



Robins Air Force Base Environmental Advisory Board (EAB)

Fact Sheet



Volume 10, Issue 2, November 2015

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.

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November 2015 EAB Meeting

The fall EAB meeting was held on Thursday, November 5, 2015. The topics briefed included: "Overview of Land Use and Institutional Control Sites (SWMUs 1, 2, 23, 37, 38, 39, 40, and Building 169)", "SWMU 57 Update on Progress", "SWMU 4 (LF004) Update on Progress", and "Fourth Five-Year Review Initiated for NPL Site."

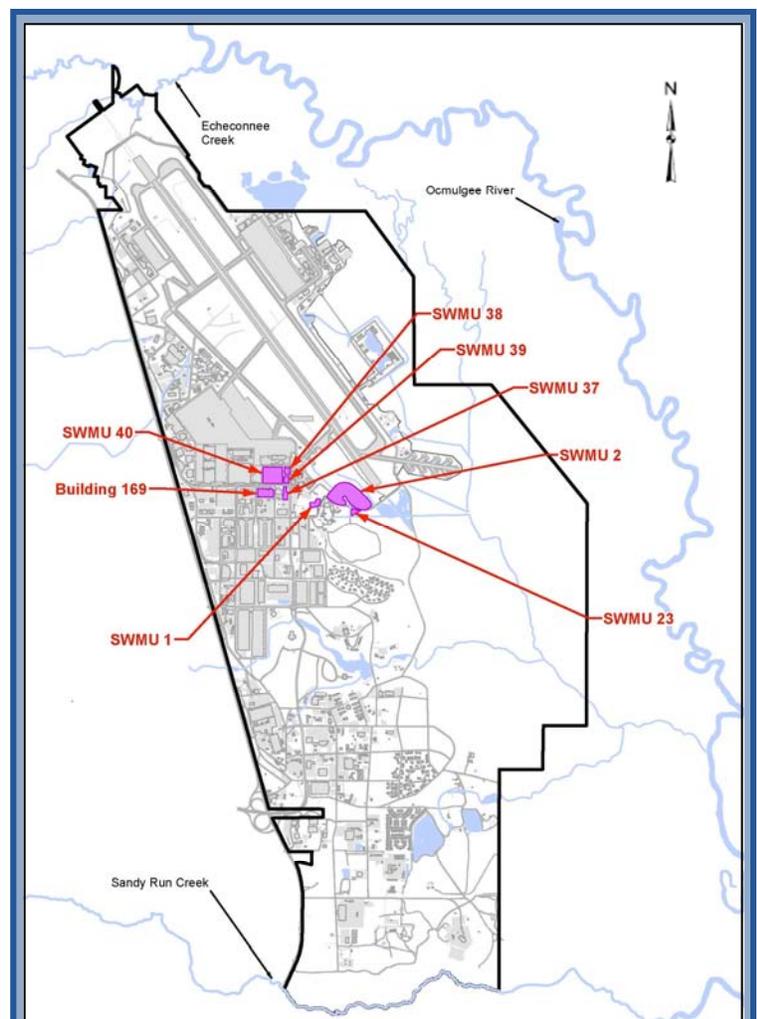
This *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed during the meeting. **The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2016.**

CAPE BRIEFS ON LAND USE CONTROL SITES

At the recent EAB meeting, **Mr. David Fortune** of CAPE Environmental Management Inc (CAPE) provided the EAB members with an overview of several restoration sites at the Base where Land Use Controls (LUC) are being implemented. The sites briefed included SWMUs 1, 2, 23, 37, 38, 39, 40, and Building 169.

LUCs are used to minimize exposure to contamination. They consist of both institutional and engineering con-

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CAPE provided an overview of the LUC sites at the recent EAB meeting.

CAPE BRIEFS ON LAND USE CONTROL SITES

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trols. Institutional controls are administrative methods to control site access (e.g., deed restriction and land use permitting), while engineering controls are physical measures to minimize site access (e.g., fences and warning signs). A brief overview of each site is presented below.

- SWMU 1 is a 2-acre landfill that operated from 1946 to 1951, while SWMU 2 is a 22 acre landfill that operated from 1951 to 1963. Both sites received general refuse and some industrial waste (SWMU 2 also reportedly received construction waste). Surface and subsurface soil at both sites are impacted with a variety of contaminants. However, the contaminant concentrations did not exceed risk-based screening levels for industrial land use. The Corrective Action Plan (CAP) prescribed LUCs to manage exposure.
- SWMU 23 is a land disposal site for treated sanitary sewage sludge. The site may have received industrial waste sludge and shop waste. Semi-volatile organic compounds, metals, and pesticides were detected in surface and subsurface samples. Because concentrations in the surface samples exceeded risk-based human health and ecological screening values, the CAP for this site prescribed an engineered cover to minimize exposure and prevent erosion of the waste mass.
- SWMUs 37, 38, 39, and 40 are located in the Greater Base Industrial Area (GBIA). Chlorinated volatile organic compounds are present in soil, but at concentrations not exceeding screening levels for industrial land use. The CAP prescribed LUCs to mitigate exposure.
- Building 169 is also located in GBIA. Soil contamination has been detected below and in the vicinity of this building. A focused remediation effort was conducted at the northwest corner of the building to remediate elevated contaminate concentrations. LUCs are in place to minimize

exposure to low level contaminant concentrations below and in other areas around the building.

