective of the CRP is to increase direct communication with individual citizens who are interested in the Robins AFB ERP.

Specific objectives of the community relations program are as follows:

Objective #1:

Encourage community participation and facilitate two-way communication between surrounding communities and Robins AFB ERP officials. All written materials emphasize the various avenues through which community members can easily receive information, have questions answered, or convey comments. Technical information is provided to community members to increase the public's understanding of the ERP cleanup process. Information documents are archived and made available to the public through the Nola Brantley Memorial Library [also known as Houston County Libraries-Warner Robins Houston County Library; see Appendix B for location and contact information.

Objective #2:

Educate community members about the ERP. Through quarterly EAB meetings, the public is educated on the ERP process. Fact Sheets are published and distributed throughout the community following each meeting, and the EAB website is updated regularly.



Communication with local communities is enhanced through a series of environmental documents made available to the public at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library in Warner Robins.



Objective #3:

Provide clear and accurate information about the location and boundaries of each ERP site. Several ERP sites are close to areas that can be readily observed by military and/or civilian workers (see Figure 2-3). Because of this fact, all written and graphic materials define each site location and its specific boundaries.

Objective #4:

Provide the community with clear, accurate, and timely information about activities associated with the cleanup. If necessary, Robins AFB attempts to inform local citizens, officials, military housing representatives, and military/civilian workers of the schedule for conducting field investigations, removal actions, and other activities that involve the mobilization of workers and equipment. The advance notice ensures that people are not surprised by the presence of field personnel. It also helps the base anticipate increases in public interest that may occur when on-site activities begin.

Objective #5:

Provide citizens with explanations of sampling and test results. Results of sample analyses associated with the cleanup of environmental sites are made available to the EAB members and are recorded in reports made available to the public at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library.

Objective #6:

Provide information on potential impacts on human health or the environment. Robins AFB informs community members of public health issues. Bioenvironmental Engineering Services (78 MDS/SGPB at Robins AFB) communicates information on health risks to the community.

Objective #7:

Maintain a central Robins AFB Public Affairs contact to facilitate communication. Providing a central contact person who represents Robins AFB allows concerned citizens and officials to have access to a government official for site inquiries and concerns. It also allows the government official to address promptly any community concerns when they arise. Direct communication enhances opportunities for community participation in the ERP process.

Objective #8:

Maintain communication with local officials. Members of local government are valuable contacts for citizens in surrounding communities. Citizens are more familiar with local officials and may tend to contact them before they contact Robins AFB representatives. Cooperation and ongoing personal contact between local officials and Robins AFB is necessary to ensure a harmonious working relationship and a reliable and constructive flow of information.

Objective #9:

Maintain communication with on-base housing management. The Robins AFB housing management office is a valuable contact for military families living on base. Family members may naturally tend to ask questions or pose concerns to these housing managers before they contact Robins AFB representatives. Cooperation between the housing managers and Robins AFB environmental and PA staffs may be necessary in certain situations to ensure a harmonious working relationship and a reliable and constructive flow of information.



Objective #10:

Develop communication avenues with interested citizens not currently receiving ERP information. Quarterly Fact Sheets sent to local elected officials provide the name and telephone number of the EAB Manager, the names of the EAB members, and the address of the EAB website.

Objective #11:

Maintain consistency with Robins AFB PA Publication Guidelines. Publications developed related to specific activities contained in this CRP will be consistent with Robins AFB PA publication guidance.

The following section presents the specific activities recommended to meet these objectives.

4.3 RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

This section describes the recommended community relations activities related to the Robins AFB ERP. These activities are divided into three categories: (1) General ERP Activities; (2) CERCLA Site Activities; and (3) RCRA Site Activities. The General ERP Activities are applicable to the entire program, regardless of whether a specific site is governed by CERCLA or RCRA. However, a distinction is made for certain activities, since CERCLA and RCRA each have different public communication requirements. The timing of the different CERCLA and RCRA activities will be tied to the appropriate technical milestones applicable to the two laws.

The activities outlined are designed to address the communities' interests summarized in Section 3.0 and to meet the community relations objectives discussed in Section 4.2. Following each activity are the specific objectives that each activity meets.

4.3.1 General ERP Activities

1. Designate a central contact person(s) at Robins AFB.

Mr. Kendahl Johnson of the Robins AFB PA Office serves as the central contact person for the public. Mr. Johnson is responsible for coordinating with the 78 CEG/CEAN, which generates for his release accurate, consistent, and timely responses to questions from citizens, civic leaders, and local officials throughout the ERP process and for conveying community concerns to the EAB. If new restoration information or an unexpected environmental incident with the potential to affect the local community were to occur on the base, the 78 CEG/CEAN would notify the Command Section and PA. PA would ensure timely public notification using methods deemed appropriate to the situation to inform those on the base and in the community who may be impacted. Mr. Johnson's address, email address, and telephone number can be found in Section 1 and in Appendix A. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1 and #7.)

2. Update the ERP information repository.



Representatives from the Public Affairs and Judge Advocate offices attend EAB meetings and are available to answer questions from the public.



The information repository contains both CERCLA and RCRA program documentation. The electronic information repository, which includes more than 2,350 Robins AFB documents, can be found at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library (also known as Houston County Libraries-Warner Robins Houston County Library). The repository enables community members to have access to information regarding ERP activities and to stay informed of findings at the individual sites. The Nola Brantley Memorial Library was chosen because of its centralized location, hours of availability, and accessibility. The information repository contains documents that were used to form the basis of the remedy selections made at the NPL site and is the official legal record of environmental investigative and remedial activities at the site. Appendix B provides the address, telephone number, and contact person for the library. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6.)

3. Maintain list of individuals and organizations interested in receiving information about the ERP at Robins AFB.

Robins AFB maintains a list (see Appendix A) of mayors and others interested in ERP activities. Anyone who wishes to be added to the list should contact Mr. Kendahl Johnson at the Robins AFB PA Office (see Appendix A). (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #4, #8, #9, and #10.)

4. Channel information on ERP activities through the EAB and increase the visibility of the EAB.

Robins AFB has a very active EAB, including members from surrounding communities. Annually, at least three of the quarterly EAB meetings are held off base to ensure participation by elected officials and community members. The date, time, and location of each EAB meeting is published in *The Telegraph*, the *Houston Home Journal*, and *The Robins Rev-Up* newspapers prior to the meeting. After each meeting, a Fact Sheet is developed and distributed that contains an overview of the issues presented and discussed during the quarterly meeting. The public is welcome to contact the EAB Manager for questions and comments concerning the EAB. The telephone number for the EAB Manager is identified on the Fact Sheets. In addition, an EAB website has been developed to channel information on ERP activities to the communities through electronic means. The web address for the EAB website is provided on all quarterly Fact Sheets. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, and #10.)

5. Provide information about site boundaries and their relationship to family housing and on-base schools.

The locations for the environmental sites at Robins AFB are identified on Figure 2-3. Additionally, site boundaries are provided, as applicable, in all documents available in information repository. EAB meetings are held on a quarterly basis and provide detailed information on the environmental sites on Robins AFB. These meetings are open to the public. Public notices are published in the local newspapers and the



base paper to allow those living in base family housing and attending on-base schools an opportunity to attend the quarterly EAB meetings. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #3, #4, and #9.)

6. Send news releases and/or public notices to local media outlets.

Local media are made aware of environmental issues ongoing at Robins AFB. To ensure that the local communities receive timely notification of upcoming EAB meetings, public notices are published in the local media in advance of the meetings. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #5, and #11.)

