



Report to **STAKEHOLDERS**

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**Edwards AFB updates public on
cleanup efforts in November 2024
RAB meeting** page 2

Report to Stakeholders is a publication of the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Installation Support Section at Edwards AFB. Its purpose is to inform and educate the public, base workers and residents about continuing Environmental Restoration Program efforts on base. It currently has a circulation of 4,000, including about 1,100 subscribers.

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Any comments or questions about the contents of the Report to Stakeholders may be directed to:

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Brig Gen Douglas Wickert

Edwards Remedial Project Manager

Paul Schiff

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WHAT'S ON THE COVER?

California City representative Alexia Svejda, right, speaks during the November 2024 Restoration Advisory Board meeting as California Environmental Protection Agency Department of Toxic Substances Control remedial project manager Bruce Lewis listens.

Edwards AFB November 2024 RAB meeting highlights

Edwards Air Force Base officials, state and federal regulators and public representatives gathered in Lancaster, California in November 2024 for the semiannual restoration advisory board meeting, where new RAB members were introduced and updates were presented on cleanup efforts and environmental restoration activities on base.

Air Force co-chair Col. Joel Purcell began the meeting by welcoming three new RAB members: NASA Armstrong representative Alexis McCadney, main base test wing representative Melody Couch and alternate Lancaster representative Lauren Hughes-Leslie.

Paul Schiff, the base remedial project manager delivered a briefing on multiple environmental restoration efforts across the base, starting with an update on the perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances program, also known as PFAS, and the basewide remedial investigation efforts underway for aqueous film-forming foam areas. Schiff outlined three major field events in the Phase I RI. In November 2021, field event No. 1 was completed and groundwater monitoring sampling was performed at 162 existing monitoring wells. Field event No. 2 was completed in November 2023, which included the installation of 54 new monitoring wells, completion of 71 soil borings and sampling of 340 monitoring wells. In July 2024, the completion of field event No. 3 involved the installation of 36 new monitoring wells, completion of 91 soil borings, installation of six lysimeters and sampling of 431 groundwater monitoring wells. Schiff said that the Air Force is working on the conceptual site model and drafting the RI report, which is expected to be submitted in January 2026.

For Operable Unit 1/8 Main Base, Schiff said that technical working group meetings continue being held to resolve issues necessary to advance the feasibility study addendum. He reported that the Air Force is preparing responses to regulatory comments on several key reports such as the Draft Phase II Comprehensive Vapor Intrusion Report, Draft OU1/8 Groundwater Modeling Report and Draft OU1/8 Soil and Groundwater Investigation Report. He said that the results of the May 2024 semiannual indoor air sampling event at Bldg. 1807 confirmed that trichloroethene levels are below all action levels with the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system operating continuously. The Final Building 1807 Indoor Air Monitoring Report for November 2022 through May 2023 was anticipated to be submitted by the end of November 2024. Schiff said that the last sampling event occurred on Nov. 8, 2024.

For OU4/9 Air Force Research Laboratory, Schiff said a 2024 groundwater monitoring event was completed in all four groundwater areas. Land use controls remain in place for post record of decision areas at South AFRL and AFRL Soil and Debris Sites as part of their cleanup remedies. Schiff said that South AFRL also has a soil vapor extraction system that continues to operate near Bldg. 8595 to mitigate potential VI. Additionally, the Air Force is preparing a work plan to address potential data gaps in the South AFRL monitoring well network at greater depths.

Schiff said that the Air Force submitted the Draft Final AFRL Arroyos In Situ Treatability Study Work Plan, Draft Final Northeast



EDWARDS RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS- From back row left, Joseph Mabry, Air Force Research Laboratory representative; Tofic Zeidan, California Environmental Protection Agency Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board remedial project manager; Mark Allen, California EPA LRWQCB RPM; Col. Joel Purcell, Air Force co-chair; Dante Rodriguez, U.S. EPA RPM; Bruce Lewis, California EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control RPM; Victor Yaw, public co-chair and Mojave representative; and William Gaddis, Rosamond representative. From front row left, Ethan Finkel, U.S. EPA RPM; Alexia Svejda, California City representative; Mohamed Ibrahim, U.S. EPA RPM; Paul Schiff, Edwards Air Force Base RPM; and Alexis McCadney, NASA Armstrong representative.