The sites are inspected on a frequent basis (monthly to quarterly), and maintenance of the engineering controls is conducted as required.

With respect to institutional controls, the GBIA Excavation Plan provides the requirements for safe excavation practices in the vicinity of SWMUs 37 through 40 and Building 169. Additionally, the LUCs sites are incorporated into the Civil Engineering Dig Permit Process and included in the Base Comprehensive Plan, which is used for planning construction projects.



An example of a warning sign and a fence located at SWMU 2.



An example of a warning sign located on the exterior of Building 169.

Update on Progress: SWMU 57 and SWMU 4 (LF004)

During the fall EAB, CAPE and CH2M provided an update on progress at two restoration sites, including SWMU 57 and SWMU 4 (LF004).

SWMU 57

SWMU 57 is defined as the twin 72-inch underground storm drain box culvert system located near the southern end of the main runway. Contamination at the site was identified during a 1995 survey that was conducted to inspect the integrity of the culvert system. Primary contaminants at the site include chlorobenzene and benzene.

The original remedy consisted of groundwater extraction. The groundwater extraction system provided contaminant mass removal and hydraulic containment of the groundwater plume. As part of the optimized remedy for the site, CAPE installed two biosparge wells with horizontal directional drilling: one along the plume axis and the other as a cutoff curtain along Beale Drive.

In January 2014, the groundwater extraction system was shut down, and the biosparge system began operation. The groundwater sampling results from April 2014 showed decreases in contaminant concentration levels. However, based on preliminary 2015 sampling results, concentrations have rebounded. CAPE is preparing to conduct an investigation to evaluate the potential for residual soil contamination to be impacting groundwater.

The remedial goal for SWMU 57 is to reduce groundwater contaminant concentrations to below Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Under the Performance-Based Remediation (PBR) contract, CAPE is responsible for cleanup of the groundwater to MCLs in site monitoring wells located outside the area of soil contamination.

LF004

LF004 is a 45-acre landfill that originally consisted of three operable units (OUs). OU1 represents the landfill and sludge lagoon source areas; OU3 represents the groundwater impacted by releases from OU1. OU2 (i.e., the downgradient wetlands) received No Further Action status in September

2006, and it is no longer managed as part of LF004.

Remedial actions at the site have included: (i) source area remediation of the sludge lagoon 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. LUCs have also been implemented.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) approved the shutdown of the groundwater recovery system in 2007 to evaluate transition of the OU3 remedy to Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA). The official transition of the remedy to MNA was approved in 2010.

For OU1, CAPE inspects and maintains the engineering controls (e.g., landfill cap, gas vents, stormwater management system, etc.). In addition, the run-on diversion ditch was relined with a fabric-formed concrete to minimize maintenance.

For OU3, CAPE samples groundwater on an annual basis to monitor the remedial progress under MNA. Long-term contaminant concentration trends indicate that the OU3 groundwater plume is attenuating in place under the MNA remedy.

The LF004 path forward includes continuing the quarterly inspections, performing maintenance on the LUCs, sampling groundwater annually, and optimizing the monitoring well network.



The run-on diversion channel around the western perimeter of LF004 was relined with fabric-formed concrete to minimize maintenance.

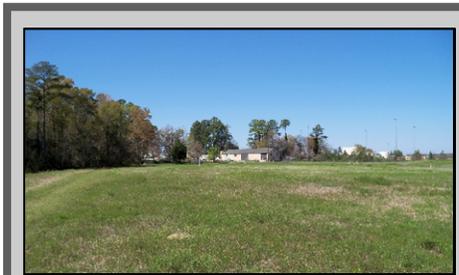
BASE CONDUCTING FOURTH FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF NPL SITE

Mr. Fred Otto, Restoration Program Manager, announced that the Base has initiated the fourth five-year review of the remedy selected for the NPL site.

The NPL site consists of LF004 and Sludge Lagoon Waste Pit 14 (WP-14). Additional information about the remedial actions conducted at the site and the current status of the remedial activities is provided on page 3 of this Fact Sheet.

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 continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

The five-year review is being completed by AECOM, with the draft report anticipated in December



View of LF004 Cover



LF004 Land Use Control (Fence and Locked Gate with Signage)



LF004 Passive Gas Vent

2015. The findings from the review will be briefed to the EAB members at the February 2016 meeting, and the final report should be completed by June 2016.

Acronyms

AFB	Air Force Base
CAP	Corrective Action Plan
CAPE	CAPE Environmental Management Inc
EAB	Environmental Advisory Board
GA EPD	Georgia Environmental Protection Division
GBIA	Greater Base Industrial Area
LUC	Land Use Control
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MNA	Monitored Natural Attenuation
NPL	National Priorities List
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
OU	Operable Unit
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WP-14	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	Dr. Dan Callahan, Warner Robins Community Member	Ms. Debra Jones, Warner Robins Community Member	Mr. Don Thompson, Macon Community Member
Dr. Brian E. Rood, Macon Community Co-Chair	Mr. James Harden, Warner Robins Community Member	Mr. Mike Maffeo, Macon Community Member	Mr. Penrose Wolf, Perry Community Member
Ms. Lila Llamas, US EPA Region 4 Hazardous Waste Division	Mr. John Harley, Centerville Community Member	Dr. Linda Smyth, Macon Community Co-Chair	
Ms. Mary Brown, GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	Mr. Stephen Johnson, Macon Community Member	Dr. Joseph Swartwout, Fort Valley Community Member	