7. Develop articles for The Rev-Up base newspaper.

The Robins AFB PA Office reviews and approves branch-drafted ERP articles for publication in the base's newspaper, *The Robins Rev-Up*. The articles inform military personnel, their families, and civilian workers about the technical progress of the ERP, upcoming fieldwork, public meetings, and public comment periods. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #5, #9, and #11.)

8. Develop and distribute updated Fact Sheets or newsletters that contain information on ERP sites.

Robins AFB publishes and distributes quarterly Fact Sheets to report on progress being made at the various ERP sites. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #2, #4, #5, #6, #8, #9, and #10.)

9. Place ERP materials and announcements on the Environmental Advisory Board website.

The website is accessible to the public at www.robinseab.org. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #3, #4, #6, and #10.)

10. Summarize findings and announce availability of ERP Public Health Assessment.

In April 1998, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) conducted a Public Health Assessment, which reviewed the ERP at Robins AFB from the health perspective of the surrounding community. The Final Public Health Assessment Report was briefed to EAB members and is available for public review at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library (also known as Houston County Libraries-Warner Robins Houston County Library). (Meets Community Objectives #2 and #6.)



The Robins AFB EAB website provides information briefed at recent EAB meetings and related information in an attractive format and in language understandable by the general non-technical public. www.robinseab.org



11. Revise this CRP.

The Robins AFB CRP is updated annually. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1 and #11.)

4.3.2 CERCLA Site Activities

There are specific public activities that are either required by law or encouraged by the US EPA protocol for CERCLA sites. These apply to the CERCLA NPL site and related OUs. OU1 is the landfill and sludge lagoon source areas. OU2 is the wetlands and surface water downgradient of OU1, and OU3 is the groundwater.

A ROD has already been prepared for OU1 and OU3. A third five-year ROD review, including a public comment period, was completed and the final report issued in 2011. Since the contamination at OU2 was not attributed to the NPL site, OU2 was addressed under the RCRA program, and NFA status for the site was granted in September 2006.

The following activity will occur after the remedial action (RA) is complete for OU1 and OU3.

1. Provide public comment opportunities for a proposed deletion of the CERCLA site from the NPL.

Once the RA has been completed and the US EPA has placed a Notice of Intent to Delete in the Federal Register, the agency will announce a 30-day public comment period. The US EPA will respond to any significant comments submitted during the comment period before the agency carries out its final deletion. Once the deletion is finalized, a notice to that effect will be placed in the information repository. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #6, #8, #9, and #10.)

4.3.3 RCRA Site Activities

RCRA communication requirements were formerly not as stringent or as extensive as those under CERCLA. However, in December 1995, the US EPA issued a final rule expanding its public participation requirements. These requirements are listed under Parts 124 and 270 in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations and apply to facilities undergoing Part B permitting or permit modifications under Subtitle C. Facilities such as Robins AFB that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste must apply for and receive a permit allowing them to manage this waste. Such permits spell out the conditions and requirements the facility must meet for a specific period of time. The permit may be modified to include new conditions or requirements, or to change existing conditions or requirements.

Following are key activities for the Robins AFB RCRA sites.

1. Provide opportunities for the public to comment on Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) and/or RCRA permit modifications and develop a Public Participation Package for public review.



Upon regulatory approval of a CAP or a No Further Action status resulting in a permit modification, the GA EPD will prepare and submit a Public Participation Package to the information repository for public review. The Public Participation Package contains a Statement of Basis concerning each proposed action. As part of the process, the GA EPD announces a 45-day public comment period. The public participation information is also provided to all persons on the GA EPD mailing list prior to the public comment period. During this time, interested community members may submit oral or written comments to the GA EPD. The public notice is published in the *Macon Telegraph* and announced on a local radio station. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #6, #8, #9, and #10.)

2. Hold public meetings.

A public meeting can be held during the CAP/permit modification public comment period, if the GA EPD feels there is sufficient community interest or cause for such a meeting. Appendix B lists the suggested locations for public meetings. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #1, #2, #4, #8, #9, and #10.)

3. Announce the closure of a RCRA ERP site.

A RCRA ERP site is officially closed when an NFA decision is made by the GA EPD. Procedures for announcement of site closure action are contained in Activity 1 above. (Meets Community Relations Objectives #2, #4, #8, #9, and #10.)



TABLES

**Table 2-1
History of Base Operations at Robins Air Force Base**

Period	Types of Operations	Hazardous Substance Activities
Pre-1941	Farmland, Swamp/Lowland	None
1941-1943	Base Construction	Construction
1943-1945	Flight Training Center Logistics - B-17, B-26, and B-29 Bombers - C-46, C-47, C-54, and C-60 Cargo Aircraft - A-20 and A-26 Attack Aircraft - Piston Engine Spark Plugs	Landfills, Airplane/Automotive Fuel Storage, Hangars, Machine Shops, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas
1945-1956	Logistics - B-29 Bombers - C-119, C-130, and Other Cargo Aircraft - Piston Engine Spark Plugs	Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Low Level Radioactive Disposal, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1956-1961	Logistics - C-124, C-130, and C-133 Cargo Aircraft - Piston Engine Spark Plugs	Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1961-1968	Operations - B-52 Bombers Logistics - C-7, C-123, C-130, and C-141 Cargo Aircraft	Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1968-1983	Operations - B-52 Bombers Logistics - AC-130 Special Operations Aircraft - C-130 and C-141 Cargo Aircraft - F-15 Fighters - Avionics, Electronics, Communications, Radar, and Electronic Countermeasures	Weapons Storage Area, Landfills, Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Paint, and Depaint
1983-1995	Operations - B-52 Bombers - KC-135 Refuel Aircraft Logistics - AC-130 Special Operations Aircraft - C-130 and C-141 Cargo Aircraft - F-15 Fighters - Avionics, Electronics, Communications, Radar, and Electronic Countermeasures	Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Maintenance Facilities, Paint, and Depaint

<p>1995- Present</p>	<p>Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KC-135 Refuel Aircraft - Joint STARS - Marine Corps Light Attack Helicopters <p>Logistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AC-130 Special Ops Aircraft - C-5, C-17, C-130, C-141 (Taken Out of Service in 2006) Cargo Aircraft - F-15 Fighters - Avionics, Electronics, Communications, Radar, and Electronic Countermeasures - U-2 Reconnaissance Aircraft - Helicopters 	<p>Fuel and Oil Storage, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Protection Training Areas, Hangars, Machine Shop, Maintenance Facilities, Paint, and Depaint</p>
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**Table 3-1
Selected Middle Georgia Population Information**

	2000 Census	2010 Census	2010 Rank	% Change 2000-2010	2020 Projected*	Projected % Change 2010-2020
Bibb County	153,887	155,547	13	1.1	166,118	6.8
City of Macon	97,255	91,351		-6.1		
Houston County	110,765	139,900	15	26.3	162,609	16.2
City of Warner Robins	48,804	66,588		36.4		
City of Perry	9,602	13,839		44.1		
Centerville	4,278	7,148		67.1		
Peach County	23,668	27,695	65	17.0	32,514	17.4
Byron	2,887	4,512		56.3		
City of Fort Valley	8,005	9,815		22.6		