AFRL SVE Treatability Study Work Plan and the Draft Final Work Plan for In Situ Co-Metabolic Biosparging Study to the regulatory agencies in October 2024, with all field activities anticipated to begin in winter 2024.

At OU5/10, Schiff said the Site 285 interim treatment system continues to operate and has reduced the perchlorate plume area by 87 percent since 2003, removing a total of 230 pounds of the contaminant.

Schiff announced that OU6 NASA Armstrong completed an annual groundwater monitoring event in September 2024, sampling 111 monitoring wells. The data collected will evaluate contaminant concentration trends throughout the plume and in-situ chemical oxidation performance in treatment areas. He said that during the ISCO treatment event, activated persulfate was deployed to treat volatile organic compounds, primarily TCE, in wells at Sites N3, N4 and N7. Schiff also reported that the NASA PFAS Phase I RI Round 1 sampling was completed in August 2024, which included the sampling of 78 monitoring wells, geophysical utility locating, soil borings, soil sampling, borehole optical televiewer surveys, and installation of two new wells.

For OU7 Chemical Warfare Materiel Site 442, Schiff explained vegetation has been

identified as stressed or dead during semiannual inspections for multiple years. Reseeding and revegetation efforts were performed in December 2022 at Site 442 Areas 1, 2 and 3. In January 2024, the semiannual inspection included vegetation surveys indicating 12 percent coverage at Area 1, 25 percent coverage at Area 2 and 20 percent coverage at Area 3. The July 2024 inspection indicated increased coverage in all areas. However, additional revegetation activities are in process, including a new vegetation plan and targeted revegetation efforts to achieve the vegetation coverage per the Site 442 Operations and Maintenance Plan Addendum.

Lastly, Schiff discussed the Military Munitions Response Program. He said the regulatory agencies concurred on the Draft Final MMRP ROD. The Air Force is awaiting determination of a California land use covenant regulation to be included in the ROD before the final ROD can be issued. He also said that a solar developer has already begun preconstruction activities at MMRP Site AL505-2.

The public is encouraged to attend the next RAB meeting scheduled to be held in California City, California on May 15, 2025. Meeting details will be published in local newspapers and posted on the RAB's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RAB.Edwards.

Where to find more INFORMATION

Published data and documents related to the Environmental Restoration Program at Edwards are available for public review at three Information Repositories and online at <https://ar.cce.af.mil>. The Information Repositories are located at:

Edwards AFB Main Library

5 W. Yeager Blvd.
Edwards AFB, California
661-275-2665
<https://edwardsfss.com/library/>

Kern County Public Library Wanda Kirk Branch

3611 Rosamond Blvd.
Rosamond, California
661-256-3236
<https://kerncountylibrary.org/find-hours-locations/>

Los Angeles County Public Library

601 W. Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, California
661-948-5029
<https://lacountylibrary.org/lancaster-library/>

For questions about documents in the repositories, you may contact Gary Hatch, 412th Test Wing Public Affairs, at 661-277-8707 or by e-mail at 412tw.pae@us.af.mil.

General information about the environmental program at Edwards can be found at the following websites:

<https://www.edwards.af.mil/About/Environment>
<https://www.facebook.com/EdwardsEnvMgt>



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Restoration Advisory Board Information

The RAB is made up of appointed representatives from communities on and around Edwards AFB, regulators from federal and state agencies and base officials. The board's purpose is to provide a forum for two-way communication between the public and those responsible for environmental cleanup at the base.

The board meets semiannually, rotating meeting locations among communities surrounding the base. The public is welcome to attend. Those who have questions or concerns about cleanup activities at Edwards may contact any RAB member or Gary Hatch, 412th Test Wing Public Affairs, at 661-277-8707.

The RAB also has its own Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/RAB.Edwards/>. "Like" us on Facebook today!

NEXT BOARD MEETING
MAY 15, 2025
5:30 p.m.
California Arts and
Community Center
California City, California

RAB Members

OFF-BASE COMMUNITIES

Boron

Vacant — If you live or work in Boron, you may apply to be a public representative.

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North Edwards

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North Base

Vacant — If you work at North Base, you may apply to be a public representative.

South Base

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Report to STAKEHOLDERS

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