



Naval Base Ventura County RAB Executive Board:

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Mugu and Hueneme Sites:	Mr. Steve Granade

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Restoration Advisory Board Newsletter

Dear RAB members and others with interest! At the March meeting, Steve Granade provided an update on the results of the Mugu Lagoon Ecological Risk Assessment. Our DTSC member, Mr. Quang Than announced he had been reassigned to work at Vandenburg AFB and that Mr. Peter Chen would take his place.

This month we will learn about Battelle's progress toward the installation of 2 new biobarriers on the MTBE plume. This will be CDR Boothe's last meeting. He is retiring from the Navy June 10, and has accepted a job with Earth Tech working at Vandenburg AFB. Please join us to bid farewell to CDR Boothe and welcome his replacement, CDR Kiwus.

HUENEME

MTBE Plume

In late January, a technical panel reviewed four contractor proposals to install and operate 2 new biobarriers. In March, a separate panel evaluated the proposals from a cost perspective. Based on these 2 reviews, the "best value" contractor's proposal, Battelle, was selected. Pre-construction activities such as utility location and staging of materials will begin in late May. By mid-July, Battelle expects to have the first biobarrier installed at the toe to replace the pump and treat system, currently in operation. Battelle will discuss their schedule and progress to date in more detail at the June meeting. This will constitute the "final remedy" for the plume. It is expected to reduce time and cleanup costs significantly.

You may recall that in 2001, the first biobarrier received the National Groundwater Association Outstanding Ground Water Remediation Project Award. Since then, it has also won the 2002 NFESC and DOD Environmental Security Technology Certification Program Project of the Year awards, the 2002 Society of American Military Engineers, Oxnard-Ventura Post Project of the Year award, and was a final-

ist in the Civil Engineering Research Foundation Charles Pankow Award for Innovation. Most recently, it was awarded the 2003 White House "Closing the Circle" Award for the category, Environmental Preferability.

Pictured below are Mr. Winston Hickox, California Secretary of the Environment and Mr. William Rukeyser, his Assistant Secretary for Communications touring the biobarrier site with Navy personnel. As a result of his visit, the biobarrier was featured on an episode of "California Connected" that showed the adverse impacts of MTBE on drinking water. The Navy was the "good news" portion of the story!



SITE 19, THE HARBOR

You may recall that dredge spoils disposal, referred to as sediments, was an issue in the last newsletter. The Army Corps of Engineers has recently obtained CalEPA approval to place "hot spot" sediments from the deepening project as "fill" at the Port of Long Beach, Pier J, the South Expansion Project. The sediments contain (tri)-butyl tins, PCBs and DDT. Sample results of the sediments were screened against residential Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) and found to be acceptable for the project at Long Beach. Just as a reference point, the total volume of sediment is less than 1% of the total fill requirements at Long Beach. Clearance to do the same with the Navy's maintenance dredging project will now be pursued.

The remaining sediments from the deepening and maintenance projects are being evaluated by the Army's lab in Vicksburg, Mississippi using a renowned bioaccumulation model. If the results are positive, the remaining sediments will be placed in the near shore environment at Hueneme Beach, as originally planned.

In addition to disposal issues, funding has been a problem. However recently it was learned that money was added to the Corps budget for FY04 for the maintenance dredging project.

MUGU

SITES 6 AND 24, SOLVENT SPILLS IN GROUND-WATER

These sites are better known as the "Got Milk" sites because the bioremediation process being tested involves the use of lactic acid. Site 24 was the first site used for this type of pilot test involving the injection of lactic acid for the first 6 months, followed by oxygen and methane for the next 12 months. The 18 month pilot test is already completed at Site 24; the pilot test began at Site 6 on May 5. Based on the excellent results achieved at Site 24, a draft Feasibility Study was prepared for both sites and forwarded to DTSC for review. The recommendation is to do full scale bioremediation at both sites.

SITE 5, PUBLIC WORKS SHOPS AREA

This small site referred to as the Electrokinetic Site will continue operation until June 30. At that time, results from several years of testing will be consolidated and evaluated. A Feasibility Study is being drafted. The most likely recommendation is that areas where metals have or are consolidated should be excavated and properly disposed.

CDR. BOOTHE'S FAREWELL

This will be CDR Doug Boothe's last meeting with us. Two years ago, the RAB viewed his tenure with "cautious optimism" as they say, hoping he would follow in the footsteps of his famous Uncle, CAPT Tom Boothe who served as the RAB's first military co-chair. CDR Boothe did not disappoint. He has made time to attend virtually every meeting, keeping us informed of NBVC activities and issues and participating in the discussions relating to IR work. Please join us to thank him for his contributions and wish him the very best in his new job.



That's our news since March. Please make plans to join us on June 5th. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me, Gail Pringle, at 982-2969 or e-mail Gail.Pringle@navy.mil