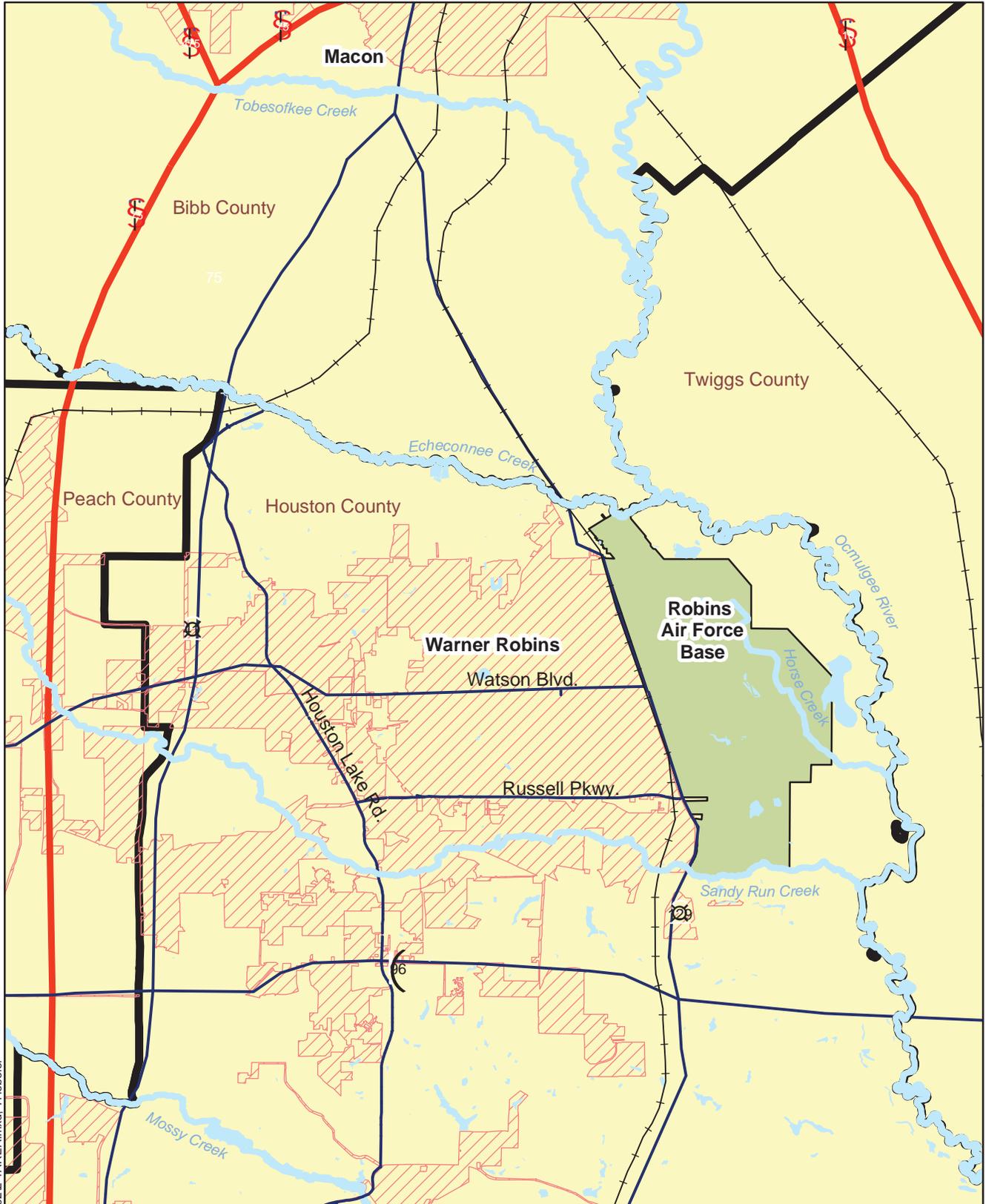
Notes: "Rank" indicates relative population among Georgia's 159 counties.

*Projected by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (factfinder2.census.gov) and State of Georgia
(www.opb.state.ga.us)



FIGURES



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- Sandy Run Creek
- Major Roads
- Interstate
- Railroad
- Urban Area
- Installation Area
- Hydrography
- County Boundary

Figure 2-1
Robins Air Force Base
Site Vicinity Map

3

August 2011



Restoration Program (ERP) Process

CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act)

Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection: A study to identify sites that may pose hazards to public health or the environment. Sites are scored using a Hazard Ranking System (HRS) based on the amount/toxicity of the contamination and the potential for migration/human exposure. If a site receives a sufficiently high score, it is proposed for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL).

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study: An investigative phase to fully delineate the contamination at the site (RI) and an evaluation of potential cleanup strategies (FS).

Proposed Plan/Record of Decision: The PP describes the proposed cleanup method in a formal document that is released for public comment. After public comments are reviewed and an agreement is reached with appropriate regulatory authorities, the ROD is a record of the legal decision for site cleanup.

Interim Record of Decision/Removal Actions: Cleanup measures that are directed to address an imminent threat to public health or control contaminant releases to the environment. These may be initiated at anytime during the process and do not necessarily bring the site to close out. If an IROD is used, the process includes a formal regulatory review.

RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act)

RCRA Facility Assessment/Potential Source Assessment: A study conducted to identify individual sites, SWMUs, that could pose a hazard to public health or the environment. If no hazard exists, the SWMU is categorized as “No Further Response Action Planned” (NFRAP).

RCRA Facility Investigation: An investigative phase to fully delineate the contamination at the site. The information that is gathered in this step is used to develop a cleanup strategy.

Corrective Action Plan: The Corrective Action Module of the Robins AFB Permit is the process for evaluating the cleanup alternatives that will provide adequate remediation to meet the regulatory requirements. The Corrective Action Module requires that CAPs integrate the Corrective Measures Study (CMS) and Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI) steps of the traditional RCRA corrective action process together. Once the CMS is complete, the CAP outlines the available data, the results of the CMS, and presents the proposed CMI. The CAP is submitted for formal regulatory review.

Interim Remedial Actions: Cleanup measures that are directed to address an imminent threat to public health or control contaminant releases to the environment. These may be initiated at anytime during the process and do not necessarily bring the site to close out.

Remedial Design: A detailed engineering design for the cleanup technology outlined in the CAP or ROD.

Remedial Action: The implementation phase of the corrective action including construction and installation.

Operations and Maintenance: O&M of the approved corrective action to reduce the contaminant levels to meet required regulatory levels.

Long-term Monitoring: Testing conducted to assure that the corrective action is removing contaminants and to evaluate when contaminant levels have stabilized below the required regulatory levels. Even after the corrective action is complete, LTM may continue to ensure that contaminant levels remain below the regulatory limits.

Site Closure: Site is considered closed when no further response is required to protect human health and the environment.

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H							
E- 2480000							



APPENDIX A

COMMUNITY RELATIONS CONTACTS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS CONTACTS

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Mr. Kendahl Johnson (478) 222-0804
Public Affairs Office kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil
78 ABW/PA
620 Ninth Street, Suite 230
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APPENDIX B

PUBLIC INFORMATION LOCATIONS

Information Repository/Administrative Record/Other Information Locations

The information repository and administrative record contain laws, work plans, technical reports, and other relevant information associated with the ERP. The information repository and administrative records for the Robins AFB ERP have been set up at the following locations:

Nola Brantley Memorial Library
(also known as Houston County Libraries - Warner Robins Houston County Library)
(Information Repository and Selected Administrative Record Documents)
721 Watson Boulevard
Warner Robins, Georgia 31093
(478) 923-0128
Contact: Lucas Franklin, Head/Reference Librarian

78 CEG/CEAN
(Administrative Record /Mailing Address)
755 Macon Street, Building 1555
Robins AFB, GA 31098-2201

(Physical Location)
Building 359
Robins AFB, Georgia 31098-2201
(478) 327-9268
Contact: Ms. Charline Logue

Public Meeting Locations

The following locations could be used for public meetings or information open houses:

Scott Theater
Museum of Aviation
Highway 247
P. O. Box 2469
Warner Robins, Georgia 31099
(478) 923-6600
Contact: Ms. Karen Ross (Events Coordinator)

Warner Robins Civic Center
702 Watson Blvd.
P.O. Box 1488
Warner Robins, Georgia 31099
(478) 929-1945
Contact: Ms. Kathy Opitz

Warner Robins City Hall
700 Watson Blvd.
Warner Robins, Georgia 31099
(478) 929-1115
Contact: Ms. Faye Coulter

Centerville City Hall
300 East Church Street
Centerville, Georgia 31028
(478) 953-4734
Contact: Ms. Krista Bedingfield

APPENDIX C

EAB FACT SHEETS



Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

Fact Sheet



Volume 5, Issue 3, February 2011

The Robins AFB EAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental matters, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has established the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The mission of the EAB is to encourage participation of surrounding communities in the Base's environmental programs and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. Specifically, the EAB serves to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review, comment, and input on current and proposed actions associated with environmental programs at Robins AFB. The EAB supports the Air Force environmental mission of sustaining readiness, being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

Inside this issue...

Environmental Awards	page 3
Commander Participates in EAB	page 3
Base Conducting Third Five-Year Review of NPL Site.....	page 4

February 2011 EAB Meeting

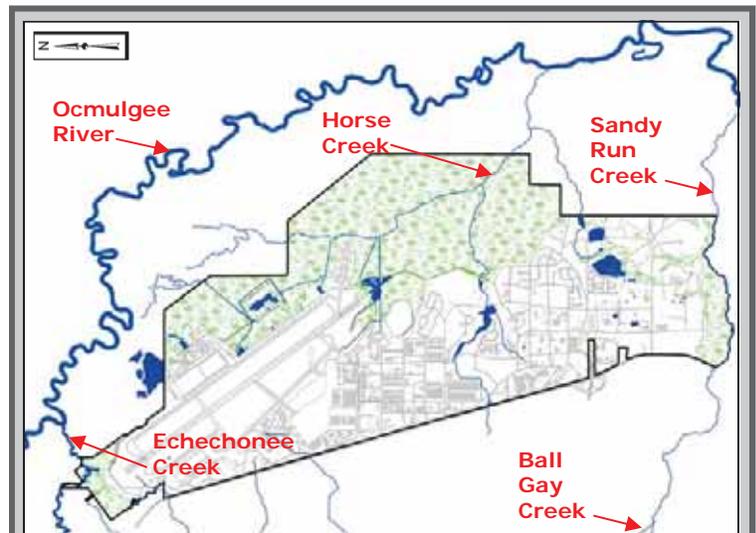
The winter EAB meeting was held Thursday, February 3, 2011, at Centerville City Hall in Centerville, Georgia. Two topics were briefed: "Third Five-Year Review Initiated for NPL Site" and "Robins AFB Water Quality Management Compliance Practices".

This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

PRESERVING THE OCMULGEE WATERSHED ROBINS AFB WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

The Robins AFB Water Quality Program is responsible for ensuring that the operations, inspections, recordkeeping, and management activities necessary to maintain compliance with Air Force, State of Georgia, and Federal requirements and permits for water quality are met. Water quality awareness is a key component of the Base's environmental mission, as the Base is surrounded by water bodies on three sides.



Robins AFB is surrounded by water bodies on three sides, including a major waterway (the Ocmulgee River) to the east. The proximity of these water bodies makes water quality awareness a key component of the Robins AFB environmental mission.

Mr. Russ Adams, Water Quality Program Manager, and **Ms. Victoria Cheplak** of Geosyntec Consultants, provided a comprehensive program overview during the EAB meeting. The program is centered around four permits issued as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations. These include: (i) a Wastewater Direct Discharge Permit GA0002852 (wastewater); (ii) Construction Stormwater General Permits GA100001, GA100002, GA100003

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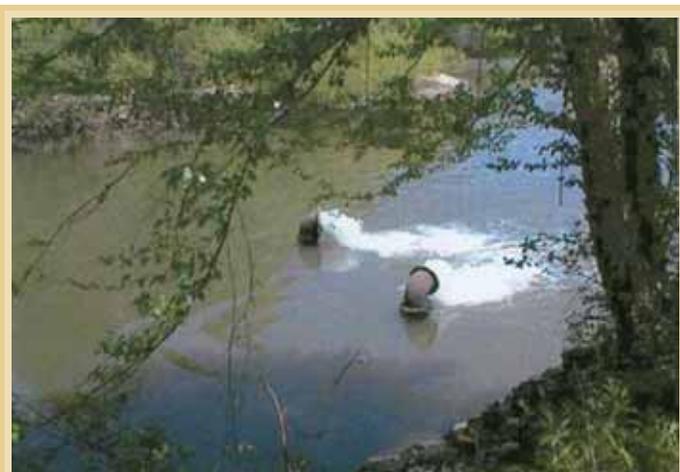
PRESERVING THE OCMULGEE WATERSHED, ROBINS AFB WATER QUALITY PROGRAM (CONT'D...)

(construction stormwater); (iii) an Industrial Activity Stormwater Discharge General Permit GAR000000 (industrial stormwater); and (iv) a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit GAG480000.

Wastewater

The wastewater permit requires treatment of both industrial and sanitary wastewater prior to discharge to the Ocmulgee River. There are nine permitted outfalls. Six of these generally regulate the discharge of stormwater runoff; groundwater seepage; non-contact cooling water/cooling tower blowdown; and/or flow from oil/water separators. The remaining three outfalls regulate the discharge of treated wastewater. Samples are collected in accordance with the permit from each of the nine outfalls and analyzed for suspended solids, metals, oil and grease, and other permit specified parameters.

There are three wastewater treatment plants on the Base. Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWTP) #1 treats wastewater from industrial operations), IWTP #2 treats wastewater from the plating shop, and the Sanitary Treatment Plant (STP) treats domestic wastewater and provides secondary treatment of the IWTP #1 effluent. The Base also has a Groundwater Treatment Plant (GWTP) for treatment of groundwater extracted from the environmental restoration sites. The treated effluent exits the plants and is pumped to the Ocmulgee River in accordance with the permit.



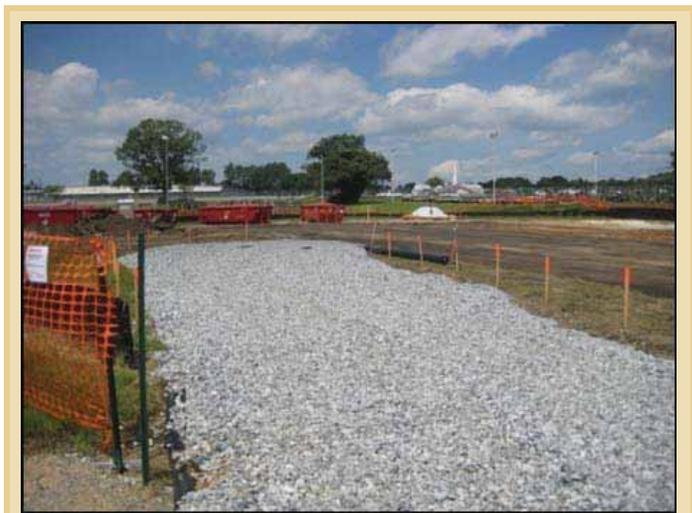
Combined Outfall Discharge to Ocmulgee River

Construction Stormwater

Contractors are required to obtain a permit prior to initiating field activities, if their activities will disturb more than one acre of land. The permit requires the Contractor to prepare and implement an Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Plan (ESPCP).

The ESPCP requires the proper design, installation, and maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to ensure that sediment is not released from construction sites. It also specifies sampling, inspection, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements.

The Robins AFB Water Quality team is responsible for reviewing the permit-required documents before submittal, conducting inspections of the site to evaluate adherence to the ESPCP, following up on complaints or concerns, and providing technical assistance as needed.



Construction Entrance/Exit at Pad 9 Construction Project. The entrance/exit is stabilized with a filter fabric and stone to reduce the tracking of sediment onto the road.

Industrial Stormwater

General Permit No. GAR000000 regulates stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity on the Base. The permit requires preparation and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP identifies potential

(Continued on page 3)

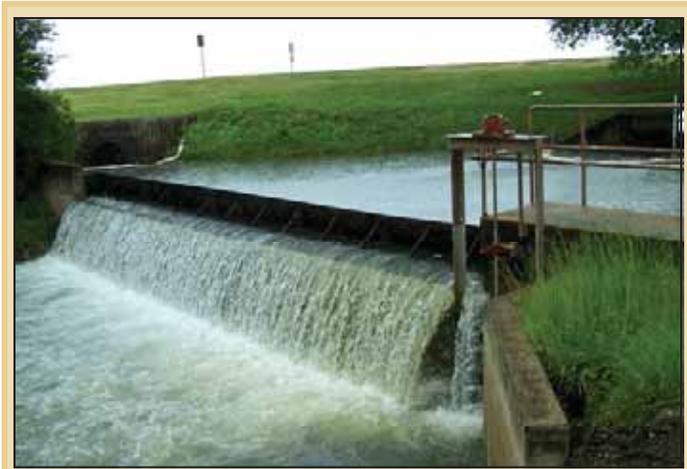
PRESERVING THE OCMULGEE WATERSHED, ROBINS AFB WATER QUALITY PROGRAM (CONT'D...)

(Continued from page 2)

sources of pollution on the Base that may reasonably be expected to affect the quality of stormwater discharges associated with the industrial activities. The SWPPP also describes and ensures implementation of BMPs to reduce pollutant discharges into stormwater.

Potential sources of stormwater contamination at Robins AFB include aboveground storage tanks, exposed materials (i.e., materials stored outside that can come into contact with stormwater), hazardous waste accumulation sites, washracks, outdoor maintenance activities, etc.

The permit also requires quarterly visual examination of stormwater discharges at the regulated sampling locations, benchmark sampling for discharges into impaired water bodies, and quarterly inspections of the Base's outdoor industrial activities.



Stormwater Sampling Location #6 at Robins AFB

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

The Robins AFB Environmental Management Branch recently won the 2010 General Thomas D. White Award at the Air Force Level for Environmental Quality.

The Environmental Quality award is one of the highest level awards as it comprehensively covers the environmental program. The award recognizes Robins AFB as a good steward of the environment.

MS4

The MS4 permit regulates stormwater discharges associated with municipal type operations or activities (e.g., housing and recreational facilities) and the related drainage infrastructure. The permit requires development and implementation of a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP).

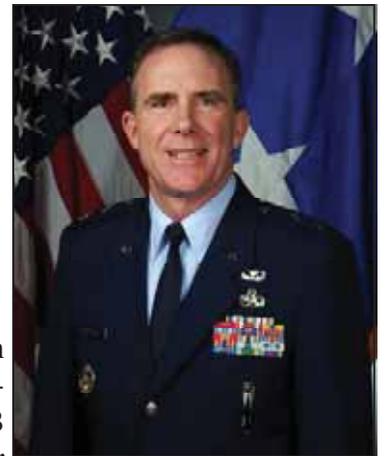
The SWMP specifies a minimum of two BMPs for each of the following six control measures: (i) public education and outreach; (ii) public involvement/participation; (iii) illicit discharge detection and elimination; (iv) construction site runoff control; (v) post-construction stormwater management; and (vi) pollution prevention/good house-keeping. An example BMP is to publish four articles per year related to water quality in the Robins AFB Rev-Up. This BMP helps the Base meet the public awareness permit requirement.



Articles are frequently published in the Robins Rev-Up with a focus on water quality.

Commander Participates in EAB

Major General Robert McMahon, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center at Robins AFB participated in the winter 2011 EAB Meeting.



Maj. Gen. McMahon expressed his appreciation to the EAB members for their support of the Base. He commended them for their involvement and for holding the Base to a high standard of environmental excellence.

BASE CONDUCTING THIRD FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF NPL SITE

Mr. Fred Otto, Restoration Program Manager, announced that the Base has initiated the third five-year review of the remedy selected for the National Priorities List (NPL) site. The NPL site consists of Landfill No. 4 (LF04) and Waste Pit 14 (WP14).

The purpose of the five-year review is to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of remedial progress at the site, and determine if the selected remedy is protective of human health and the environment.

Remedial actions at the site have included: (i) source area remediation of WP14 (i.e., in-situ volatilization, excavation, and solidification) in 1996; (ii) installation of a groundwater and leachate recovery system in 1997; and (iii) installation of a landfill cover, passive gas venting system, and stormwater management controls in 1998.

Land use controls (LUCs) have also been implemented. The LUCs limit site access, use, and activity to prevent potential exposure to the residual contamination present in the landfill.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency and Georgia Environmental Protection Division approved the shutdown of the groundwater recovery system in 2007 to evaluate transition of the site remedy to Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA), as a result of the significant remedial progress made at the site. The agencies ap-



proved the transition of the site remedy to MNA in 2010. The results of the five-year review will be briefed to the EAB members at the May 2011 meeting.

Acronyms

AFB	Air Force Base
BMP	Best Management Practice
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
ESPCP	Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Plan
GWTP	Groundwater Treatment Plant
IWTP	Industrial Wastewater Plant
LF04	Landfill No. 4
LUC	Land Use Control
MNA	Monitored Natural Attenuation
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
STP	Sanitary Treatment Plant
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
WP14	Waste Pit 14

For more information regarding the EAB, please contact
Ms. Charline Logue, Robins AFB EAB Manager, at (478) 327-9268
or visit <http://www.robinseab.org>

Environmental Advisory Board Members

Mr. Alexander Stokes, Robins AFB Installation Co-Chair	Mr. Fred Hursey Robins AFB Chief, Environmental Restoration and Conservation Section	Mr. John Harley, Centerville Community Member	Dr. M.B. Neace, Macon Community Member
Dr. Linda Smyth, Macon Community Co-Chair	Dr. Dan Callahan, Warner Robins Community Member	Dr. Joyce Jenkins, Fort Valley Community Member	Dr. Brian E. Rood, Macon Community Member
Mr. Hugh Hazen, U.S. EPA Region 4 Hazardous Waste Division	Mr. Ron Carbon, Warner Robins Community Member	Mr. Stephen Johnson, Macon Community Member	Dr. Joseph Swartwout, Fort Valley Community Member
Ms. Mary Brown, GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	Mr. James Harden, Warner Robins Community Member	Mr. Mike Maffeo, Macon Community Member	Mr. Don Thompson, Macon Community Member



Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

Fact Sheet



Volume 5, Issue 4, May 2011

The Robins AFB EAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental matters, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has established the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The mission of the EAB is to encourage participation of surrounding communities in the Base's environmental programs and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. Specifically, the EAB serves to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review, comment, and input on current and proposed actions associated with environmental programs at Robins AFB. The EAB supports the Air Force environmental mission of sustaining readiness, being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

Inside this issue...

Successful Wastewater Compliance Trend at Robins AFB page 3
Focus on Achieving Site Closures through Performance-Based Cleanup page 4

May 2011 EAB Meeting

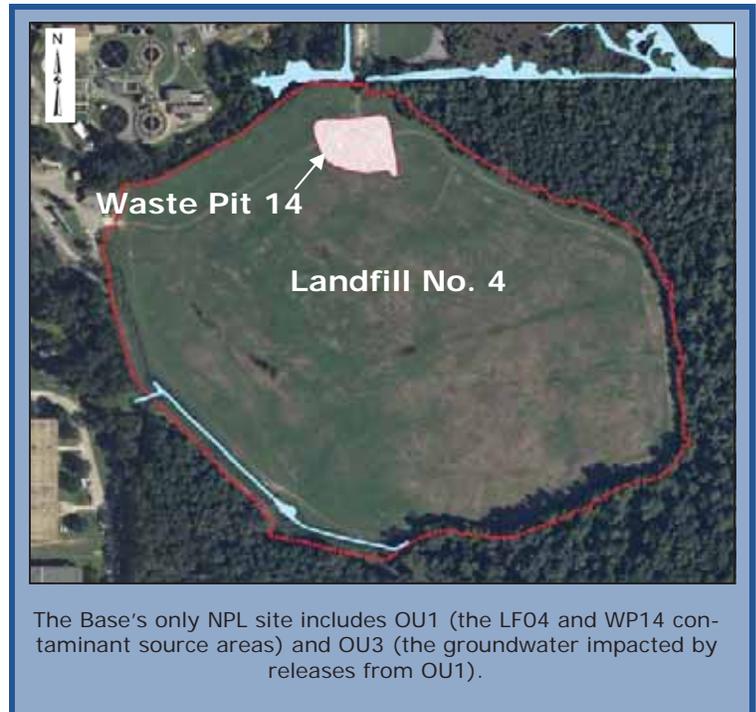
The spring EAB meeting was held Thursday, May 5, 2011, at Centerville City Hall in Centerville, Georgia. Three topics were briefed: "Results of Five-Year Review for National Priorities List (NPL) Site", "Wastewater Compliance Sampling at Robins AFB", and "Performance-Based Cleanup (PBC)".

This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2011.

THIRD FIVE-YEAR REVIEW COMPLETED FOR NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL) SITE

Robins AFB has recently completed the third five-year review of the Base's only NPL site. Five-year reviews include a comprehensive evaluation of remedial progress at a site. They are required for NPL sites by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) to determine if the selected remedy is protective of human health and the environment. **Mr. James Griffin**, with Geosyntec Consultants, briefed the EAB members on the five-year review process and the results.



The Base's only NPL site includes OU1 (the LF04 and WP14 contaminant source areas) and OU3 (the groundwater impacted by releases from OU1).

The NPL site at Robins AFB includes Operable Units 1 (OU1) and 3 (OU3). OU1 represents the Landfill No. 4 (LF04) and Waste Pit 14 (WP14) contaminant source areas, and OU3 represents of the groundwater impacted by releases from OU1. The site originally included OU2, which represents the downgradient wetlands. However, OU2 was later determined to be not associated

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THIRD FIVE-YEAR REVIEW COMPLETED FOR NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL) SITE (CONT'D...)

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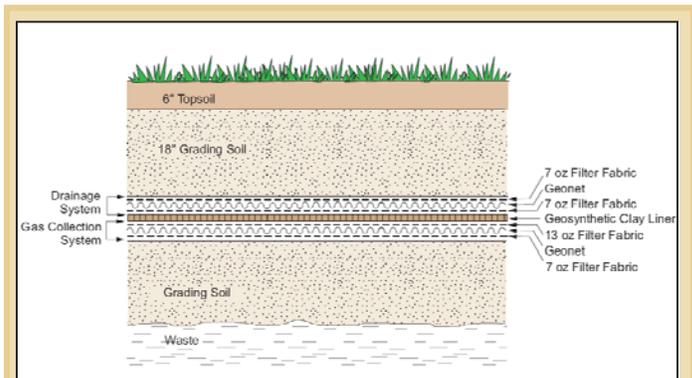
with contaminants from LF04; and therefore, OU2 is no longer a part of the NPL site and was remediated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Remedial actions at the site have included: (i) source area remediation of WP14 (i.e., in-situ volatilization, excavation, and solidification) in 1996; (ii) installation of a groundwater and leachate recovery system in 1997; and (iii) installation of a landfill cover, passive gas venting system, and stormwater management controls in 1998. Land use controls (LUCs) have also been implemented. The LUCs limit site access, use, and activity to prevent potential exposure to the residual contamination present in the landfill.

The US EPA and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) approved the shutdown of the groundwater recovery system in 2007 to evaluate transition of the site remedy to Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA), as a result of the significant remedial progress made at the site. The agencies approved the transition of the site remedy to MNA in 2010.

In accordance with guidance documentation provided by the US EPA, the five-year review process includes development of a review team, public notification that the five-year review has been initiated (see the Fact Sheet for the February 2011 EAB meeting); a site inspection; a technical assessment and reporting; and public notification of the results of the review. The public notification that the five-year review had been initiated was completed at the February 2011 EAB meeting. A site inspection was conducted on 3 February 2011 with representatives from the GA EPD and the US EPA.

The results of the five-year review indicate that the remedy at the NPL site is currently protective of human health and the environment. Potential exposure pathways are controlled by the landfill cover system and implementation of LUCs. Significant progress has been made toward restoring contaminant concentrations in site groundwater to Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), with decreasing contaminant concentration trends continuing at many locations under the MNA remedy.



Typical LF04 and WP14 Capping System.



Passive gas collection vent on LF04 cover.



LUCs include fencing and locked gates with signage.

The results of the five-year review were compiled in a draft report that was submitted to the GA EPD and the US EPA in early April 2011. Comments are anticipated on the report in mid-May 2011. Upon completion, the document will be available to the public at the Nola Brantley Memorial Library in Warner Robins, Georgia.

SUCCESSFUL WASTEWATER COMPLIANCE TREND AT ROBINS AFB

The successful compliance trend for the Robins AFB compliance program was highlighted during the May EAB meeting. **Mr. Russ Adams**, the Robins AFB Water Quality Program Manager, provided details of the program, the recent compliance history, and demonstrated how the public can access the compliance records for more information.

Wastewater discharges from Robins AFB are regulated under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. GA0002852. The permit includes conditions for nine Robins AFB outfalls. These outfalls include six outfalls that discharge stormwater runoff, groundwater seepage, non-contact cooling water/cooling tower blowdown, and/or flow from oil/water separators (i.e., Outfalls 001 through 006) and three outfalls that discharge treated wastewater (i.e., Outfalls 008, 009/010, 010) from the Base's wastewater treatment plants.

The permit includes specified conditions for sampling at each outfall. These conditions include specific parameters (e.g., metals, volatile organic compounds, fecal coliform, pH, etc.), testing frequencies (i.e., daily, weekly, monthly, semi-annually, or annually), and sample types (i.e., composite versus grab).

the fathead minnow and the daphnid) are put into the varying concentrations of wastewater, and the growth, survivability, and ability of them to reproduce are analyzed.



Sampling point for chronic toxicity test on the combined effluent from Outfalls 008, 009, and 010.

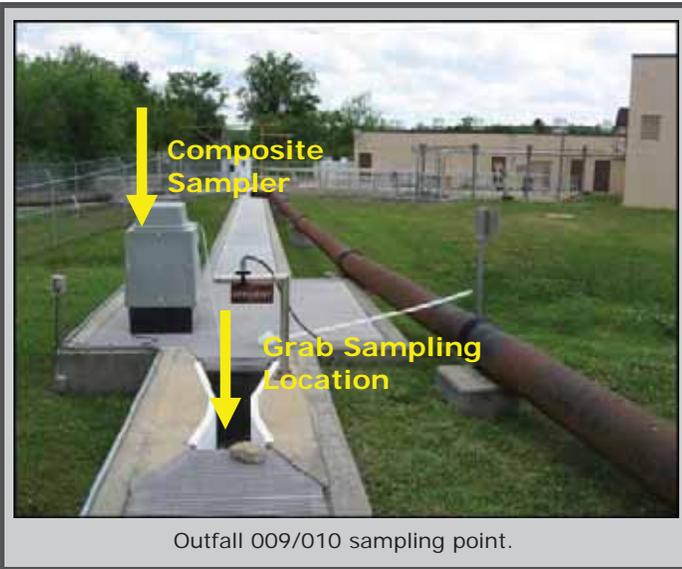


Organisms tested in chronic toxicity test (fathead minnow on the left and daphnid on the right).

The Base continually tracks compliance by maintaining all testing records and results in a Robins AFB NPDES database. Reports are generated from the database and submitted to the GA EPD on a monthly basis. The testing laboratories are certified on an annual basis, as required by the US EPA.

In the period between January 2009 and December 2010, Robins AFB has had only one permit exceedance. The Chemical Oxygen Demand limit was exceeded at Outfall 008 in December 2010.

Detailed compliance records for any US EPA regulated facility, including Robins AFB, are available to the public through Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) at <http://www.epa-echo.gov>. To obtain information for Robins AFB, the public can access the website and search by facility name or zip code.



Outfall 009/010 sampling point.

The permit also specifies that the combined effluent from Outfalls 008, 009, and 010 be tested on an annual basis for chronic toxicity. In a chronic toxicity test, larvae of two different types of organisms (i.e.,

FOCUS ON ACHIEVING SITE CLOSURES THROUGH PERFORMANCE-BASED CLEANUP

In December 2010, the Assistant Secretary of the Environment for the Air Force issued a policy memorandum, which refocused the environmental restoration program at Air Force installations. **Mr. Fred Otto**, Restoration Program Manager, briefed the EAB members on the details of the memorandum and its impacts on the Robins AFB restoration program.

The new policy focuses on obtaining site closeouts at as many sites as possible within a Base as soon as possible using performance-based contracts. Site closeout is defined by the Air Force as the point at which all active management and monitoring at an environmental cleanup site has been completed, no additional environmental cleanup funds are required, and regulatory concurrence has been obtained. Performance-based contracts are being awarded to give

contractors a specified amount of time to meet certain goals for the environmental sites at Air Force bases across the country.

The performance-based cleanup contract for Robins AFB will include all 18 active restoration sites. The contract will be awarded based on best value with a period of performance of up to nine years. The Request for Proposal is expected to be issued in May 2011, with an

award date of August or September 2011. The Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) is managing the award of the contract.



AFCEE logo.

Acronyms

AFB	Air Force Base
AFCEE	Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
ECHO	Enforcement and Compliance History Online
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
LF04	Landfill No. 4
LUC	Land Use Control
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MNA	Monitored Natural Attenuation
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
OU	Operable Unit
STP	Sanitary Treatment Plant
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
WP14	Waste Pit 14

For more information regarding the EAB, please contact **Ms. Charline Logue, Robins AFB EAB Manager**, at (478) 327-9268 or visit <http://www.robinseab.org>

Environmental Advisory Board Members

Mr. Alexander Stokes, Robins AFB Installation Co-Chair	Mr. Fred Hursey Robins AFB Chief, Environmental Restoration and Conservation Section	Mr. John Harley, Centerville Community Member	Dr. Brian E. Rood, Macon Community Member
Dr. Linda Smyth, Macon Community Co-Chair	Dr. Dan Callahan, Warner Robins Community Member	Dr. Joyce Jenkins, Fort Valley Community Member	Dr. Joseph Swartwout, Fort Valley Community Member
Mr. Hugh Hazen, U.S. EPA Region 4 Hazardous Waste Division	Mr. Ron Carbon, Warner Robins Community Member	Mr. Stephen Johnson, Macon Community Member	Mr. Don Thompson, Macon Community Member
Ms. Mary Brown, GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	Mr. James Harden, Warner Robins Community Member	Mr. Mike Maffeo, Macon Community Member	



Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

Fact Sheet



Volume 6, Issue 1, August 2011

The Robins AFB EAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental matters, Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) has established the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The mission of the EAB is to encourage participation of surrounding communities in the Base's environmental programs and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. Specifically, the EAB serves to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review, comment, and input on current and proposed actions associated with environmental programs at Robins AFB. The EAB supports the Air Force environmental mission of sustaining readiness, being a good neighbor, protecting human health and the environment for the Base and community, and making smart business decisions.

Inside this issue...

- Recycling Efforts and Green Procurement Key Components of Robins AFB Integrated Solid Waste Management Program page 3
- The Origin of the Recycling Loop Graphic page 4

August 2011 EAB Meeting

The summer EAB meeting was held Thursday, August 11, 2011, at Centerville City Hall in Centerville, Georgia. Two topics were briefed: "The Recycling Loop and Integrated Solid Waste Management at Robins AFB" and "Recent Successes at the Greater Base Industrial Areas (GBIA) Restoration Sites".

This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 3, 2011.

RECENT SUCCESSSES AT GBIA RESTORATION SITES YIELDING SIGNIFICANT COST SAVINGS

Robins AFB is the largest industrial facility in Georgia. Approximately 90 percent of the industrial activity at the Base occurs within the Greater Base Industrial Area (GBIA). The GBIA is generally located in the northern portion of the Base and encompasses areas of the flight-line, as well as maintenance hangers, machine shops, paint/depaint facilities, fuel storage areas, etc., which support the mission of the Base.

Several of the Robins AFB restoration sites, which are regulated by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD), are also located within the GBIA. During the recent EAB meeting, **Mr. Griff Cox**, Robins AFB Restoration Project Manager, and **Ms. Jennifer Ludwig**, with Tega EC, LLC, briefed on the remedial progress being made at several of these sites, including Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) 10B, 20, 40, 59, 60, and 61, as well as the Jet Propellant 8 (JP-8) Release Site.



Several Robins AFB restoration sites, including SWMUs 10B, 20, 40, 59, 60, and 61 and the JP-8 Release Site are located in the highly industrialized area of the Base know as the GBIA.

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RECENT SUCCESSES AT GBIA RESTORATION SITES YIELDING SIGNIFICANT COST SAVINGS (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

Due to the density of activities in the GBIA, there are many challenges to working on the restoration sites, including site access, numerous utilities, coordination with flightline activities, etc. Despite these challenges, Robins AFB has had many recent successes at several of the GBIA restoration sites.



The numerous utilities present in the vicinity of the GBIA restoration sites present challenges to constructing, operating, and maintaining remediation systems.

SWMUs 10B, 59, 60, 61, and the JP-8 Release Site generally consist of soil and/or groundwater impacted with petroleum products. SWMU 20 is the chlorinated solvent groundwater plume associated with releases from multiple SWMUs in the GBIA. SWMU 40 consists of soil impacted by chlorinated solvents.

The active remedial systems for SWMUs 10B, 20, 40, 59, 60, 61 generally include either Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) or Air Sparge in combination with SVE (AS/SVE). In an AS/SVE system, AS wells are installed below the groundwater table and air is injected into the formation to strip the contaminants from the groundwater and convert them to vapor phase. The SVE wells are installed above the groundwater table to recover the vapor phase contaminants from the subsurface and transport them to a treatment unit. At the JP-8 Release Site, the remedial strategy included excavation followed by installation of a POL Sorb[®] barrier wall to treat any remaining groundwater contamination.



Vapor treatment system at SWMU 20.

Recent remediation successes at these sites include: (i) significant progress toward remediation goals (i.e., contaminant concentrations in soil and/or groundwater are decreasing); (ii) closure and/or cessation of active remediation systems, with regulatory approval, at three sites; (iii) system shutdowns for rebound studies, with regulatory approval, at three sites; and (iv) recognition of significant cost and energy savings due to these system shutdowns.

More specifically, closure and/or cessation of active remediation system includes the shutdown of the SVE system at SWMU 40, shut down of the AS/SVE system and transition of the remedial approach to Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) at SWMU 61, and No Further Action (NFA) at the JP-8 Release Site. The systems undergoing rebound studies include the SWMU 10B biosparge system and the SWMU 59 and 60 AS/SVE systems.

The overall estimated energy and cost savings due these successes include more than \$280,000 per year in utility cost savings and more than \$400,000 per year operations and maintenance savings.

The Robins AFB approach to cleaning up contaminated sites was recently recognized by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) as one of the best in the Air Force. Keys to these successes include the excellent partnering relationship with the GA EPD and the team-based approach between Robins AFB and the contractors that assist in managing the sites.

RECYCLING EFFORTS AND GREEN PROCUREMENT KEY COMPONENTS OF ROBINS AFB INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Robins AFB Solid Waste Program manages all non-hazardous solid waste generation, recycling, and disposal at the Base. **Ms. Susan Green**, Robins AFB Solid Waste Program Manager, provided details on the program during the August EAB meeting.

One key goal of the program is to divert a minimum of 50 percent by weight of the solid waste generated on the Base from the landfill. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2010, the Base met this goal by recycling more than 80 percent of the solid waste generated [excluding Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris waste].

The types of materials commonly recycled at the Base generally include, but are not limited to: paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, aluminum cans, scrap metals, cooking grease, construction and



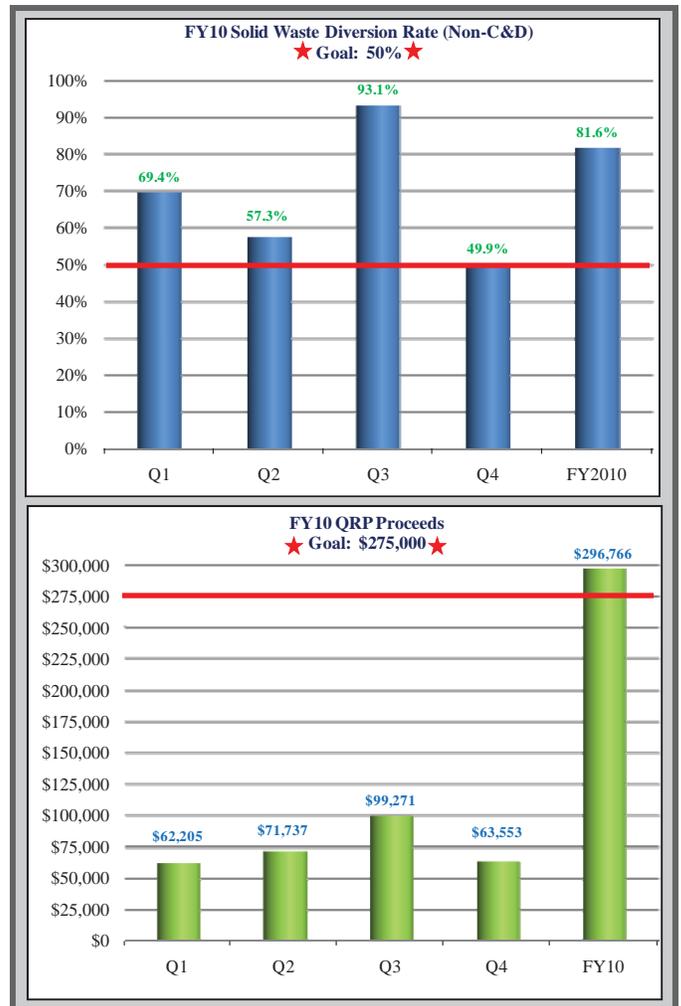
Recycling bins are placed throughout the Base to encourage recycling of paper, plastics, aluminum cans, etc.



The composting facility recycles yard and stable waste for use in Robins AFB beautification projects.

demolition debris, etc. Additionally, yard and stable waste are recycled at the Base composting facility for use in landscaping.

A Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) was established to allow the Base to retain the proceeds generated from the sale of the recyclables and subsequently use those proceeds to offset the cost of recycling efforts. For FY2010, the QRP generated almost \$300,000 in proceeds, exceeding the goal of \$275,000.



Beyond recycling, Robins AFB also has a strong Green Procurement Program (GPP). The GPP is a federal program that generally requires the acquisition of goods and services through the use of sustainable environmental practices (i.e., purchas-

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ing of biobased, environmentally preferable, energy-efficient, water-efficient, and recycled-content products). The GPP closes the “divert-remake-buy recycling loop. The vast purchasing power of the federal government creates a de-

mand for green products and supports recycling markets.

The success of both the QRP and GPP have been recognized several times in the last few years. In 2009, Robins AFB won the White House Closing of the Circle Award for the GPP. In 2010, the Robins AFB QRP tied for the best QRP

program in the Air Force Material Command, and it was runner-up in 2011.

THE ORIGIN OF THE RECYCLING LOOP GRAPHIC



The recycling loop graphic has become a universally recognizable symbol that encourages recycling, identifies products that are recyclable, and/or denotes products that contain recycled material. The symbol was created in 1970 by Gary Dean Anderson, who won a contest sponsored by the Container Corporation of America. The contest was to design a symbol to represent the paper recycling process. Coincidentally, the very first Earth Day was held in April 1970.

For more information regarding the EAB, please contact **Ms. Charline Logue, Robins AFB EAB Manager**, at (478) 327-9268 or visit <http://www.robinseab.org>

Acronyms

AFB	Air Force Base
AFCEE	Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment
AS/SVE	Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction
C&D	Construction and Demolition
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
FY	Fiscal Year
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
GBIA	Greater Base Industrial Area
GPP	Green Procurement Program
JP-8	Jet Propellant 8
MNA	Monitored Natural Attenuation
NFA	No Further Action
Q	Quarter
QRP	Qualified Recycling Program
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
SVE	Soil Vapor Extraction

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